

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
1	Roy Russell	Broadband - Build a Citywide fiber infrastructure that will enable fiber to the home internet service for every home and business in the City. Prioritize those most impacted by the pandemic.		
2	Michelle Holcomb Chief Development Officer Food for Free	The COVID pandemic has had a terrible impact on food security for Cambridge families. The Greater Boston Food Bank estimates that an astounding 30% of Massachusetts residents have experienced food insecurity in the last year. Currently, one in five children in Greater Boston is experiencing hunger. That number has more than doubled since the start of the pandemic—the biggest increase in child hunger of any state in the U.S. Food programs are struggling to meet this increased need. In May, WBUR reported that food pantries in Eastern Massachusetts were seeing four times the number of clients as they had before the pandemic. We request funding for the purchase and transportation of food to Cambridge pantries, schools, and low-income housing sites. This use of funds will improve nutrition for our community by helping families to access healthy foods in the places they live, work, and study.		Withdrawn - see #39
3	Catherine Zusy Magazine Beach Partners	Fund Phase II-2 improvements at Magazine Beach Park. Turn an unusable part of the park into a useable grassy beach.	\$ 1,800,000.00	
4	Matthew Boyes-Watson Flagg Street Studio	Cambridge is a world-class city in desperate need of a world-class civic space. With ARPA funds, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create one. We propose that Municipal Lot #5 be developed into a permanent civic center modeled on the Starlight Square initiative and Poppportunity. Starlight’s temporary installation has proven that public space can be a catalyst for cultural activity and economic equity. It demonstrates the power of placekeeping during unprecedented loss and displacement—of both residents and businesses. We believe a permanent civic center framed by affordable retail opportunities and flexible community space can be the center of our recovery and future success. Our team, myself, Mark Boyes-Watson, Michael Monestime, and Nina Berg, have designed, built, and operated Starlight Square and Poppportunity as a response to and throughout the challenge of the pandemic. We have a record of exceptional design and thoughtful stewardship.	\$ 12,650,000.00	
5	Rev. Lydia Shiu Director of Social Justice and Action	Soccer Nights soccer program. Looking to provide this week long soccer program in the Spring and the Fall. Soccer Nights spring and fall programs will seek to provide a space that brings the neighborhood together, teach and engage the elementary kids in physical athletic skills, partner and work with the youth (middle and High School alumni of Soccer Nights) to volunteer and serve the community, and engage the greater community in a fun uniting program.	\$ 10,000.00	
6	Rabbi Yoni Shtiebel	"Build a city owned fiber to the premises network (commonly known as municipal broadband) for Inclusionary Housing Program rental tenants of the Cambridge Development Department Start with Central Square and move out in a radius from there. Prioritize connecting very low income households to the internet with a subsidized service of \$9.95 per month (including tax). The City of Cambridge already has digital fiber in the Police substation in Central Square, and the CDD had jurisdiction in the residential building that surrounds it. Provide a static IP address to each residential apartment"	\$ 93,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
7	Laura Jasinski Executive Director Charles River Conservancy	<p>The Charles River Floating Wetland, a 700-sf artificial island installed near the mouth of the broad canal in June 2020, aims to improve water quality and restore connections to the lower Charles River, where communities have effectively been walled off from the river. ARPA funds would be used to expand complementary aspects of this initiative that support educators and learners by providing hands-on, experiential outdoor learning, thereby addressing increased “screen time” and decreased “green time” that has been exacerbated by the pandemic.</p> <p>Environmental education tools: Working with Cambridge Public schools and MIT Sea Grant, we piloted a floating wetland “activity kit” and curriculum booklet in 2021 that allowed students to model the research occurring at the full-sized wetland. This year we plan to expand distribution from one classroom to nearly 500 students across CPS 6th grade classrooms in connection with the “River to the Sea” unit. We will support classroom teachers with training and troubleshooting, and connect satellite learning with opportunities to engage with the full-size wetland in person.</p> <p>Community-Driven Expansion Design: Over the summer of 2021, the CRC worked with a team of students from the Cambridge Mayor’s Summer Youth Employment Program to collect public input on the floating wetland through on-site pop-ups. This informed their own ideas to kick off efforts to design floating wetland expansion for the Charles. As we continue to collaborate with the Cambridge Public Works department to utilize artificial wetlands to meet resilience goals, we will prioritize engagement and input of Cambridge youth.</p>	\$ 945,000.00	
8	Eric Grunebaum	<p>We propose Cambridge dedicate ~\$6mm of ARPA funds for public improvements at the critically sensitive Jerry’s Pond site. The specific need is to expand the pond’s perimeter along Rindge Avenue, creating space for 150-175 new trees along a largely treeless roadway, building biodiverse wetlands where there’s a steep, unplantable embankment and fully separating bicycles, creating a complete street along the busiest stretch of Rindge Ave. There are numerous environmental benefits which align with Cambridge’s climate goals along with critical public health benefits including: improved air quality, heat island relief, safer bike/pedestrian pathways and access to a densely planted green space with associated physical and mental health benefits. Especially throughout the pandemic, the health benefits of green spaces have been recognized and elevated. Along Rindge Ave. live ~4,000 affordable housing residents, so ensuring the greatest public health benefits are met, is a matter of equity. There are multiple co-benefits also serving this community. Expanding the steep embankment along Rindge requires compensatory wetlands which are proposed for the corner of Rindge and the Parkway – a largely paved area under a thin topsoil layer with no history of industrial use per Haley & Aldrich. Supported by Friends of Jerry’s Pond and Alewife Study Group, the ConCom granted approval to excavate here. De-paving will increase soil permeability in an area at high risk of floods from storm events while allowing greater tree growth, further reducing heat-island and improving soil quality. Natural habitats are also improved and expanded with proposed new tree canopy and wetlands.</p>	\$ 6,000,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
9	<u>CAMBRIDGE LOCAL FIRST</u> Pooja Paode Theodora Skeadas	Develop a program offering one-on-one technical assistance and implementation support for locally-owned businesses in Cambridge to assist in their recovery from the pandemic in an era of standardization. This program could: 1) Provide financial support to local businesses seeking to improve, enhance and elevate their current operations in their physical and/or online space. 2) Focus on the implementation of technical assistance in local businesses' digital and physical spaces. 3) Engage with local service providers to implement the technical assistance to create a multiplier effect for the community. 4) If possible, target newer business owners, those not eligible for previous types of funding, businesses owned LGBTQIA+ populations, and businesses in the creative space. This program could involve an assessment of local business recipients to determine and prioritize their service needs, then match them with qualified local service providers. This is also a great opportunity to collate a list of local service providers and compensate them accordingly. The grant could be administered in partnership with an organization such as Cambridge Local First as well as other business associations. Data suggests that businesses impacted the most by Covid-19 have experienced higher closure rates and are unable to access or afford resources to improve their business performance for a number of reasons.	\$ 120,000.00	
10	Manoucheca Lord Poppportunity Program Director	Poppportunity is a pandemic-inspired initiative that provides low-cost pop-up stores and technical support to local entrepreneurs, so they can graduate to permanent stores on Main Street. As a newly minted 501-c3, Poppportunity counteracts the negative economic impacts of COVID, specifically the widespread closure of brick and mortar businesses and the corresponding job loss. Its first site, located on Municipal Lot #5 alongside Starlight Square, opened in November 2020 and consists of 13 pop-up stores. The first year saw 220 applicants, a rotation of 31 entrepreneurs, and one permanent placement on Main Street. If given the resources to expand its pop-up infrastructure to new sites in the city, Poppportunity could provide opportunities to more entrepreneurs and help restore the COVID-19 losses on Main Street.	\$ 565,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
11	Shannon Farrell Breakthrough Greater Boston	<p>Breakthrough Greater Boston (BTGB), a 501(c)3 nonprofit that has served 7th-12th grade students in Cambridge for 30 years, respectfully requests support from the City of Cambridge to launch our new College Success Program. Nationally, only 14% of students from low-income backgrounds complete college within eight years of high school graduation (compared to 60% of their more affluent peers). Low-income students of color additionally face the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 as they navigate paths to and through college. The pandemic is an educational crisis, particularly for the key demographic that Breakthrough serves. In this especially difficult time, BTGB is powerfully positioned to leverage our six-year relationships with students and our research-based, holistic College Success Program model to help the students most affected by COVID-19 enroll, persist, and graduate from college. Breakthrough is piloting the College Success Program to extend BTGB's support for our students through their college years. BTGB delivers tailored guidance that addresses the academic, social-emotional, and financial challenges faced by low-income students, students of color, and first-generation college students during the high-risk transition to college and their undergraduate years. BTGB's Board of Directors is excited by the potential for a permanent launch of the College Success Program and aims to ensure there is adequate funding and community partnership support for this expansion. Partnership with the City of Cambridge would serve as a strong endorsement for this work, which would mark the most significant programmatic expansion in BTGB's organizational history by moving from six to 10 years of programming. We respectfully request an investment of \$500,000 to be distributed from FY22 through FY26. \$100,000 per year would cover approximately half of College Success programming costs, and BTGB would commit to raising the matching funds from external sources</p>	\$ 500,000.00	
12	Michael Johnston Executive Director, Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>SEWER MITIGATION - Provide Funding for Off-site Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Mitigation Required for Construction of 278 Affordable Apartments at Jefferson Park Federal. By adding 103 units of housing to a site that currently has 175 units, the state Department of Environmental Protection requires added sewer flow be offset by on-site or off-site mitigation at a rate of four to one. This is because the Cambridge sanitary sewer is a shared storm/sanitary sewer that discharges into surrounding waterways during storm events. The estimated 24,520 gallons of increased sewer flow will require the mitigation of 98,120 gallons by the project. Approximately 14,100 gallons will be mitigated on-site, leaving 83,930 gallons to be mitigated off-site in a project chosen by Cambridge DPW. DPW staff have recommended estimating \$15/gallon for the project, meaning the off-site mitigation will cost the project approximately \$1.3 Million. The financial stresses and turmoil of the pandemic have led to increased rates of homelessness and created an even higher demand for affordable housing in Cambridge. The Revitalization of Jefferson Park Federal will preserve 175 affordable units at risk of being lost to poor building conditions and create 103 additional affordable units with a total of 278 units of new housing. Given the demographics of the residents of Jefferson park and the CHA wait list, many residents are front-line essential workers who will directly benefit from this housing.</p>	\$ 1,300,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
13	Michael Johnston Executive Director, Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>Safe and affordable housing is key to improved health outcomes and economic opportunity. Cambridge Housing Authority plans to begin construction in the next year on two affordable housing sites: Jefferson Park Federal and 116 Norfolk Street. At Jefferson Park Federal, CHA plans to bring the family housing site from 175 to 278 units, providing housing for some of the 21,000 households on CHA's waiting list. The pandemic exacerbated the already difficult economic circumstances of low-income families in Cambridge, increasing the already dire need for more affordable housing. At 116 Norfolk Street, CHA will increase units on site from 37 to 62, convert single room occupancy housing to studio apartments, and conduct intake for the new units from the City's Coordinated Access Network for people experiencing chronic homelessness in Cambridge. The pandemic has shown the shortcomings of the congregate living model currently at 116 Norfolk Street, in which seniors and people with disabilities share kitchens and shower rooms. After construction, all residents will have their own kitchens and bathrooms, increasing privacy as well as protecting against contagious illnesses. Both projects require the need for funds from the City. Permanent Supportive Housing like that planned at 116 Norfolk has been shown to reduce the hospitalization rate of people who were experiencing chronic homelessness prior to entering such programs. Safe and dignified housing coupled with supportive services is a base from which people exiting homelessness can pursue their goals for health, employment, and social connection. Providing funds for the renovation and expansion efforts at Jefferson Park Federal and 116 Norfolk would support the health and wellness of low-income families and people currently experiencing homelessness, two of the groups most impacted by the pandemic.</p>	\$ 54,000,000.00	Up to \$54M
14	Michael Johnston Executive Director, Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>The Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) has the opportunity to build new affordable housing in East Cambridge on vacant land within the Millers River parcel. This new construction project on Cambridge Street would add up to 100 new affordable units to East Cambridge, help preserve the diversity of the neighborhood and bring more commerce to Cambridge Street. Increasing the supply of affordable housing, protecting diversity, and supporting small businesses all help combat the impacts of the pandemic. Furthermore, these are three major goals coming up in the City's ongoing planning effort for Cambridge Street between Inman and Lechmere. The CHA is requesting ARPA funds for pre-development costs to support the creation of up to 100 new affordable apartments in East Cambridge. Creating more affordable housing is a long and expensive process that begins with pre-development. Receiving ARPA funds would allow the CHA to set these plans in motion and reach the end goal of creating more affordable housing to serve historically underserved populations.</p>	\$ 2,000,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
15	Michael Johnston Executive Director, Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>Food is essential to both our physical and mental well-being. Food security, however, proves increasingly difficult to access amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for populations who bear greater health risks, such as low-income seniors and people with disabilities. To help mitigate the stress resulting from the pandemic, the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) proposes the creation of a free meals program at four of our developments with the largest community of at-risk populations: the L.B. Johnson Apartments (177 households), Frank J. Manning Apartments (205 households), Daniel F. Burns Apartments (198 households) and Millers River Apartments (300 households). This meal program includes the integration of a commercial kitchen at the LBJ Apartments to parallel the existing kitchens at the other three developments. For these kitchens, the CHA will hire chefs for each location who will work to supply fresh, quality, and healthy meals to up to 880 residents daily. Additionally, this program creates the foundation to provide meals for the properties surrounding these three developments, such as family properties like Woodrow Wilson Court (69 households), Putnam Gardens (122 households), and Roosevelt Towers (199 households), ensuring food security for hundreds of low-income families as well. The food program will also assist in countering the isolation that many elders experience which has been exacerbated through the pandemic. CHA has had an existing program at John F. Kennedy Apartments which enhances the social atmosphere and mental wellness with healthy food. Furthermore, the meals program will create the opportunity to offer cooking classes for residents in order to provide in-house programming and opportunities for connection between residents to help combat isolation exacerbated by the pandemic.</p>	\$ 3,000,000.00	2023-2026 (4 years)

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
16	Michael Johnston Executive Director, Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>In March 2020, the CHA, Cambridge Health Alliance, and Boston Medical Center started a Community Wellness Program pilot to provide a full-time community wellness advocate and part-time nurse at Manning Apartments in Central Square. Manning is home to 205 elders and people with disabilities. The community wellness advocate and nurse are medical and public health professionals that can effectively consult residents on healthcare and insurance options, improve medication management, and make connections with doctors, health specialists, rehab facilities, healthy food sources, legal services, and disability assistance. Approximately 150 residents are active participants in the program and many have seen significant benefits. One resident in her late 70s was having difficulty with transportation because she could not see. The pilot program connected her with primary care and eye doctors, and drove her to her initial appointments. When doctors discovered she had cataracts, the program connected her to the correct medical help and now she can see and move around the City safely and independently. Another resident was suffering from mental health issues and frequently hospitalized due to difficulty managing medications before the program assisted him by organizing his medications into pill boxes and getting him a 3-week supply. He hasn't been hospitalized since. As shown in the examples above, the Community Wellness Program helps keep elders and people with disabilities housed and living independently. Funding for the program at Manning runs out in early 2023. CHA hopes to utilize ARPA funds to sustain the Community Wellness Program at Manning (205 households) and expand the program to Millers River (300 households), Burns (198 households), LBJ (177 households), Russell Apartments (52 units) Putnam School (33 units) and Truman (69 households) to better serve over 1,000 low-income seniors and people with disabilities in Cambridge.</p>	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$1M annually, \$4M from 2023-2026
17	Michael Johnston Executive Director, Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>A significant portion of the ARPA funds should be allocated to strengthen existing, transformational programs that are positively and successfully assisting low-income families as they struggle to afloat and stay in Cambridge. Since September 2021, Cambridge RISE has been allocating a guaranteed monthly income to 130 single parent households. The positive outcome of "guaranteed income" programs worldwide are well-documented. They are effective, often curing the awful choices many families must make between essentials like heat, food, and education. Guaranteed income pilots also make fiscal sense as the least expensive way to break intergenerational poverty. The Cambridge Housing Authority supports over 5,000 families at or below 30% AMI and almost 7,000 families at or below 80% AMI. Expanding the Cambridge RISE program to more households (including expanding eligibility requirements beyond single caregiver households) now could not be more timely as low-income households across Cambridge continue to struggle due to compounding impacts of inequality and the pandemic.</p>	\$ 9,000,000.00	for a 500 participant expansion for 3 year program
			\$ 18,000,000.00	for 1,000 participant expansion for 3 year program

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
18	Green Cambridge Nutter Steven	<p>Outdoor activities that involve community engagement like urban farming, break cycles of disempowerment and isolation that many are feeling due to the pandemic. With our youth, this has become a public health emergency. Growing food provides a sense of agency to alleviate the mental health affects and food security issues caused by the pandemic. Growing space at CRLS has been a perennial request by faculty. In 2018 through Spring 2020, teachers participated in professional development workshops to coordinate integration of climate justice in an interdisciplinary way and across the curriculum. The effort included Lesley University faculty, Green Cambridge, and Cambridge Youth Programs. One outcome was the need for growing space on campus as a classroom. During COVID, CPS leadership established an ad-hoc working group to understand how to integrate outdoor learning into curriculum. This group also identified the need for outdoor, hands-on classrooms. Green Cambridge has extensive experience creating and managing educational growing spaces using a collaborative model in Cambridge. We partner with Cambridge DPW to revitalize and operate the Riverside Press Park, operate our Hurley Street Neighborhood Farm with funding provided by Cambridge Public Health, and have built a learning garden for Nurtury Preschool at Moses Youth Center funded by the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority. We share our Hurley location with City Sprouts, and support Cambridge City Growers. In addition, our Executive Director Steven Nutter is on the City's Food Planning Task Force and Climate Protection Action Committee. With CRLS stakeholders, Green Cambridge would facilitate a community process to develop a design by working with James Shen, Loeb Fellow and Partner at People's Architecture Office. A full description of the project can be found at: bit.ly/CRLSfarm. Green Cambridge would operate the Farm by creating a Grow Team Intern program to pay students. We would collaboratively coordinate the Farm with Cambridge City Growers and in coordination with City Sprouts and Lesley Faculty.</p>	\$ 372,480.00	
19	The Outdoor Church / Steven Bingaman	<p>The mission of the Outdoor Church of Cambridge is to care for the unhoused, homeless, and economically disadvantaged community of Cambridge, Massachusetts. In the course of undertaking this mission, we provide spiritual, pastoral, and outreach care to over 250 of the community weekly, in many instances, multiple times a week. We provide this care by bringing food and other items to the various locations where our community congregate. During the COVID crisis, we have met the increased need for food and other care uninterrupted. The City has supplied 175 meals for our Sunday afternoon outreach that we distribute. Additionally, we have undertaken to expand our food and sundry item distribution during our Sunday morning community meeting at Porter Square and provide water and food on Thursday evenings throughout Harvard and Central Squares. And, we provide our food outreach on Saturday afternoons similarly through Harvard and Central Squares.</p>	\$ 10,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
20	HEART / Stephanie Guirand	<p>Cambridge HEART (Holistic Emergency Alternative Response Team) is a crisis response and public safety program for Cambridge, MA. HEART addresses a need for alternative ways for individuals experiencing crises (including those related to mental health, substance use and domestic violence) to receive help at their moment of need. It also enhances community cohesion by facilitating residents' knowledge of and access to existing community services. HEART is led and staffed by community members representing the most marginalized communities in Cambridge. The COVID pandemic has had adverse effects on the health and social-economic well-being of residents, with those from marginalized backgrounds experiencing a disproportionate impact (Artiga, Garfield, and Orgera 2020). The HEART program addresses these adverse effects. HEART responders provide trauma-informed care and support for those experiencing mental health crises, and is specifically designed to meet the needs of marginalized community members such as those who are unhoused. HEART responders also provide conflict mediation services to support the resolution of both private and public disputes including instances of domestic violence. Cambridge community members who are financially vulnerable may have exacerbated economic needs due to the pandemic. HEART provides mutual aid to directly meet their needs. Furthermore, HEART indirectly addresses economic impacts of the pandemic by providing employment opportunities within organization for community members: as responders, program staff and more.</p>	\$ 5,500,000.00	
21	Greg Nicaise	<p>To rebound Cambridge businesses and boost long-term economic development, we propose a Independently-owned Local Business Procurement Fair. Many local shops, service providers, and industries have suffered from a lack of institutional sales. With hospitals, schools, government facilities, and business spaces at reduced capacity, the network of businesses that support these institutions have seen significant drops in revenue and some have had to close. In addition, we have seen a shift towards digital providers and online delivery services. To focus support, sales, and attention towards these greatly impacted, locally-owned businesses, we need an organized initiative to put them center stage again. This procurement fair will do just that. The Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts has specialized in managing the Local Food Trade Show for 11 years, and would use this expertise to conduct a highly successful B2B convention. Bringing together the diverse array of Cambridge businesses, we would match supply and demand needs in the market and refocus institutional purchasing towards the businesses that give Cambridge its integrity and culture. This procurement fair is a single day event featuring these business with targeted sales meetings, panels, exhibitions, and networking meetings to deepen these B2B connections.</p>	\$ 30,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
22	Greg Nicaise	<p>Cambridge food businesses would greatly benefit from a commercial kitchen space for shared-use and business incubation. Food businesses have seen extreme financial hardships during the pandemic, with an estimated 110,000 US restaurants temporarily or permanently closed at the peak. Those who have survived now face extreme difficulties as their margins shrink further due to labor shortages, inflation, and supply-chain shortages. In Cambridge, many restaurants have closed and many storefronts remain unused. Cambridge currently has no such commercial kitchen space, yet the city has signed support for the cottage residential program. Currently, many of these entrepreneurs' only opportunity is at church kitchens or pop-ups. While the Foundry is an incredible project, it will serve as a test kitchen only and doesn't make a space for establishing businesses. Shared-use kitchen's are known to reduce start-up costs and share risks for both established and emerging caterers, restaurateurs, and value-added producers. This project's potential to lower the entry barrier for new food businesses is extremely important considering the high-failure rate that restaurants already face. To expand the impact of this project we propose that a number leases for the space be reserved for Black/Brown-owned businesses, given that there currently only exist about 6 out of the nearly 400 pre-pandemic food service businesses in Cambridge.</p>	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$1,000,000-3,000,000
23	Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts /Allison Deyo	<p>The Cambridge-Somerville Black Business Network (CSBBN), in partnership with the Sustainable Business Network of MA, Cambridge Local First, and the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (BECMA), and multiple banks, law firms, and a community foundation, is developing an Equity Fund to increase the number of Black and Brown businesses in MA. Black and Brown founders receive less than 2.6% of venture capital and fewer than 4% of decision makers at the firms are Black or Brown. "Pattern recognition" remains the major driver of investment decisions. Most start-up and growing businesses rely upon "friends and family loans", however the lack of wealth in communities of color across MA reduces access to capital needed to grow businesses. According to the Business Diversity Directory, only 3 food businesses identify as Black-owned in Cambridge. Black businesses were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, with 41% of Black businesses closing nationally as of August 2020. Only 43% of businesses received all of the Payroll Protection Program funding they applied for, compared to 79% of white-owned businesses (wapo.st/3vvISZp). Though BECMA will oversee the statewide Fund, CSBBN will be responsible for Fund activities in Cambridge. Activities will include: fundraising; screening businesses; connecting businesses to technical assistance (required to participate); working with bank to train business school fellows in underwriting, therefore building capacity in the community; resource development; and communications to grow the Fund. Capital raised in Cambridge will be earmarked to be used exclusively in the city. To launch this Fund, seed funding is needed for loans and grants for minority businesses in Cambridge.</p>	\$ 2,000,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
24	Just A Start Angela Chan O'Donnell	<p>Just A Start respectfully requests \$75,000 to support costs of deleading activities. The funding will be a grant to the homeowner for up to \$5,000 per unit to be used for deleading activities including lead testing. The funding would leverage Just A Start's Home Improvement Program (HIP). This funding will remove a barrier to the critical public health issue of remediating lead paint hazards, which has historically had a disparate impact on low-income families and communities of color. The cost of deleading, in particular lead testing, has become an increasing burden over the past two years as the pandemic has negatively impacted our clients' finances. Furthermore, homeowners are spending more time at home, often in unsafe and substandard housing. The HIP program is often the only viable option for homeowners with poor credit and/or low income to make essential repairs to their homes. Part of the HIP program's charge under HUD is to ensure homes participating in the program are lead safe. The associated costs with deleading are often unexpected and prohibit homeowners from moving forward with HIP and making critical repairs to their home. Homeowners must pay for lead testing (up to \$500) out of pocket before they know the scope of the deleading work or whether they can receive HIP or other funding. Once the scope is determined, and they qualify for the program, we can help clients access city grants and state loans but they typically don't cover full deleading expenses.</p>	\$ 75,000.00	
25	Community Servings / Tobin Scipione	<p>Community Servings' mission is to actively engage the community to provide scratch-made medically tailored meals to individuals and their families experiencing critical or chronic illness and nutrition insecurity. We commit, in all our programs and business practices, to prioritize racial and economic justice and health equity. Over the past 23 years of service in Cambridge, Community Servings has provided nearly 500,000 home-delivered medically tailored meals to Cambridge residents. Our "Nutrition Program for Cambridge Residents Affected by Critical & Chronic Illnesses" is a critical health intervention and an emergency household nutrition assistance program for individuals and their families who are experiencing the dual challenges of poverty and serious illness, including cancer, renal disease, diabetes, and COVID-19. Cambridge residents who are severely immune-compromised and nutrition insecure have faced enormous challenges due to COVID-19, and accompanying economic disruption and rates of food insecurity are expected to remain at historic levels for years, with long-term health consequences. Community Servings is committed to a long-term recovery approach, strengthening our nutrition program for Cambridge populations that have faced systemic underinvestment and been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. ARPA funding will support the home-delivery of 125,000 medically tailored meals, customized to meet the individual health needs of 250+ Cambridge clients, their dependent children, and caregivers over the five-year funding period. Each weekly delivery includes five days' worth of medically tailored meals for each household member. Funds will be allocated to meals and kitchen expenses associated with the provision of medically tailored meals to Cambridge residents.</p>	\$ 250,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
26	Breakthrough Greater Boston / Elissa Spelman	<p>Breakthrough Greater Boston (BTGB), a 501(c)3 nonprofit that has served 7th-12th grade students in Cambridge for 30 years, respectfully requests support from the City of Cambridge to launch our new College Success Program. Nationally, only 14% of students from low-income backgrounds complete college within eight years of high school graduation (compared to 60% of their more affluent peers). Low-income students of color additionally face the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 as they navigate paths to and through college. The pandemic is an educational crisis, particularly for the key demographic that Breakthrough serves. In this especially difficult time, BTGB is powerfully positioned to leverage our six-year relationships with students and our research-based, holistic College Success Program model to help the students most affected by COVID-19 enroll, persist, and graduate from college. Breakthrough is piloting the College Success Program to extend BTGB's support for our students through their college years. BTGB delivers tailored guidance that addresses the academic, social-emotional, and financial challenges faced by low-income students, students of color, and first-generation college students during the high-risk transition to college and their undergraduate years. BTGB's Board of Directors is excited by the potential for a permanent launch of the College Success Program and aims to ensure there is adequate funding and community partnership support for this expansion. Partnership with the City of Cambridge would serve as a strong endorsement for this work, which would mark the most significant programmatic expansion in BTGB's organizational history by moving from six to 10 years of programming. We respectfully request an investment of \$500,000 to be distributed from FY22 through FY26. \$100,000 per year would cover approximately half of College Success programming costs, and BTGB would commit to raising the matching funds from external sources</p>	\$ 500,000.00	
27	Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts/ Allison Deyo	<p>Develop a program that will allocate 20 total full "All Alcohol" licenses for minority-owned businesses, with half specifically set aside for Black-owned businesses. There are currently only four minority-owned restaurants/bars in Cambridge that have full liquor licenses according to the Cambridge Business Diversity Directory. Black-owned businesses across the country were severely impacted by the pandemic, with more than 40% closing within the first six months of the crisis. Bars and restaurants in Cambridge were also hit hard, leading several to go out of business due to several pandemic-related factors. As a result, several former bar and restaurant spaces are vacant. This program will make it more financially feasible for minority-owned food and beverage businesses to move into these spaces. It will also make it easier for existing minority-owned businesses to expand their offerings and generate more revenue through alcohol sales as they recover from the economic fallout of the pandemic. Both of these outcomes will potentially lead to job creation within the city as well.</p>	\$ 5,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
28	Just A Start / Gerry Zipser, Director of Housing	<p>We are proposing a Digital Navigator Program for Cambridge residents living in affordable housing. The services offered would be in line with the recommendations of the Digital Equity in Cambridge: Data and Strategic Recommendations Report which was prepared for the City of Cambridge, MA and released in April 2021. Just A Start trains adults in a 9 month tuition free program for entry level positions in IT. Many graduates are Cambridge residents, have lived in affordable housing and are multi-lingual. The IT graduates could be hired as Digital Navigators. They would work with the Resident Service Coordinators of each housing development to offer services including: signing up residents with low-cost providers and enrolling eligible residents in the Affordable Connectivity Program. Digital Navigators would also be available to help residents set up connectivity in their homes or trouble-shoot when problems occur. They would also connect residents to free/low-cost computers and related equipment when needed. Digital Navigators would work with residents to identify their individual needs and wishes for being connected. Individual and group trainings on site would be offered. Depending on funding level, Just A Start would seek to partner with the Cambridge Housing Authority, Housing Resources Inc. (HRI), Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH) and other Cambridge affordable housing providers to bring services to their residents. We would also work closely with the Cambridge Public Library as their programming also works on digital access issues.</p>	\$ 93,400.00 per year	
29	Just A Start / Ian Davis, program Manager	<p>The ongoing COVID-19 crisis has resulted in lay-offs, lost work through quarantining and needing to provide childcare for children learning from home, long COVID symptoms: resulting in increased costs with everyone at home, financial strain, and the depletion of savings. These negative economic impacts, particularly on low income residents and communities of color, will take years to overcome. Just A Start has been in the process of building out a storefront location in Central Square, at 55 Norfolk St, a small building owned by our company, on the Financial Opportunity Center model, combining one-on-one career coaching and financial coaching services under one roof, additionally leveraging our community contacts for direct referrals and warm hand-offs to food pantry, childcare, and benefit sign-up assistance services. During tax season, this storefront location will host intake for our volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) site, offering free tax preparation to income-qualified community members, with an eye on maximizing refunds, handling complicated tax situations like gig economy work from people adapting their working lives to the pandemic, and advising on the use of refunds through integration with our one-on-one financial coaching.</p>	\$ 273,385.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
30	Just A Start / Angela Chan O'Donnell, Manager	<p>Just A Start is respectfully requesting \$252,000 to provide stipends to students of our Biomedical Careers Program and IT Careers Programs, which provides full-time workforce development training to adult students to enter careers in the growing life sciences and IT sectors. The COVID pandemic has highlighted systemic inequities that exist in our communities, and especially in our workforce. Low-income people have been especially hit hard due to losing jobs and/or job security, leading to volatility in income. This uncertainty of the next paycheck has led to housing, financial and food insecurity. The need for family-sustaining wages is high, and with it the need for programming to help them achieve economic stability. Our workforce development programs aim to support the economic resiliency and mobility of low-income individuals and families. The 9-month long programs take place Mon- Fri from 9am-2pm. The time commitment (22 hours/week class time plus homework) is intensive and can make the program inaccessible to some students due to family, childcare, work, and other responsibilities. Tuition is free but not free of cost as students forgo time, and therefore income, to be able to attend the program. Stipends will be a critical tool in providing financial assistance that will allow students to participate in a program that has proven to increase earning potential. The average wage increase is \$15,000/year - a substantial increase considering participants need to earn 80% or less of the Area Median Income to qualify, and most students earn 50% or less.</p>	\$ 252,000.00	
31	Kavish Gandhi Project Right to Housing	<p>This project proposes that the City of Cambridge rehouse 400 individuals experiencing homelessness between April 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023, and functionally end homelessness by April 1, 2024. This could be accomplished through the proposed Cambridge Unhoused Stipend Program (CUSP), which would cover the full cost of living for participating unhoused individuals and families for three years, and a significant portion (at least rent less 30% of household income) for the following 7 years. CUSP embraces a Housing First approach to ending homelessness, and performs three key activities: - Identifies eligible households, - Finds and secures available units, and - Moves those eligible households into those units, and provides long-term supportive services as necessary. We have attached a more detailed description of CUSP to this email. This proposal was written by Project Right to Housing and incorporates input from homelessness services providers and unhoused community members. The unhoused community has been disproportionately affected by the ongoing pandemic. Limited shelter and housing options have left many people on the street or in crowded congregate shelters where life is difficult and the risk of contracting COVID-19 is high. There have been reductions and changes to resources, including health services, day centers and homeless services, that were available to people who are unhoused prior to the pandemic, making their lives significantly more challenging. Stringent requirements for identification and other impediments have also made it hard for many unhoused people to gain access to federal aid that many people have been able to obtain. Though the burden of the pandemic has eased somewhat, rehousing through CUSP will go a long way towards sustainably addressing these needs, which remain at crisis levelsmic</p>	\$ 15,000,000.00	5,000,000 first year

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
32	Angela Chan O'Donnell Just A Start	<p>Just A Start requests funding to build an Economic Mobility Hub at the intersection of Rindge Avenue and Alewife Brook Parkway (located within close proximity to the Alewife MBTA Station). Just A Start will consolidate and house all of our programs and operations under one roof, including career training for youths and adults, financial opportunity, 24 affordable apartments, housing resources, and four universal child care classrooms. The 70,000 square foot, \$36 million mixed-use project will include a state-of-the-art bioscience lab and IT lab. The new additions will allow us to double the number of students we train for life sciences and IT careers while enhancing our curriculum to seamlessly integrate lab work. Additionally, we will be building a cutting-edge Construction Training Center to train youth in the increasingly high-demand industry. By providing a continuum of services in one central location, Just A Start's Economic Mobility Hub will address the negative community impacts from the pandemic by serving as a bridge to economic opportunity for residents who have lacked those opportunities.</p>	\$ 500,000.00	
33	Michael Malmberg, COO Daily Table	<p>With record unemployment, lost wages, high inflation, and many having little-to-no savings to protect them from the economic impact of COVID-19, food insecurity has doubled in Massachusetts in the past year and significantly impacted Cambridge residents served by Daily Table, a nonprofit community grocery store. Daily Table is committed to increasing access to fresh, healthy food and fighting the real face of hunger -- the lack of affordable nutrition for the food insecure. Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding will help Daily Table in Central Square serve Cambridge residents who are unable to afford a balanced and nutritious diet because of low incomes and rising prices. Our primary customers are the working poor and those living in low-income households within a one- to three-mile radius of Daily Table. Philanthropic funding is critical so that we can continue to provide healthy, nutritious food at affordable prices and offer programs and services that help increase equity and contribute to the vitality and economy in the City of Cambridge, and will: subsidize our operating costs enabling us to offer prices that are 25% to 35% less than other grocers; support our online grocery ordering and free delivery service within two miles of the store; support our partnerships with mission-aligned, Cambridge-based organizations to distribute shopping vouchers, groceries and meals to those facing financial concerns; and help underwrite the operation of our store and commissary kitchen, which makes healthy, prepared meals that meet strict nutritional guidelines for low sodium and sugar established by a world-class team of Boston Med-Ed dietitians.</p>	\$ 500,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
34	Mark T McGovern Program Director Cambridge/Somerville Health Care for the Homeless	<p>Given the success of the City funded Street Medicine Project, which provides funding for a Physician to work up to 12 hours/week with the Baycove First Step Outreach Team, I am interested in new funding to expand this project. We would like to extend hours of direct care MD services and add a community health worker to existing team. The role of the MD on the van has been demonstrated the ability to bring acute health care services to people living on the street. This MD is also providing care in our shelter-based clinic at the CASPAR/Baycove shelter at 240 Albany St, one afternoon/week and works on inpatient units at The Cambridge Hospital. The ability to see patients in these 3 settings has helped to provide an increased continuity of care as well as nurture relationship building with these traditionally hard to engage people. So, we would like to enhance this model by adding MD time on the outreach van and add clinical sessions in our shelter-based clinics in order to see these same patients in a clinical setting. I would like be able to hire an additional MD for this so that we could build a team. We propose to add an MD to do 2 Street Outreach Sessions/Week and 2 Sessions/week in shelter-based clinics for a total of 16 hours/week. We are also proposing to add a Community Health Worker to the team in order to provide critical support to the MDs in order to assist with coordination of care, transportation to clinic sites, assist with access to health insurance, provide for medication pick up and delivery when needed and work the clinic sessions with the Street MDs to provide the familiarity of connection when these patients present in the shelter-based clinic. The Community Health Worker would be a FT 40 hour/week position.</p>	\$ 220,000.00	
35	Sharon Zimmerman Executive Director Cambridge Camping Association	<p>This project idea is generalizable to all direct care serving nonprofits who are struggling to pay increasing wages and keep staff and youth healthy. However this project idea is focused on the specific needs of Cambridge Camping since it is such an urgent need as our seasonal staff hiring is happening right now for April vacation camp, the summer and into the fall for weekend camp. For Cambridge Camping, funds would be used for reimbursement for sick days for seasonal part-time or full-time front-line staff working directly with youth. As per the CDC guidelines, if someone tests positive they are to stay home for 5 days. There is a disproportionate impact on those who with lower incomes and who are BIPOC which for Cambridge Camping is the case for 80% of our seasonal staff working summer, school vacations and weekends. We want our staff to feel able to stay home if they have symptoms or test positive for Covid without fear of lost wages, which many of our staff use to help support their families. Nonprofits don't usually budget for paid time off for seasonal part time staff and those are the people who need the money the most, come to work sick and spread illness. Many nonprofits who run summer, school vacation and weekend programming have to get substitutes to fill in when staff are sick, then having to pay double. As wages increase due to the economic impacts of Covid, this financial burden is unmanagable, especially as we are hiring more staff than in typical years to help meet increased camper mental health needs. Our camp staff and their communities have been disproportionately impacted by loss of income and illness throughout the pandemic, and these funds would allow us to support their essential work supporting vulnerable youth. We are also requesting funding for home Covid tests for youth and staff to help prevent transmission.</p>	\$ 15,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
36	John Lindamood Director of Residential Services Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>The Work Force Youth Program (TWF) has been serving youth and families since 1984. The goal of TWF is to disrupt the cycle of poverty by helping youth attain post-secondary credentials that position them for sustained economic mobility and the creation of generational wealth. TWF serves about 360 youth annually from the 6th grade through completion of their post-secondary degrees. Our sites operate at CHA's three largest family developments, CRLS, and the CSUS. Sites are staffed by a full-time Teacher-Counselor, a part-time Learning Center Coordinator and are supported by a full-time Director, Alumni Coach, and Career Development Specialist. Our success is measured by tracking multiple outcomes. Key metrics include annual matriculation into 2- or 4-year colleges (90% and above) and college graduation rates within 6-years of leaving high school (nearly 80%). The program's comprehensive approach and meaningful engagement with families produce outcomes that are well above the national averages for low-income youth. However, the pandemic has created significant challenges for our participants and their families. Many of our students, families, and seniors are struggling with trauma and need greater supports. Loss of income, food insecurity, and prolonged illness due to COVID, social isolation, and learning loss and atrophied social-emotional development during remote learning have severely impacted many of our residents. To meet these needs, we are seeking funding to support a three-pronged approach over three years. Funding would assist us in securing a second Alumni Coach, provide sequential training to staff on trauma informed practices, and support the expansion of a unique intergenerational pilot. Responsible for a caseload of well over 100 students, our Alumni Coach worked to meet the needs of our alumni as they struggled with isolation, remote learning, and persistence in college. The addition of a second Coach creates more manageable caseloads and enhances support services for each graduate. Additionally, targeted training in trauma informed practices will bolster our ability to support both current participants and alumni as they contend with post-pandemic challenges. Finally, to address the social isolation at many of our elderly developments, we are proposing the expansion of our Intergenerational Basic Computer Literacy and Cyber-Security pilot, an eight week program built on Tech Goes Home modules taught by two TWF high school seniors.</p>	\$ 742,700.00	3 yrs funding
37	John Lindamood Director of Residential Services Cambridge Housing Authority	<p>In April of 2021, the CHA's Resident Services department incorporated a team of eight Service Coordinators and a Director into the agency to provide comprehensive aging-in-place supports to residents of our elderly/disabled developments. All members of the team are credentialed Social Workers and/or Clinicians who have extensive experience working with under-resourced clients in a variety of social service settings. Growing concerns over the health and welfare of our senior residents during the pandemic served as the primary impetus to take this important step. Social isolation and reduced services contributed to an alarming increase in various mental health issues. Over the past year, the individual and concerted efforts of the Service Coordinator staff were instrumental in diminishing the impact of the pandemic on CHA elderly and disabled populations. The proposed project seeks funding to support a small portion of the Service Coordinators' and their Director's salaries over the next three years (25% annually), as well as a small amount to conduct training enhancements, in the form of Certificate programs in Gerontology and/or Aging-In-Place Case Management Services. As we navigate the aftermath of the pandemic, ongoing city support for the critical services this team provides to our most vulnerable residents is imperative, as is increased training opportunities to position them to provide the best possible services to the thousands of residents who make CHA's elderly developments their home.</p>	\$ 520,000.00	3 year funding

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
38	Darrin Korte Executive Director Cambridge Community Center	<p>The Cambridge Community Center (CCC) aims to increase access to mental/behavioral health services and treatment for youth and families enrolled in our programs who are experiencing mental/behavioral health challenges by providing community-based therapeutic services. We hope to utilize the currently unoccupied space located at 205 Western Avenue to provide:</p> <p>1. Support for Youth: Youth with high-level mental/behavioral health needs will be identified by our Social Worker to receive additional support and/or treatment. These services will take place at 205 Western Avenue during regular program hours. Therefore, services will be provided in a setting that's familiar to the child at a time and location that's convenient for their caregivers.</p> <p>2. Support for Families: Our Social Worker will work with caregivers to co-create plans to best support youth in their home environments, building on the positive impact of services provided during program hours. Additionally, caregivers who require additional support and/or treatment themselves will be able to receive those services at 205 Western Avenue while their children are being cared for in our program. Mental/behavioral health issues among Cambridge Public School students have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic according to data reported in the 2021 Cambridge Youth Health Survey. In 2021, 35% of high school students and 27% of middle school students reported feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks or more that they stopped doing usual activities. This compares to 26% of high school students in 2018 and 24% of middle school students in 2019</p>	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$250,000 per year for 4 years plus cost to renovate 205 Western Ave
39	Sasha Purpura Chief Executive Officer Food for Free	<p>Food For Free's Weekend Eats Program (formerly Cambridge weekend backpack program) has shifted to what we call "Carrot Cards" which are debit cards similar to those used in Cambridge's UBI pilot. We have received overwhelming feedback from families that they prefer these to food as it allows them to get culturally appropriate foods. As a side note, we see in the data that a number of families use these cards at their local ethnic bodegas. We plan to move away from food entirely and go with the Carrot Card. Due to the drastic increase in food insecurity, our program grew from about 900 kids across Cambridge and Somerville to over 2000. We also now distribute an additional 6 million pounds of food across Eastern MA. We need to ensure we have funding to keep up this work, as we don't see a decline in demand anytime soon. Cambridge historically funds \$75k of Weekend Eat. An additional \$100k was approved through ARPA. I'm asking for an additional \$200k in ARPA (for a total of \$300k ARPA) to cover the entire cost of the cards. Food For Free would find other funding for the staffing/management/execution of the program. We are asking the same of Somerville for their students. Our budget went from \$1.4m pre-pandemic to over \$4m. We now distribute around 8 million pounds versus 2m in 2019. We need our cities and state and others in the community to help share the burden of this new crisis in hunger so that we can keep up with the demand.</p>	\$ 200,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
ADDITIONAL PROJECT IDEAS SUBMITTED SINCE 4/20/22 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING				
40	Cassie Hurd representing Unhoused Advocacy Group (UAG)	<p>Follow up re: ARPA funding to support unhoused community members. Would like funding to support recommendations from the "<i>Addressing Homelessness in Cambridge Report</i>" January 2022. Using ARPA funds, UAG wants to create 35 additional low-threshold housing subsidies with 4 staff members for two years. During that time, we want the city of identify a sustained funding source to maintain these subsidies through a City Rent Subsidy Program.</p>		
41	Steven Nutter, Executive Director, Green Cambridge	<p>The Little Pond Trail in the Alewife Reservation is the longest woodland trail in the city, and one of the few natural areas accessible by public transportation. Though part of the Alewife Master Plan, it has never been fully developed into an accessible trail that would provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to access a kind of nature rare in Cambridge. Working with DCR, Green Cambridge, which runs the Friends of Alewife program, would manage and coordinate a feasibility study for the trail, including being able to assess environmental, habitat, justice, wetland, and accessibility impacts. In addition, the study would look at inclusive signage and wayfinding to have the space be educational for a variety of ages and language speakers. The Alewife Reservation is 130 acres of green and open space, nearly as large as Fresh Pond Reservation, both part of the historic Great Swamp. The Alewife has a direct connection through Jerry's Pond to the Ridge Ave neighborhood, providing access to nature that is rare in the city. Access to nature is a key component of good mental health, and through the pandemic we have seen dramatic increased use of the Alewife Reservation.</p>	\$ 120,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
42	Tara McCabe, Senior Director, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	<p>BARCC is the second oldest rape crisis center in the nation and is headquartered in Cambridge since its founding in 1973. BARCC provides 100% of Cambridge residents with free services, regardless of gender, race, income, ethnicity, class, age, religion, physical/developmental disabilities, and sexual orientation. On behalf sexual violence survivor community we serve in Cambridge, we request funding to serve Cambridge's most at risk residents who have suffered the disproportionate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We request that an investment of \$1,000,000 be allocated to support services for survivors, prevention programming for schools in Cambridge and our work with Cambridge city agencies. These funds will be used to mitigate the declining federal funding for BARCC's services, estimated to be between 18%-35% over the next 3 years. BARCC has a long-term partnership working with the City of Cambridge to mitigate the impact of sexual violence and to prevent sexual violence. Our work with Cambridge residents and the city of Cambridge is vitally important and at risk. Allocating funding to BARCC from State and Local ARPA funds will ensure our work together will continue and not be impacted. We serve all Cambridge residents and collaborate with the City of Cambridge through numerous inter-agency task forces and working groups; impacting thousands annually. We work with and respond to Cambridge Public Schools. BARCC direct services, clinical, Legal and Immigration Advocacy, Case Management, Medical Advocacy, and Hotline all serve Cambridge residents free of charge</p>	\$ 1,000,000.00	
43	Jesse Edsell-Vetter, HRI Director of Residential Services	<p>Low- and moderate-income residents throughout Cambridge continue to struggle with economic resiliency, accessing benefits, housing stability, education gaps, and food security issues caused by the ongoing COVID pandemic. We ask that the City of Cambridge provide \$250,000 in funding to non-profit housing providers in order to ensure that affordable housing providers can provide critical services such as benefit screening, emergency rental assistance, food security/pantries, and other COVID related services</p>	\$ 250,000.00	
44	Jennifer Jonassaint, HRI Program Manager	<p>We will address negative community impacts from the pandemic to ensure low income seniors fix their homes without additional financial distress. A large number of seniors with limited access to affordable housing resources due to safety issues. The proposed project would mitigate senior owners to gain Smart ways to make their home comfortable, repair, renovate, safely, and a grant handy man program to help them remain. By 2030, one in five people in the U.S. will be age 65 or over. And it's projected that by 2034, such older adults will outnumber children under 18 for the first time ever. AARP surveys consistently found that older adults want to remain in their current homes and communities for as long as possible. We at Homeownerowners Rehab Inc. Home Improvement Program 47 year program confirms the same. But America's housing stock doesn't fit its rapidly changing and rapidly aging population. We will work in the four core program and an important one that can address the following Health and safety, Code violations Weatherization, Lead/Asbestos removal over \$10k. In addition we hope to implement a new senior Handy Man repair project model</p>	\$ 200,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
45	Jennifer Gilbert, Executive Director, Housing Navigator, MA	<p>Formed in 2019 and based in Cambridge, Housing Navigator Massachusetts Inc. (HNMI) is changing the divide in housing and digital equity. Our housing search tool, live since August, 2021, is innovative, beautiful, and reliable—Zillow, fine-tuned to affordable rental listings. We address a significant pandemic impact: housing insecurity. With unique access to data via partnership with government and housing owners, we currently show 2300+ properties in 280 municipalities across the state including 100+ in Cambridge. These include the full range of income-restricted options: LIHTC, public housing, inclusionary, etc. We offer free 24/7 access to information. Since launch, 1100+ individuals from Cambridge have searched on the site. In monthly analytics, Cambridge is routinely the third or fourth top location in which our users are located. Our success indicators include: -Hosting over 34,000 users within our first six months -A steadily increasing monthly rate of visitors-11,000 in April -10% of users are ages 65+ -800+ social service providers have attended our online information sessions including Cambridge-based Transition House and CASLS. We have tremendous traction. We know there is much more to do. In the coming two years and with the requested support, we want to: -Add to our inventory, including all affordable properties in Cambridge, and increase the visible ADA units - Maintain our high quality of with regular “check-ins” and maintenance - Develop additional user-friendly features, based on our users’ feedback - Pilot a universal pre-application to simplify applying for housing -Deepen outreach with community based organizations, health care, municipal government, etc</p>	\$ 250,000.00	
46	Sarah Gyorog, Ex. Director Transition House	<p>This proposal aims to meet some of the pressing needs for the survivors of domestic violence in the Cambridge community. These key areas are in alignment with the ARPA priorities, and directly related to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic on survivors of domestic violence. We aim to offer household assistance to survivors, increase our housing support, improve our emergency shelter and offer additional pay for essential workers supporting survivors. During the height of the pandemic we witnessed the trend of increased food insecurity, higher utility costs, mobility and child care needs; and over the next few years we anticipate continuing to see these needs increase. ARPA funds will go directly to providing assistance to survivors in all our programs and increasing the amount we are able to provide to families in the emergency shelter. We know that with economic stability, overall health and wellbeing improves. Our emergency shelter has gone through increased wear and tear as families were largely inside for two years. Investment in the maintenance of our shelter over the next three years will keep our emergency shelter operational for many years to come. Since March 2020, Transition House has remained fully operational and despite staff turnover, has expanded services based to meet the increased demand. The pandemic did not change the reality of domestic violence. Rather, people’s access to related supports has become more challenged due to the disruptive impact resulting in increased poverty and curtailed resources. Transition House respectfully requests \$750,000 in ARPA funding.</p>	\$ 750,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
47	Delphene Mooney, Ex Director, On the Rise, Inc	<p>On The Rise provides safety, community, and advocacy to 450+ women and trans/non-binary individuals moving through and recovering from homelessness. Participants in our programs face food insecurity and have significant barriers to accessing tangible resources even prior to COVID-19. In our Safe Haven Program, a low-threshold drop in day shelter, participants are provided fresh, hot meals and other tangible essentials for daily survival. The pandemic has exacerbated barriers to access and increased both the demand and complexity of coordinating these goods, including clothing, hygiene items, gift cards, and wellness supplies. Building the capacity to coordinate these resources is a key component of meeting the increased demand. With ARPA funds, we will enhance food aid and resource coordination in the Safe Haven. These seed funds will be used over two and half years to invest in a resource coordinator position to increase the volume and effectiveness of resource delivery for those with the fewest options in our community. Partnering with local Cambridge restaurants, we will purchase prepared hot meals for distribution in our Safe Haven, in addition to working with our community of dedicated volunteer cooks. The position will also coordinate the over \$100,000 worth of purchased and donated goods that annually are distributed in our programs, acting as a multiplier to connect residents in need with community resources.</p>	\$ 250,000.00	
48	Mike Nakagawa	<p>The proposed IQHQ development in North Cambridge will transform the area around Russell Field, adding outdoor meeting and recreation spaces (much needed in a pandemic) and other amenities for abutting neighborhoods, including vulnerable residents in high density housing along Rindge Ave. However, the property is highly contaminated with asbestos, and the impending construction is raising pulmonary health concerns already heightened by Covid-19. The pandemic has impeded in-person meetings for neighbors to discuss the potential changes and hazards. Alewife Neighbors, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) organization) has worked for decades to hire consultants to independently ensure the neighbors remain protected, and to communicate risks and opportunities associated with the IQHQ site. With construction scheduled to start this summer, neighbors need to both be and feel safe in their homes and in abutting outdoor recreational areas. Alewife Neighbors requests \$19,500 to cover: environmental consultant costs to test, review and report on the contamination remediation during construction, translation services (six languages) to inform the Rindge Avenue tenants and other neighbors about the construction progress and risks, and to inform them of opportunities to discuss site plans, particularly for future outdoor amenities near Jerry's Pond. The translations will help overcome some of the language difficulties because interactive meetings have been reduced with the pandemic, outdoor meetings and other outreach, including hiring interpreters, to make the information gathering and sharing more accessible to vulnerable populations in the area, assistance to update the alewifeighbors.org website with timely information</p>	\$ 19,500.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
49	Luis Cotto	<p>The Central Square BID, co-managers (with the Cambridge Arts Council) of the Central Square Cultural District, creators of Starlight Square, and stewards of the cultural heart of Cambridge, is applying for \$825,000] towards a Cultural District Resiliency Initiative, which would allow our organization to respond dynamically, on an as-needed basis, to COVID recovery efforts in our district. This fund will be invested in our Cultural District over the course of three years, starting in FY23. "Our once booming, innovative, and vibrant cultural sector is in economic crisis," stated Cambridge resident, and Executive Director of the Mass Cultural Council, Michael J. Bobbitt. This was after the state arts agency released their sixth survey in March 2022 showing that artists have lost \$31.9mil throughout the Commonwealth. In Cambridge, although there has been recent progress toward resumption of live performances and events, the pain of the last 18 months remains, and there continues to be tremendous uncertainty that is affecting audience size, gig possibilities, as well as the ability to plan future programs. Individual artists and producers of outdoor creative manifestations for people to come safely together continue to require infusions of capital to maintain viability and growth.</p>	\$ 825,000.00	
50	<p>Dan Y. Marshall, President & Ex Artistic Director, Brookline/Cambridge Community Center for the Arts</p>	<p>Complete the development of a unique non-profit education web technology for organizations and individuals to collaborate, monetize, and distribute creative/artistic educational content. This groundbreaking non-profit software provides a customizable, inclusive, all-around system for marketing, scheduling, enrollment, employment, payment processing, and communications for creative-sector organizations. It supports a broad range of needs of organizations, fully representing their brand and structure, while presenting a unified front to students with a user friendly and intuitive interface. Cambridge is poised to be a leader in this field, supporting its creative sector with this highly innovative software option, the only non-profit one of its kind, that will promote cross collaboration between artists/educators and organizations across the City. The software is not only adaptable to individual organizations and individuals' needs, but will also produce a unifying operational platform for local arts and culture organizations, and highlight their community work, offerings, and services. As a result of COVID, the City's individual artists and creative organizations have suffered the challenge of loss of work, students and patrons, and arts facilities. They have had to compete with costly and ever-changing technology, and transition back and forth between online and onsite programming. This software promotes gainful employment and fosters student reach, and it provides a solid infrastructure for onsite, online/virtual, and hybrid programming. It is also a central repository for digital educational content allowing for residual income, and its payroll and reporting tools facilitate economical and efficient educational facility administration, and customized and equitable pay for artists/educators/producers</p>	\$ 150,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
51	Pooja Paode Assoc Director, Cambridge Local First	<p>Increase vaccine and Covid testing access in Cambridge with an emphasis on small businesses with a higher testing burden, essential workers, and populations that are less able or less likely to get vaccinated (especially with regards to booster shots) via: 1) incentives and tests allocated specifically for essential workers, low-wage workers, and other marginalized populations, and 2) widely circulating mobile vaccination / testing units. Units (it can even be a total of one unit, if that is more feasible) should circulate in business districts / areas with a high concentration of locally-owned small businesses, transit hubs, large employers, libraries, schools, public housing, and similar locations. These units can circulate for a specified amount of time (i.e., a month) to line up with Covid (and flu) vaccine booster timings. If needed, the program could provide an incentive to individuals - especially essential workers, low-wage workers, and low-income residents - by providing a half-day or day's pay in return for an individual taking the shot, so they are able to take the day off without financial ramifications. In addition to, this program specifically support small businesses that employ lower-wage workers (based on the area median income) by setting a set amount of tests set aside and accessible to them to help mitigate long-term economic harms as a result of Covid.</p>	\$ 300,000.00	
52	Pooja Paode Assoc Director, Cambridge Local First	<p>Support locally- and independently-owned businesses by increasing local procurement through strategies such as results-driven contracting targeting contracts for both local anchor institutions and the City of Cambridge. This will help make procurement more equitable and directly support small businesses (drivers of economic mobility and reflections of community identity) in the Cambridge area. This process should include: 1) Measuring levels of local procurement across departments. 2) Developing and implementing a business engagement survey to provide businesses with the opportunity to share their suggestions related to the City of Cambridge procurement process and vendor outreach, in order to identify gaps and barriers that prevent local businesses from becoming City of Cambridge Vendors. This will provide the city with clear steps to make it easier for more diverse, small, and local, businesses to participate in city contracting. 3) Facilitating focus groups with stakeholders such as the Economic Development and University Relations Committee and local anchor institution procurement representatives (including universities) to identify barriers to procurement with BIPOC-and women-owned businesses and help identify opportunities for these businesses (and other local businesses) to secure contracts. 4) Setting targets and taking actions to increase the relative amount of local procurement across local anchor institutions, City Departments and the City as a whole. This can be paired with activities such as creating a list of local businesses (highlight BIPOC- and women-owned businesses), holding procurement fairs, and facilitating procurement matching.</p>	\$ 45,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
53	Pooja Paode Assoc Director, Cambridge Local First	<p>Along with setting shared targets for contracting with local suppliers and BIPOC-ledsuppliers and vendors, we propose using ARPA funds and existing city assets to invest in an energizing accelerator space to build a pipeline of BIPOC-owned businesses. This program idea is based on the Fairmont Innovation Center, located in Boston: https://www.filboston.org/. We propose the support of a a creative co-working space and microbusiness accelerator focused on young BIPOC creativeees in Cambridge. This space, could operate as a business incubator, low-cost co-working space, and pop-up shop inspired by existing locations such as the Loop Lab (which offers student classes) and Community Arts Center Mural Program. This location could start as a part-time space (a few days a week) and grow over time. Youth that engage in this program can access start-up-related workshops, practice pitching their ideas, and more. Possible locations include part of the Foundry, an existing youth center, or another vacant storefront. The program will most likely include an initial period of location identification, identification of mentors and leaders (which the city is lucky enough to have) and interested individuals in high school or slightly older who have ideas they want to focus on developing (most likely in 6-month "residencies" at the incubator. This program could also link to other ideas submitted by CSBBN (with an emphasis on Cambridge residents).</p>	\$ 240,000.00	
54	Pooja Paode Assoc Director, Cambridge Local First	<p>To drive consumer spending in Cambridge towards in-person, local businesses, we propose a "Buy One, Get One" program similar to one established in Oswego, New York where Cambridge residents can pay \$10 to receive a \$20 dollar gift card or \$25 to receive a \$50 gift card to a local and independently-owned business. This program could target businesses and subsets of businesses that have been most negatively impacted by the pandemic and where residents might not be aware of local options, including (but not limited to) BIPOC-owned businesses, retail businesses, gyms, child care establishments, and restaurants. This is a fairly simple program that can be utilized outside of typical "buying seasons" and based on business feedback (such as the holidays) to boost business growth. This program could pair with Black History Month, Small Business Week, and Women-Owned Business Month (for example).</p>	\$ 25,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
55	Banti Gheneti , Project Right to Housing	<p>This project proposes that the City of Cambridge rehouse 400 individuals experiencing homelessness between April 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023, and functionally end homelessness by April 1, 2024. This could be accomplished through the proposed Cambridge Unhoused Stipend Program (CUSP), which would cover the full cost of living for participating unhoused individuals and families for three years, and a significant portion (at least rent less 30% of household income) for the following 7 years. CUSP embraces a Housing First approach to ending homelessness, and performs three key activities: - Identifies eligible households, - Finds and secures available units, and - Moves those eligible households into those units, and provides long-term supportive services as necessary. We have attached a more detailed description of CUSP to this email. This proposal was written by Project Right to Housing and incorporates input from homelessness services providers and unhoused community members. The unhoused community has been disproportionately affected by the ongoing pandemic. Limited shelter and housing options have left many people on the street or in crowded congregate shelters where life is difficult and the risk of contracting COVID-19 is high. There have been reductions and changes to resources, including health services, day centers and homeless services, that were available to people who are unhoused prior to the pandemic, making their lives significantly more challenging. Stringent requirements for identification and other impediments have also made it hard for many unhoused people to gain access to federal aid that many people have been able to obtain. Though the burden of the pandemic has eased somewhat, rehousing through CUSP will go a long way towards sustainably addressing these needs, which remain at crisis levelsmic</p>	\$ 10,000,000.00	
56	Nancy Mahan, Sr Vice President CASPAR/BayCove	<p>The COVID pandemic and shadow epidemics of Substance Use Disorders & other Behavioral Health conditions have had deleterious impacts on all communities, and this is the case for unhoused and sheltered adults. We see more people living on the street and more people in need of basic safety net services. Sadly these impacts are worse for BIPOC and other marginalized adults who are burdened by colliding Social Determinants of Health We request resources to help mitigate these impacts with four one-time investments of ARPA resources. 1. Purchase and installation of a storage shed for First Step to safely secure needed resources behind the shelter at 240 Albany Street 2. One time purchase of Harm Reduction Supplies for CASPAR/Bay Cove services and other partnering homeless services providers 3. One time upgrade of multiservice room at 240 Albany Street Shelter 4. One time investment in training staff involved in providing needed care homeless persons in evidenced practices (engagement strategies; trauma informed care principles & practices; harm reduction strategies; housing first; overdose prevention & intervention; crisis prevention, intervention, and de-escalation practices; identifying & addressing bias in services; peer recovery based services; suicide awareness and interventions for persons with SUD; an self- care & resilience for all stakeholders.</p>	\$ 77,200.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
57	Michael Monestime	<p>Covid-19 has isolated many Cambridge community members, both mentally and physically. Art and special events bring joy to our residents, can reunite our City, and inspire a spirit of connectedness and neighborly love. Starting in Summer 2022 and continuing through '23, the partners who brought you the best of the Central SQ BID and Cultural District, will bring the Cambridge community outside safely for Joyful Destinations, a series of new cultural events. Joyful Destinations is a city-wide campaign aimed at creating more moments of cultural celebration through neighborhood special events, focusing on neighborhoods outside of Central, Harvard, Kendall and Inman, which all have association representation. There are many other neighborhoods that don't enjoy the same frequency of food events, public art, or community gatherings. Joyful Destinations will extend the City of Cambridge's Public Art, bringing color and life to empty walls in North Cambridge, the Coast, and Porter Square. The campaign will activate empty surface lots and turn them into block parties, where all can attend. The campaign will honor the much-needed City Wide Dance Party and have special guest DJ Quest Love unite the City through music and dance. Lastly, the team will pilot a Carnival-style events with amusement rides as children approach back to school. There will be no cost associated with attendance, through approval of ARPA funding to underwrite these public celebrations.</p>	\$ 435,300.00	
58	Steven Nutter, Green Cambridge	<p>The Canopy Crew is for teens and young adults to have career exploration opportunities in urban forestry while preserving and expanding our shared urban tree canopy in Cambridge. Participants are paid the Cambridge Living Wage. Ten youth are employed twice a year for a total of 20 weeks. 2022 is our inaugural year, building off the recommendations of the Urban Forest Master Plan, and developed in coordination with Cambridge DPW. Our first year has been funded from the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban Forest grant and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. In future years, three hundred trees will be planted. This funding request supports the 2023 and 2024 years. By then, we will have our own tree nursery on the top of the new IQHQ development at Alewife. With Green Cambridge staff and urban forestry professionals facilitating, participants will be given the opportunity to plant trees and learn about the technicalities of tree planting throughout the process. With our current climate projections, it is essential to educate emerging adults on environmental issues and provide hands-on learning and employment activities that put hands in the soil. Since 2009, the city of Cambridge has lost 16.4 acres of canopy coverage every year; that's the equivalent of more than 9 soccer fields! As of 2019, our canopy coverage was 26%, and projected to decline to 10% by 2050 if we do not preserve our existing trees while also planting thousands more each year. To make matters worse, by 2050 Cambridge will be much hotter than it is now with more flooding -- two things a robust canopy cover can help mitigate. For more information, see greencambridge.org/canopycrew</p>	\$ 221,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
59	Amanda Becker, Esq. Director of Development, DeNovo Center for Justice and Healing	<p>The Homelessness Prevention Project will provide trauma-informed and culturally relevant free legal assistance to 80-100 low-income people living in Cambridge annually who are facing homelessness or displacement due to COVID-19. Specifically, funds will be used to retain two full-time housing attorneys and a full-time housing paralegal originally hired with state pandemic relief funds in late 2020 to help meet the exceptional unmet need for legal assistance among low-income tenants facing eviction due to COVID-19.</p>	\$ 630,000.00	
60	Maggie Moore Abdo, Coalition Representative Create Cambridge Coalition	<p>The Create Cambridge Coalition requests ARPA funding to invest \$5 million to the arts, culture, and creative economy sector. Current Coalition representation listed above in Contact. Coalition participation is open and rolling. Advocacy and Inclusion is a core foundation of the Coalition, with dedicated continued efforts to expand participation from all arts & culture organizations/creative workers. The arts and culture sector is a major driver of the Cambridge economy. Annually, the sector generates roughly \$175M, supports more than 6,000 jobs, and contributes more than \$13M in local and state government revenue in Cambridge. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted individual artists, many of whom are people of color from diverse backgrounds, cultural workers, and arts organizations. State-wide, the Massachusetts Cultural Council reports (March 2022) a pandemic era loss of \$791 million, with 90% loss from earned-income revenue. Cambridge arts and culture organizations have suffered a loss of \$30,668,576 in revenue due to COVID-19. Of all the metropolitan cities, Cambridge is second only to the City of Boston in total lost revenue (Source: Mass Cultural Council COVID impact survey by city.</p>	\$ 5,000,000.00	
61	Jane Carbone, Home Owners Rehab, Director of Development	<p>The funds requested in the eligible expenditures category are 2.10 Aid to non profit a, 3.10 Housing Support Affordable Housing . Public Health 1.4 Prevention on congregate settings (elderly housing) . Harvard Place is a 22 unit affordable development for low income elderly and individuals owned by CASCAP Inc a non profit agency that provides housing and services to elderly and individuals with mental health challenges . The goal of this project would be to improve the indoor air quality by replacing the existing HVAC system and install equipment that can introduce fresh air into each unit to improve the indoor air quality . In the last few decades, Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) has received increasing attention from the international scientific community, political institutions, and environmental governances for improving the comfort, health, and wellbeing of building occupants. Several studies on this topic have shown both qualitative and quantitative IAQ variations through the years, underlining an increase in pollutants and their levels. It has been estimated that people spend about 90% of their time in both private and public indoor environments. IAQ has a significant impact on health and quality of life in general. For many people, the health risks from exposure to indoor air pollution may be greater than those related to outdoor pollution. In particular, poor indoor air quality can be harmful to vulnerable groups such as children, young adults, the elderly, or those suffering chronic respiratory and/or cardiovascular diseases.</p>	\$ 502,700.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
62	Connie Chin, Global Arts Live, Chief Ex Officer	<p>A consortium of Cambridge’s largest independent performing arts organizations will collaborate to produce an outdoor festival in summer 2023. The series will bring together residents of Cambridge and surrounding communities to enjoy music, theater, dance, and more, in an inclusive and safe environment, celebrating diverse art and perspectives. A programming committee will create at least 12 weeks of events including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cambridge Arts: River Festival (1 weekend of events) ● Global Arts Live: world music featuring global and local artists (15 events) ● The Dance Complex: world dance performance and classes featuring Cambridge, New England, and national artists; engaging youth to elders sharing their heritage (15 events) ● Central Square Theater: Our Town, a community-engaged tri-lingual play (English/Haitian Creole/Cuban Spanish) produced in partnership with Cambridge artists, community members, youth organizations and nonprofit arts partners (15 events) ● Cambridge Community Television: record and broadcast programming, offer outdoor education classes ● Other partnerships under discussion: East Cambridge Business Association, Cambridgeside Galleria. <p>With the city and its residents battered by the health, social and economic impacts of COVID 19, an outdoor performing arts festival focused on diversity will help the community heal. Through offering free programming spanning a range of genres, the festival will foster joy and bring together community members while reducing barriers including financial constraints and health and safety concerns associated with traditional indoor venues. The proposed project site is Lechmere Canal Park. The festival will draw visitors and residents to the Cambridgeside Galleria and help jumpstart the economic recovery of local businesses</p>	\$ 1,300,000.00	
63	Alice Kidder, Co-Director, Paris Swindle, Co-Director Green St Shelter	<p>While the collection of data on the mental health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic remains ongoing, the Green Street Homeless Shelter has directly felt the impact that the pandemic has placed on our target population. Due to the unique stressors that the pandemic placed on mental health, populations that are traditionally undeserved by mental health services are particularly vulnerable in these times. Homeless individuals are frequently dealing with mental health issues as both a cause and consequence of their situation, and we have witnessed the acute need to provide mental health services to our residents if we are to restore them to self-supporting community members. The Green Street Shelter has experience dealing with various mental health issues including depression, suicide, domestic violence, and the ability to transition to self-sufficiency, but lack the capacity to treat them. Green Street seeks to expand its mental health service counseling and clinical support to augment its spectrum of services in job training, job placement and case management. Green Street also seeks to establish a Covid ward in the shelter to treat our residents who test positive for the virus by isolating them through the incubation period until which time they can be released back into the general population to help protect the residents who have not tested positive for the virus. We request funding to establish our mental health service capacity by hiring seven additional staff members as well as acquiring the equipment and technology to facilitate delivery of these services and program support.</p>	\$ 200,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item #	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
64	Elena Sokolow-Kaufman, Managing Director, Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition	<p>The City's ARPA nonprofit grant program, referred to as the Cambridge Nonprofit Recovery Fund (Fund), is designed to support organizations, programs, and activities that benefit Cambridge residents in an effort to address the negative economic impact of the pandemic on the Cambridge nonprofit sector. The Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition (CNC) recommends funding the Cambridge Nonprofit Recovery Fund grant program at \$20 million in relief funding, specifically for community-based Cambridge serving nonprofits that have sustained negative economic and human resource operational impacts because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. CNC recognizes the need for support for new projects that serve Cambridge residents, however, in order to continue implementing those projects, nonprofits must be able to operate and keep their doors open. The ARPA funds specifically support funding nonprofits directly for rent, utilities, salaries of employees, retention incentives, loss of revenues and related challenges. The Fund will provide critical financial support to a wide range of Cambridge serving nonprofits to strengthen the capacity of the sector, improving its ability to continue providing critical services to the residents of Cambridge. It is important to note that many of the services provided by Cambridge nonprofits also target residents who have been historically marginalized and disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, or endeavor to tell their stories. These include but are not limited to: financial security supports, early childhood education, elder services, food access, mental health and behavioral health, environmental justice, youth development and arts and culture programs.</p>	\$ 20,000,000.00	
65	Kenneth Reeves, President, Cambridge Branch NAACP	<p>Cambridge Branch NAACP Excellence Lab Proposal: Funding is requested for an experimental "excellence lab", which will target Cambridge students K-8 to assess the knowledge gaps, skill deficiencies, and enrichment deficits that have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. The thrust of this innovative proposal is to create a minority-led initiative to serve children and families who, due to periods of online-only education social isolation, have regressed in their absolute knowledge and have not had access to the enrichment programs and tutorial contexts created by more affluent families. The foundation of this effort is to promote equity and inclusion for these families and their students. We will gather a minority-led team to assess students' current basic skills and then through an experimental process of exploration, instruction and coaching, help students to be more competitive in the overall landscape of public school academic achievement. We will also mentor parents about ways to support/inspire their children at home. The innovative aspect of this program is to use Cambridge and its major institutions as the teaching context for more informed learning. For example, students would participate in a series of activities to learn about what is/are: Harvard and MIT, Kendall Square and the Biotech Environment (e.g. Novartis, Google, Broad Institute)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emerging industries in Cambridge (e.g. cannabis, online food ordering and delivery platforms) - Public health infrastructure in Cambridge (e.g. Cambridge Public Health Commission, hospitals) - Government of Cambridge - Housing Mix in Cambridge - Demographics of Cambridge - How can students prepare to be successful in Cambridge? <p>This program seeks to invent the solution to differentiated class-based student achievement.</p>	\$ 600,000.00	

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE - ARPA COMMUNITY PROJECT IDEAS as of 5/16/22

Item	Submitter Information	PROJECT IDEA	Funding Request	Notes
		TOTAL REQUESTS	\$ 188,432,665.00	

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Roy Russell roy@alum.mit.edu

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The city should first accelerate the citywide broadband feasibility study, then it should build a citywide fiber infrastructure that will enable fiber to the home internet service for every home and business in the city. The city should prioritize those most impacted by the pandemic, those who can least afford broadband currently offered by the existing commercial providers. These households are generally the most economically impacted by the pandemic, lower income service workers who may have lost their jobs, retired fixed income residents who are most at-risk healthwise. Providing affordable and fast internet access for these residents enables them to better participate in everything online from educational opportunities to economic opportunities to social opportunities.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

During the pandemic many interactions and events which would have been in-person have moved online. Everything from school to government (e.g. city council and committee and board meetings) to work, even a lot of individual social interaction. Providing affordable quality internet access meets a basic need, as important as housing, water and sewer, etc.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, if providing access for these groups was prioritized. Furthermore, it could be subsidized by the fees charged for service to the rest of the city residents and businesses.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Addressing digital equity requires providing affordable access, equipment, and training. All of these, beginning with access, will help to provide improved economic opportunities by opening up access to education and job opportunities that require internet access.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The city has conducted a great digital equity study. One way to measure progress in meeting goals would be to conduct a follow-up survey once the city has provided internet access.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Michelle Holcomb, Chief Development Officer, Food For Free
michelle@foodforfree.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The COVID pandemic has had a terrible impact on food security for Cambridge families. The Greater Boston Food Bank estimates that an astounding 30% of Massachusetts residents have experienced food insecurity in the last year. Currently, one in five children in Greater Boston is experiencing hunger. That number has more than doubled since the start of the pandemic—the biggest increase in child hunger of any state in the U.S.

Food programs are struggling to meet this increased need. In May, WBUR reported that food pantries in Eastern Massachusetts were seeing four times the number of clients as they had before the pandemic.

We request funding for the purchase and transportation of food to Cambridge pantries, schools, and low-income housing sites. This use of funds will improve nutrition for our community by helping families to access healthy foods in the places they live, work, and study.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts***
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers***
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines***
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband***

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

This proposed use of funds will increase the amount of fresh, healthy food available to Cambridge residents via food pantries, pop-up distributions at housing sites, and public schools, thereby mitigating the well-documented effect of the pandemic on child hunger.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, this initiative will serve the low-income families who already utilize food pantries while also reaching households that do not currently access pantries, via school-based distributions and distributions at CHA and other low-income housing sites.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

This proposal specifically targets low-income and low-food-security households via CHA and other public housing sites as well as Cambridge Public Schools and community food pantries.

¹ “Disproportionately impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The project will track food distributed and households served across distribution locations.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Catherine Zusy, President, Magazine Beach Partners, Inc.
202 Hamilton St.
Cambridge, MA 02139
617.868.0489, cell: 617.460.2716

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts***
 To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers
 To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines
 To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?
2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?
3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The clearest measure of our success will be whether we see neighbors and families of color using this new section of the park in larger numbers. So far, mostly, it gets no use, so that should be pretty easy to document!

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.



Magazine Beach Grassy Beach					
Cambridge, MA					
100% Design Submission Cost Estimate			REVISED	6/30/2021	
				CURRENT ESTIMATE	
Payment Item	Description	Price/Unit	Units	Qty	Cost
01000	SPECIAL CONDITIONS				
01000-1	General Conditions, Special Conditions and Mobilization	\$ 200,000.00	LS	1	\$ 200,000.00
01000-2	Temporary Construction Facilities	\$ 15,000.00	LS	1	\$ 15,000.00
01000-2	Construction Signs	\$ 5,000.00	LS	1	\$ 5,000.00
	Subtotal				\$ 220,000.00
01019	CONTRACT CONSIDERATIONS				
01019-1	Police Services	\$ 15,000.00	AL	1	\$ 15,000.00
	Subtotal				\$ 15,000.00
01500	CONSTRUCTION FENCING				
01500-1	Construction Fence (6' Chain link)	\$ 17.00	LF	570	\$ 9,690.00
	Subtotal				\$ 9,690.00
02100	SITE PREPARATION				
02100-1	Site Preparation	\$ 30,000.00	LS	1	\$ 30,000.00
	Remove and dispose concrete curb	\$ 33.00	LF	40	\$ 1,320.00
	Remove and Dispose Concrete Block	\$ 300.00	EA	6	\$ 1,800.00
	strip and dispose lawn	\$ 3.00	SY	5032	\$ 15,096.00
	Utility Adjustments - Adjust rims at MWRA	\$ 10,000.00	LS	1	\$ 10,000.00
02100-2	Tree Protection Fence	\$ 15.00	LF	104	\$ 1,560.00
02100-3	Remove and Dispose Picnic Table & Pad	\$ 1,500.00	EA	3	\$ 4,500.00
02100-4	Topsoil Strip and Stockpile	\$ 35.00	CY	1000	\$ 35,000.00
02100-5	Clearing and Grubbing	\$ 15.00	SY	540	\$ 8,100.00
02100-6	Cut, Clear and Swipe	\$ 28.00	SY	330	\$ 9,240.00
02100-7	Arborist Services	\$ 3,000.00	EA	1	\$ 3,000.00
02100-8	Tree Trimming	\$ 300.00	EA	13	\$ 3,900.00
02100-9	Bituminous Concrete Pavement and Base Removal	\$ 25.00	SY	669	\$ 16,713.89
02100-10	Sawcut Pavement	\$ 12.00	LF	52	\$ 624.00
02100-11	Remove Vehicular Swing Gate	\$ 5,000.00	LS	1	\$ 5,000.00
	Subtotal				\$ 117,637.89
02200	EARTHWORK				
02200-1	Earthwork for Site	\$ 200,000.00	LS	1	\$ 200,000.00
	Cut Removal for Soil Profile	\$ 40.00	CY	2050	\$ 82,000.00
	Ordinary Borrow/Fill Placed (Place holder for unit price)	\$ 40.00	CY	0	\$ -
	Rough Grading	\$ 10.00	SY	5540	\$ 55,402.22
	Fine Grading for Lawns	\$ 10.00	SY	5540	\$ 55,402.22
02200-2	Earthwork for Structures	\$ 750.00	LS	1	\$ 750.00
	Excavation	\$ 40.00	CY	10	\$ 400.00
	Gravel Borrow for Backfilling	\$ 50.00	CY	7	\$ 350.00
02200-3	Class A Rock Excavation	\$ 250.00	CY	5	\$ 1,250.00
02200-4	Remove and Replace Marshy Soils	\$ 250.00	CY	10	\$ 2,500.00
	Subtotal				\$ 204,500.00

				CURRENT ESTIMATE	
Payment Item	Description	Price/Unit	Units	Qty	Cost
02370	EROSION & SEDIMENTATION CONTROL				
02370-1	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and Notice of Intent for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity	\$ 5,000.00	LS	1	\$ 5,000.00
02370-2	Silt Barrier	\$ 20.00	LF	780	\$ 15,600.00
02730-3	Slope Protection	\$ 1.00	SF	1,700	\$ 1,700.00
02730-4	Sediment Control Bags	\$ 350.00	EA	7	\$ 2,450.00
02730-5	Floating Turbidity Curtain	\$ 50.00	LF	638	\$ 31,900.00
02370-6	Seeding, Mulch & Tackifier (incidental)		SF		
	Subtotal				\$ 56,650.00
02467	TIMBER PILES				
02468-1	Timber Piles	\$ 67	LF	1493	\$ 100,031
02468-2	Mobilization/Demobilization	\$ 20,000	LS	1	\$ 20,000
	Subtotal				\$ 120,031.00
02468	HELICAL ANCHORS				
02468-1	Helical Anchors	\$ 2,250	EA	15	\$ 33,750
02468-2	Mobilization/Demobilization	\$ 6,750	LS	1	\$ 6,750
	Subtotal				\$ 40,500.00
02500	BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVING AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS				
02500-1	Bituminous Concrete Paving - Pedestrian Depth	\$ 70.00	SY	5	\$ 350.00
02500-1	Bituminous Concrete Paving - Vehicular Depth	\$ 80.00	SY	671	\$ 53,680.00
02500-2	Granite Curbs	\$ 60.00	LF	85	\$ 5,100.00
02500-2	Pavement Markings	\$ 1,200.00	LS	1	\$ 1,200.00
	Subtotal				\$ 60,330.00
02730	CEMENT CONCRETE PAVING				
02730-1	Cement Concrete Paving (path to Picnic Table)	\$ 112.00	SY	7	\$ 784.00
02730-2	Stabilized Stonedust Paving	\$ 112.00	SY	106	\$ 11,822.22
	Subtotal				\$ 12,606.22
02740	SITE UTILITIES				
02740-1	Site Utility As-built	\$ 2,000	LS	1	\$ 2,000
02740-2	4" PVC Drain Pipe	\$ 65	LF	30	\$ 1,950
02740-3	Subsurface Infiltration Bed	\$ 7,000	LS	1	\$ 7,000
02740-4	Pipe & Drain Structure Testing	\$ 500	LS	1	\$ 500
	Subtotal				\$ 11,450.00

				CURRENT ESTIMATE	
Payment Item	Description	Price/Unit	Units	Qty	Cost
02800	SITE FURNISHINGS				
02800-1	Bench on Concrete Pad	\$ 5,000.00	EA	2	\$ 10,000.00
02800-2	Picnic Table on Concrete Pad	\$ 12,000.00	EA	2	\$ 24,000.00
	Subtotal				\$ 34,000.00
02930	EXTERIOR PLANTS				
02930-1	Water for Plantings	\$ 1,200.00	MGAL	30	\$ 36,000.00
02930-2	Pre-vegetated Coir Roll	\$ 66.00	LF	564	\$ 37,243.80
	Trees				
02930-3	<i>Acer rubrum - 3.5-4" cal.</i>	\$ 2,500.00	EA	5	\$ 12,500.00
02930-4	<i>Amelanchier laevis - 10 ft multistem</i>	\$ 2,000.00	EA	5	\$ 10,000.00
02930-5	<i>Nyssa sylvatica - 3.5-4" cal.</i>	\$ 2,500.00	EA	3	\$ 7,500.00
	Ornamental Grasses and Perennials (PLUGS)				
02930-6	<i>Carex crinata var. crinata - PLUG</i>	\$ 18.00	EA	1792	\$ 32,256.00
02930-7	<i>Carex stricta - PLUG</i>	\$ 18.00	EA	1986	\$ 35,748.00
02930-8	<i>Juncus canadensis - PLUG</i>	\$ 18.00	EA	930	\$ 16,740.00
02930-9	<i>Juncus effusus ssp. solutus - PLUG</i>	\$ 18.00	EA	1730	\$ 31,140.00
02930-10	<i>Iris versicolor - PLUG</i>	\$ 18.00	EA	1000	\$ 18,000.00
02930-11	<i>Pontedaria cordata - PLUG</i>	\$ 18.00	EA	1500	\$ 27,000.00
	Ornamental Grasses and Perennials				
02930-12	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	\$ 45.00	EA	474	\$ 21,330.00
02100-13	Protection From Geese	\$ 10.00	SY	600	\$ 6,000.00
	Subtotal				\$ 291,457.80
02940	LAWNS				
02940-1	Seeded Lawn	\$ 40.00	SY	4900	\$ 196,000.00
	Subtotal				\$ 196,000.00
03300	REINFORCED CONCRETE				
03300-1	Reinforced Concrete (Observation Deck & Dock)	\$ 2,500.00	CY	3	\$ 7,500.00
	Subtotal				\$ 7,500.00
06100	STRUCTURAL LUMBER				
06100-1	Structural Lumber - Observation Deck	\$ 25,000	MBM	1.54	\$ 38,500
06100-2	Structural Lumber - Dock	\$ 25,000	MBM	3.74	\$ 93,500
06100-3	Dock Hardware	\$ 54,000	LS	1	\$ 54,000
	Subtotal				\$ 186,000.00
06101	PURPLEHEART LUMBER				
06101-1	Purpleheart Lumber Decking - Dock	\$ 80	SF	1331	\$ 106,480
06101-2	Purpleheart Lumber Decking- Observation Deck (Overlook)	\$ 80	SF	472	\$ 37,760
06101-3	Purpleheart Lumber Wood Curb	\$ 40	LF	235	\$ 9,400
06101-4	Purpleheart Lumber Rail	\$ 250	LF	72	\$ 18,000
06101-5	Purpleheart Lumber Bench	\$ 5,000	LS	1	\$ 5,000
	Subtotal				\$ 176,640.00

				CURRENT ESTIMATE	
Payment Item	Description	Price/Unit	Units	Qty	Cost
16000	ELECTRIC				
16000-1	Undergrounding Utilities incl trenching	\$ 53,000.00	LS	1	\$ 53,000.00
	Subtotal				\$ 53,000.00
		Sub Total Cost:			\$ 1,812,992.91
		15% Contingency			\$ 271,948.94
		6% Constructiton Escalation to 2022			\$ 125,096.51
		Project Total Cost:			\$ 2,210,038
		Say:			\$ 2,212,000.00

DCR Cambridge Investments

Completed - \$2.9 million total

Short-Term Improvements to Fresh Pond Parkway at Mt. Auburn Street construction. Complete. (\$1.8M)

TOTAL SPENDING - \$1.8M

Parkway paving, Memorial Drive and Fresh Pond Parkway. Complete. (Approx. \$500K)

TOTAL SPENDING - \$500,000

McCrehan Pool Spray Deck (\$600,000)

Adds to active recreation and extends operation beyond pool hours. Project included parking lot upgrades and new pathways to improve circulation with City-managed athletic facility.

TOTAL SPENDING - \$600,000

In Process/Future – approximately \$15 million

Memorial Drive Phase III design. Active. Reduce parkway from 4 to 2 lanes between Gerrys Landing Road and JFK Street. (\$700K; construction will be \$8M+)

CURRENT SPENDING - \$700,000

PROJECTED SPENDING - \$8M

Gerrys Landing Road corridor design. Upcoming. Parkway reconstruction between Greenough Boulevard and Brattle Street. Project is on the federal Transportation Improvement Plan; prep work is active; design development is upcoming. (Design estimate: \$1M)

PROJECTED SPENDING \$1M

Magazine Beach Bathhouse Entry: \$215K. Construction completion anticipated June 2022

CURRENT SPENDING - \$215,000

Magazine Beach Spray Deck (\$500,000)

Adds to active recreation and extends operation beyond pool hours. Project included new shade pavilion.

CURRENT SPENDING - \$500,000

Magazine Beach Pool Bathhouse Renovation (\$1.2M)

Improvements to bathrooms, showers, entrance and circulation. Project includes creation of new bathroom section at spray deck/park side of building which allows operation outside of pool calendar and hours. Work will be completed for 2022 summer season.

CURRENT SPENDING - \$1.2M

Magazine Beach Pool Reconstruction (\$2M)

New pool shell, deck and mechanical upgrades.

PROJECTED SPENDING \$2M

Marsh Post Improvements

Project includes parking lot/trailhead improvements, pedestrian trail connections, green infrastructure and landscape improvements. Going out to bid.

PROJECTED SPENDING - \$1.3M

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding: Community Project Idea Submittal Form

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Matthew Boyes-Watson,
617.852.8852
mbw@flaggstreetstudio.com
Principal, Flagg Street Studio

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description: (250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Cambridge is a world-class city in desperate need of a world-class civic space. With ARPA funds, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create one. We propose that Municipal Lot #5 be developed into a permanent civic center modeled on the Starlight Square initiative and Poppportunity.

Starlight's temporary installation has proven that public space can be a catalyst for cultural activity and economic equity. It demonstrates the power of placekeeping during unprecedented loss and displacement—of both residents and businesses. We believe a permanent civic center framed by affordable retail opportunities and flexible community space can be the center of our recovery and future success.

Our team, myself, Mark Boyes-Watson, Michael Monestime, and Nina Berg, have designed, built, and operated Starlight Square and Poppportunity as a response to and throughout the challenge of the pandemic. We have a record of exceptional design and thoughtful stewardship.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: *What can funds be used for?*

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers

To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines

To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The Starlight Square initiative has demonstrated for a year and a half how essential outdoor civic space is to the public health of a community. Since its opening in August 2020, Starlight Square has provided residents with a central location for essential services and experiences to transition outside. This includes everything for worship and out-of-school time education, to performance and food distribution. Other notable uses include: the first-ever Winter Farmers Market, Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School's senior prom, the Cambridge Public Health Department's Flu Clinic, the community memorial for Bob Moses, and the City of Cambridge's City Council Inauguration.

Starlight continues to address immediate public health concerns by providing an outdoor home for basic city functions and much-needed human connection. Given the nature of the COVID-19 virus, we knew early on that outside was the safest place for recovery. As variants continue to mutate, this remains true today. The proposed initiative not only addresses immediate and delayed public health and community harms, but also safeguards us all from them in the future.

As it relates to economic harm specifically, the proposed initiative would include permanent infrastructure for providing entry-level opportunities to local entrepreneurs through Popportunity. In just one year, Popportunity received 220 applications, hosted 31 entrepreneurs, and graduated one business into their own brick-and-mortar. The majority of participants were women of color from Cambridge who have historically been excluded from an increasingly homogenous and corporate retail landscape.

Coupled together, Starlight's civic space and Popportunity's small business ecosystem provide a resiliency plan that can save both lives and livelihoods while investing in smart and inspiring urban planning. We've seen the power of this thinking already. Beyond the City of Cambridge and residents' early support, Starlight has won funding from the Barr Foundation and was named the Best of Boston's Reimagined Public Space.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the community? If so, how?

As we have seen, a public space, free and accessible to all, can be enjoyed by everybody. It is through the stewardship of said space that we can start to intentionally and respectfully center the needs of historically underserved or marginalized groups in our community.

There was an open and accessible RFP process for both the Starlight stage and Popportunity pop-up shops. While we received many more applications than the temporary infrastructure could accommodate, we prioritized members of the Central Square community and those who had been adversely affected by COVID-19. We envision a similar process for the civic center. Specifically,

the civic center will prioritize providing space for organizations and initiatives that do not have designated spaces or have historically been denied spaces; access to the affordable retail opportunities will prioritize entrepreneurs that would otherwise be denied due to financial or regulatory barriers and who are underrepresented on Main Street.

To paraphrase Jane Jacobs, we believe our community holds the seeds of its own regeneration. We just need a place to plant them.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities* and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The sobering reality is that historically underserved communities were those disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. These chronic inequities can only be addressed by sustained investment over time, reiterating the need for a **permanent** civic center with artistic and economic opportunities made explicitly available to impacted residents.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

A permanent civic space will rely on many of the same metrics used to evaluate the Starlight Square initiative and Popportunity. As a civic space, its key performance indicators would include number of community events and attendees, dollars raised for non-profits and initiatives, organizer and initiative grants issued. As a space for incubating economic recovery, key performance indicators would include gross sales by program participants, jobs created, and graduation to permanent locations. Demographic qualifiers should be applied for relevant KPIs to ensure the project is centering underserved communities and those that were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Rev. Lydia Shiu from Reservoir Church in North Cambridge
lydia@reservoirchurch.org
415-688-5588

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Soccer Nights (<https://www.soccernights.org/>) is a free week-long soccer program for kids that's been running over a decade, that's started in Cambridge and expanded to 8 different sites all over greater Boston area. It has specifically served the families of the north Cambridge area, residents of the Fresh Pond Apartments and other Ridgeway Ave residents.

With the impact of the pandemic on the student's mental, social, and physical health, we're looking to provide this year 2022, not just one summer program, but an opportunity to provide fun and engaging program in the Spring and the Fall. The underserved communities of color and immigrants have especially been impacted by the isolation of the pandemic, with much of free programs like the library closing. Soccer Nights spring and fall programs will seek to provide a space that bring the neighborhood together, teach and engage the elementary kids in physical athletic skills, partner and work with the youth (middle and high school alumni of Soccer Nights) to volunteer and serve the community, and engage the greater community in a fun uniting program.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts***
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers***
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines***
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband***

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

One of the primary concerns of public health that's repeatedly overlooked is mental health. Its impact permeates to the family, the parents' pressures in the midst of an already difficult times. Sports, being outdoors, being with other kids in a fun social ways benefits the holistic health of our children.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Absolutely. It is targeted to the underserved communities who often can't afford to provide "extra" programs, camps, or extracurricular activities. Especially sports, they're traditionally accessible to those who can afford the equipment and such. This is meant to be a free sports event, especially through soccer which many of these communities is a central sport in their cultures.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Many of our Soccer Nights students families were impacted by unemployment, difficulty in accessing technology, as well as lack of access to many public support and resources. The demographic of our studnets families are low-income, immigrants, and people of color. Soccer Nights programs will be one way that they can get their minds off of the daily struggles, give them something fun to do, and teach the kids leadership, athletic, and teamwork skills. Mental health of these students is a public health emergency.

¹ "Disproportionally impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

It is difficult to measure improvement in mental health but yes, we can provide how many students and families are impacted by the program.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov.

Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter: Rabbi Yoni Shtiebel <CambridgeBroadband@gmail.com>

May the City contact you for more information? Yes

Project Idea Description (250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic)

Build a city owned fiber to the premises network (commonly known as municipal broadband) for Inclusionary Housing Program rental tenants of the Cambridge Development Department Start with Central Square and move out in a radius from there. Prioritize connecting very low income households to the internet with a subsidized service of \$9.95 per month (including tax). The City of Cambridge already has digital fiber in the Police substation in Central Square, and the CDD had jurisdiction in the residential building that surrounds it. Provide a static IP address to each residential apartment.

The city has already studied digital equity in Cambridge and has documented the hardship created when a household has no connection to the internet or has trouble paying for their connection. The pandemic exacerbated this situation when access to the internet became even more important for education, work, socializing, religious observance, medical treatment, psychotherapy, defending against eviction threats, etc.

What may have been insufficiently studied is how incumbent ISPs squander decent infrastructure by: (a) implementing policies to favor their own paid video streaming services, (b) restricting infrastructure to favor downloads over uploads, (c) changing the IP address of residential low-income customers, (d) throttling video conferencing traffic during evening hours, (e) pretending that fast upload speeds and static IP address are luxuries in a competitive marketplace, so as to deny such service to low income households and to maximize extraction from all Cambridge Residents, (f) pay multi-tenant environment landlords to deny internet choice to low-income tenants.

The city is well within their rights to use SLFRF funds for a project like this, as described in the SLFRF Final Rule effective April 1 2022 <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule.pdf>

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for? The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress. Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers .

To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines

X To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Affordable high quality internet access is necessary today for just about everything from finding a job to

working and studying, accessing healthcare and even shopping and socializing. During the pandemic, this access became even more important as many services were only available online. Providing affordable high quality internet access to those who can least afford it will improve their access to jobs, healthcare, education, and community involvement.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

By prioritizing provision of affordable high quality internet connections with static IP addresses and fast upload speeds to these households. By removing the imposition of incumbent ISPs and preventing their ability to squander decent infrastructure.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

By identifying and including the specific low income Cambridge households and businesses in the program, such as the Inclusionary Housing Program of the Cambridge Development Department, Section 8 of the Cambridge Housing Authority, and people with disabilities dependent upon SSI/SSDI, the city will serve this disproportionately impacted community directly. The city should conduct extensive outreach and public engagement with the impacted community in order to publicize the program and help guide implementation.

Before the pandemic, if a person was serious about learning a new profession, s/he would enroll in a four-year residential college and pay \$50,000. Additionally, there would be room and board charges. A person must stop all productive work for years to go and study. And then incur huge long term debt. The huge and unreasonable costs forced a narrowing of opportunity to a once-in-a lifetime opportunity in a tight age range known as college-age.

With municipal gigabit broadband with static IP address to each residential apartment, here is how it can be different. The static IP address is like a phone number where a low-income household can be found and contacted. Low income people can learn a new profession and immerse in a virtual video-conferencing based community (including next generation technology) from home without incurring the \$50,000 per year.

These low-income households can create their own websites, they can host their own servers, they can create their own content, from home, on a residential internet plan from the City of Cambridge. They can be producers in their own way, in accordance with their culture and community. This is the garage where new innovative startups can be built by people who now have time on their hands. As startups typically provide services at no-cost to the initial customers, they need to be allowed to start on residential internet plans.

This helps those communities who are unemployed or lack economic opportunity, and who are being blocked by the incumbent ISPs who squander decent infrastructure.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities.

Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791. City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The quality and affordability of a household internet connection can easily be measured before and after the new municipal broadband connections are in place. The monthly cost of the service, the upload and download speeds, and the connection latency are easily measured.

Other impacts could be measured via surveys or interviews with the included households. Quantitative and qualitative results could be collected, including income and job opportunities before and after, access to educational opportunities before and after, community engagement before and after, access to social services before and after, etc.

People who are quarantined whether due to exposure or fear of exposure, are in disproportionate need for protection from incumbent ISPs who squander decent infrastructure.

We need to understand that people have been socio-economically quarantined, including before the pandemic, and static ip with municipal broadband can provide virtual opportunities for these people.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts
Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding - Project Idea Description

Updated 5/2/2022

Project: Charles River Floating Wetlands
Contact: Laura Jasinski, Executive Director, Charles River Conservancy
43 Thorndike Street, S3-3, Cambridge MA 02141
ljaskinski@thecharles.org, Direct: (617) 300-8175, Cell: (413) 265-0204

(In 250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Artificial floating wetlands are an innovative green infrastructure tool with the capacity to transform desolate seawalls into biodiverse habitats, improve water quality and support ecological health. The 700-sf pilot wetland installed by the Charles River Conservancy (CRC) near the Broad Canal in June 2020 is a successful, local example of the benefits of this technology, including the ability to reconnect communities to the Lower Basin. ARPA funds would be used to (1) position floating wetlands as an accepted stormwater infrastructure and environmental tool and (2) expand experiential outdoor learning.

(1) Stormwater Infrastructure

The CRC has been contacted by dozens of municipalities and organizations interested in implementing similar resilience projects. Having laid the foundation with three years of water quality research on the pilot, welcomed robust community and agency input on the efficacy of wetlands as a mitigation and placemaking tool, and collaborated across similar initiatives in Chicago and Baltimore, the CRC is now working with the Cambridge Department of Public Works to establish floating wetlands as an accepted Best Management Practice (BMP) and plan for an expanded installation in the Charles River. Working with researchers, landscape architects, environmental engineers and ecologists, we will develop regionally-specific design guidelines for agency review and approval. This document will have a significant impact on stormwater infrastructure options by enabling the use of wetlands across a wide range of projects.

(2) Environmental Education

Working with Cambridge Public schools and MIT Sea Grant, we piloted a floating wetland “activity kit” that allowed students to model the research occurring at the full-sized wetland. We are now expanding distribution from one classroom to all CPS 6th grade classrooms (~500 students). In future years, we will continue to support teachers with training and provide opportunities to engage with the full-size wetland through field trips, free weekend kayak rentals and more.

How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Connecting the pilot wetland to the classrooms through experiential learning and outdoor programming, the project addresses the increased “screen time,” which a survey by a national parent-led organization estimated has increased nearly 500% since the start of the pandemic. The growing use of electronic devices has evolved into a long-term lack of “green time” for youth. The long-lasting effects on healthy youth development from this shift include increased isolation and distraction, higher stress levels, and in some instances, depression. Most importantly, a lack of “green time” directly contributes to diminished learning readiness and lower academic performance. Connecting young people with opportunities to engage with and learn from their local environment directly addresses this public health challenge.

Additionally, the project supports the health of the Charles River parks, which have provided a crucial space for recreation, respite, and socialization throughout the pandemic. Increased use of parks is a wonderful thing, but

also stresses these resources, which in turn require more care and increased environmental stewardship. By adding floating wetlands as acceptable environmental mitigation tools, we will support—and have the ability to expand—the green and blue spaces to support and enhance the health and well-being of the community.

Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Education and engagement efforts involve and empower lower income communities that do not have private backyards and rely on public parks. Floating wetlands can both improve the health of these spaces, and increase their size, ecological interest, and capacity.

The CRC has been prioritizing community-driven expansion design. Over the summer of 2021, the CRC worked with a team of students from the *Cambridge Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program* to collect public input on the floating wetland through on-site pop-ups. The collaboration began with a kayak trip to the wetland to meet with floating wetland researchers and learn about the impacts of the project. This was the first on-the-water experience for many, and is exactly the type of opportunities we aim to open up through engagement with the wetland. This trip laid the foundation for students to share their learned knowledge with passersby, effectively collect community feedback, and use this input to develop and pitch floating wetland expansion designs to the CRC, all while inspiring and exploration of STEAM skills and careers in environmental design.

As we continue to collaborate with the Cambridge Public Works department to create a toolkit that enables the utilization of artificial wetlands to meet resilience goals, we will also continue to assess viable locations for expansion in the Charles River and involve Cambridge youth in the process.

How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Elementary and secondary education in mathematics and science is the foundation for student entry into postsecondary STEAM majors as well as STEAM-related occupations. This initiative uses parks as living classrooms - an effective tool for making math and science come alive and setting students up for later academic and professional success. The benefits of balancing the use of technology with hands-on, experiential outdoor learning are well documented. For nearly 3 decades, academic research has shown that outdoor education can significantly improve overall school performance through integration of academic subjects, fostering improved social growth and promoting stewardship of the natural environment. Research also suggests that active exploration wires the brain and helps youth develop powerful concepts central to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

For the environmental education component, we will track the number of hours students are engaged during classroom time and afterschool. We will also conduct surveys twice per school year to understand the impact of environmental programming and connections to curriculum.

To assess impact on river health, we will continue to monitor water quality. Specifically, data being collected includes (1) the wetland's impact on zooplankton and cyanobacteria populations to understand the potential to control harmful cyanobacteria bloom, (2) plant growth, with the goal of predicting collective absorption of elevated nutrient levels, and (3) species composition on and around the wetland in order to understand its habitat value and ability to improve biodiversity. This data will help inform the environmental community and be able to quantify the impacts of floating wetlands and advance the technology's acceptance as a BMP.

City of Cambridge Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding - Community Project Idea

Stormwater Infrastructure	\$	785,000	
Pilot Floating Wetland Management	\$	40,000	<i>Includes monthly on-call fee, seasonal towing, annual inspection, matrix replacements and replanting</i>
Research	\$	150,000	<i>Ongoing data collection to support the efficacy of floating wetlands as a BMP</i>
Design and Engineering	\$	225,000	<i>Landscape architecture, environmental engineering and ecology to develop design guidelines plus funds to advance design of larger floating wetland installation in the Charles River Lower Basin</i>
Permitting	\$	70,000	<i>Assumes full EIR, full Ch. 91 license, ArmyCorps PCN, DCR Construction Access, WPA, and Mass Historic coordination for expanded floating wetland installation in the Charles River Lower Basin</i>
Project Management	\$	300,000	<i>Full-time CRC Project Manager plus oversight by Executive & Associate Directors</i>
Environmental Education	\$	160,000	
CRC Staffing	\$	100,000	<i>Portion of CRC Program Manager</i>
Supplies and Materials	\$	35,000	<i>Includes materials for floating wetland kits, printed materials</i>
Transportation and Boat Rental	\$	25,000	<i>Projected costs riverboat and kayak rental for school field trips</i>
TOTAL	\$	945,000	

This budget represents 3 years worth of costs for the following activities in support of project goals: 1) ongoing management of the current pilot floating wetland installation, 2) research and development of design guidelines to support the adoption of wetlands as a BMP, 3) continued analysis, design and permitting of a larger floating wetland expansion in the Charles River Lower Basin, 4) experiential STEAM-focused programming. Initial figures are based on consultant estimates and costs of similar projects.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Laura Jasinski, Executive Director, Charles River Conservancy
43 Thorndike Street, S3-3, Cambridge MA 02141
ljasinski@thecharles.org, Direct: (617) 300-8175, Cell: (413) 265-0204

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Charles River Floating Wetland, a 700-sf artificial island installed near the mouth of the broad canal in June 2020, aims to improve water quality and restore connections to the lower Charles River, where communities have effectively been walled off from the river. ARPA funds would be used to expand complementary aspects of this initiative that support educators and learners by providing hands-on, experiential outdoor learning, thereby addressing increased “screen time” and decreased “green time” that has been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Environmental education tools: Working with Cambridge Public schools and MIT Sea Grant, we piloted a floating wetland “activity kit” and curriculum booklet in 2021 that allowed students to model the research occurring at the full-sized wetland. This year we plan to expand distribution from one classroom to nearly 500 students across CPS 6th grade classrooms in connection with the “River to the Sea” unit. We will support classroom teachers with training and troubleshooting, and connect satellite learning with opportunities to engage with the full-size wetland in person.

Community-Driven Expansion Design: Over the summer of 2021, the CRC worked with a team of students from the Cambridge Mayor’s Summer Youth Employment Program to collect public input on the floating wetland through on-site pop-ups. This informed their own ideas to kick off efforts to design floating wetland expansion for the Charles. As we continue to collaborate with the Cambridge Public Works department to utilize artificial wetlands to meet resilience goals, we will prioritize engagement and input of Cambridge youth.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

In addition to addressing increased screen time and isolation of youth during the pandemic, the project supports the health of the Charles River parks, which have provided a crucial space for recreation, respite, and socialization. Increased use of parks is a wonderful thing, but also stresses these resources, which in turn require more care and increased environmental stewardship.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Education and engagement efforts involve and empower lower income communities that do not have private backyards and rely on public parks. These communities have also been historically excluded from major city building projects. Through educational partnerships with MYSEP and Cambridge Youth Programs, we aim to entitle youth of color to make design decisions for floating wetland expansion.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Elementary and secondary education in mathematics and science is the foundation for student entry into postsecondary STEAM majors as well as STEAM-related occupations. This initiative uses parks as living classrooms - an effective tool for making math and science come alive and setting students up for later academic and professional success.

¹ “Disproportionately impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

For the environmental education component, we will track the number of hours students are engaged during classroom time and afterschool. We will also conduct surveys twice per school year to understand the impact of environmental programming and connections to curriculum. To assess impact on river health, an existing water quality sampling program exists with Northeastern to evaluate the benefits of floating wetlands.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: "Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea"

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Eric Grunebaum, 98 Montgomery St., Cambridge, MA 02140

Cell: 617-304-5824

Email: eric.grunebaum@gmail.com

May the City contact you for more information? Yes

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Cambridge ARPA Proposal: Jerry's Pond Restoration & Linear Park

We propose Cambridge dedicate ~\$6mm of ARPA funds for public improvements at the critically sensitive Jerry's Pond site. The specific need is to expand the pond's perimeter along Rindge Avenue, creating space for 150-175 new trees along a largely treeless roadway, building biodiverse wetlands where there's a steep, unplantable embankment and fully separating bicycles, creating a complete street along the busiest stretch of Rindge Ave.

There are numerous environmental benefits which align with Cambridge's climate goals along with critical public health benefits including: improved air quality, heat island relief, safer bike/pedestrian pathways and access to a densely planted green space with associated physical and mental health benefits. Especially throughout the pandemic, the health benefits of green spaces have been recognized and elevated. Along Rindge Ave. live ~4,000 affordable housing residents, so ensuring the greatest public health benefits are met, is a matter of equity.

There are multiple co-benefits also serving this community. Expanding the steep embankment along Rindge requires compensatory wetlands which are proposed for the corner of Rindge and the Parkway – a largely paved area under a thin topsoil layer with no history of industrial use per Haley & Aldrich. Supported by Friends of Jerry's Pond and Alewife Study Group, the ConCom granted approval to excavate here. De-paving will increase soil permeability in an area at high risk of floods from storm events while allowing greater tree growth, further reducing heat-island and improving soil quality. Natural habitats are also improved and expanded with proposed new tree canopy and wetlands.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- ✓ *To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- ✓ *To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

As a respiratory disease, the pandemic's impacts would be addressed by air quality improvements and cooling from shade and transpiration provided by a significant new tree canopy along Rindge Avenue. Equally as damaging, are the pandemic's widespread mental health impacts. The documented mental health benefits of parks would be addressed by the creation of a new linear greenway along Rindge.

IQHQ currently proposes a hard deck and 11-12 trees planted on the steep embankment along Rindge. (The nine trees proposed on Rindge's south side can be planted in both plans.) IQHQ has generously offered the community nine months to a year to generate funding and build on community consensus for a broader restoration of the pond banks along Rindge Ave. This space provides a rare and generational opportunity to increase public safety with a "complete street" separating bikes and pedestrians and a new outdoor gathering space under 150-175 newly planted trees ~ a place where people can safely relax and observe the pond-scape. In both concepts, public access is anticipated along Rindge Avenue, however our proposal creates a broader, more generous communal green space and a new amenity for a neighborhood lacking them. There are very few opportunities in Cambridge to create spaces with substantial new tree canopy along congested roads as envisioned here.

While public health benefits are paramount, de-paving the pond's perimeter greatly increases soil permeability which benefits storm-water systems. Further, as MyRWA noted in MEPA/ENF comments, newly created wetlands along Rindge Ave. would also filter road runoff.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The project focuses on providing a historically disadvantaged, underserved and marginalized community that is overburdened with pollution, with a new, accessible green space. The Rindge Ave. side of Jerry's Pond, where this initiative is proposed, is a congested arterial road, immediately adjacent to the three Rindge Towers and close by the Jefferson Park affordable housing development along with several smaller affordable housing developments on Rindge Ave. and with more affordable housing planned by Just-A-Start.

In the City's 2010 Open Space Plan, this area was identified as an environmental justice population, qualifying under *"income, minority population and foreign born."* And in "The Cambridge Life" magazine (Winter-Spring 2021-22), the City noted that *"We will examine our open space system through an equity lens to assess priorities based on multiple criteria, including distribution and access, park conditions, and environmental and **public health benefits.**"* [Emphasis added.] The City has made a direct connection between easily accessible open space, equity and public health which is well supported by the research.

Creating the proposed new linear green space along Rindge Avenue amidst the noted affordable housing communities will serve these populations by providing shade, relief from heat island and air quality improvements from a new tree canopy, as well as mental and physical health benefits that come with access to nature, restoration of wetland habitat and a meaningful new public green space.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

By creating access to a green space directly across the street from communities with limited economic opportunity, this initiative compensates for the difficulty people in these circumstances have in gaining access to the larger open spaces on the outskirts of the city and further away in rural areas. This location is also highly accessible to other parts of Cambridge and beyond via the Red Line and the Minuteman Bikeway.

Open spaces, countryside and even second homes are places that more resourced community members typically have far easier access to and many people who are able, have spent time in these distant places during the pandemic (and in non-pandemic times as well). However, these kinds of open spaces are likely out of reach for many people in disproportionately impacted communities and communities with high unemployment rates such as those who live adjacent to Jerry's Pond.

The difficulties of transportation and available free time along with the clear economic hurdles all combine to make access to open and green spaces far less accessible to underserved, disadvantaged and overburdened communities. This is especially true and amplified for those who have experienced negative impacts from the pandemic. Creating green spaces directly adjacent to where large numbers of underserved people are living should be among our highest priorities as the City has suggested in "The Cambridge Life" magazine.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics can be developed in multiple ways:

a) A study tracking the number people passing through this stretch of Rindge Avenue on foot and by bicycle now – as well as those few people stopping to linger – can be performed over a selection of days, times and seasons. After building the green infrastructure, a second study could be performed to compare the “before” numbers with the numbers of people who pass through and linger along a restored and expanded section of the proposed Jerry’s Pond, Rindge Avenue linear park.

b) A study could be performed comparing predicted heat island and thermal comfort for the two concepts along Rindge Avenue: One with 11-12 new trees and one with 150-175 new trees and wetlands. This would provide data on the potential benefits people would experience in this area after the proposed new canopy and wetlands are created. The study could also compare to the conditions as they exist today.

c) Another study could look at water absorption: Currently the pond perimeter has approximately 1-2 acres of paved land around it. A hydrology study could estimate how de-paving parts (or all) of the pond’s perimeter provides better absorption of heavy rainfall and of future storm surge through Alewife Brook. This would be of great benefit to neighboring residential and commercial communities by reducing potential basement flooding.

d) Finally, we could analyze public housing residents’ responses to the City’s investment in helping create a new, green public meeting place to serve those most in need.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

Local technical assistance implementation supporting small businesses

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Theodora Skeadas (theodora@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

Pooja Paode (pooja@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Develop a program offering one-on-one technical assistance and implementation support for locally-owned businesses in Cambridge to assist in their recovery from the pandemic in an era of standardization. Data suggests that businesses impacted the most by Covid-19 have experienced higher closure rates and are unable to access or afford resources to improve their business performance for a number of reasons. This program would:

- 1) Provide financial support to local businesses seeking to improve, enhance and elevate their current operations in their physical and/or online space.
- 2) Focus on the implementation of technical assistance in local businesses’ digital and physical spaces.
- 3) Engage with local service providers to implement the technical assistance to create a multiplier effect for the community.
- 4) If possible, target newer business owners, those not eligible for previous types of funding, BIPOC- and women-owned businesses, and businesses in the creative space (more targeting details below).

This program could involve an assessment of local business recipients to determine and prioritize their service needs, then match them with qualified local service providers. This is also a great opportunity to collate a list of local service providers and compensate them accordingly. The grant could be administered in partnership with an organization such as Cambridge Local First as well as other business associations.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The initiative supports local businesses and their employees to recover from the economic impacts of Covid-19. Based on an analysis by the Brookings Institution (<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2021/07/12/the-american-rescue-plan-can-be-a-lifeline-for-business-districts/>), young microbusinesses (under 5 years old with fewer than 10 employees), businesses in majority-minority neighborhoods, and food services, retail, and accommodation industries were hardest hit.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Small businesses have closed and/or contracted due to the impacts of the pandemic. The proposed initiative supports networks that provide information, marketing, and technical assistance to small businesses to mitigate further closures and support future business owners. Black Americans start businesses at higher rates than white Americans, but Black-owned small businesses are more likely to close within four years than white-owned small businesses (and were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic), due to the structural barriers that this initiative can help to address.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Disparities in household wealth and access to mainstream financial capital—two preconditions entrenched by the nation’s history of structural racism—have disadvantaged entrepreneurs of color (BIPOC owners) during the Covid crisis. This initiative will mitigate some of these disparities and help develop long-term capacity within the small business community in Cambridge.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Number of locally-owned service providers engaged; Number of local businesses supported; Types of support provided to local businesses and impact on their operations (including business performance metrics, collection of which can be incorporated into the project); Total dollars diverted towards local service providers (and survey reporting on impact from service providers and businesses receiving assistance).

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

Year 1: \$50,000 to identify local providers of technical assistance, financially support businesses with technical assistance and develop capacity.

Years 2 and 3: \$35,000 - \$40,000 per year

Total: \$120,000 - \$130,000 (although a smaller pilot is possible). This project may also dovetail with existing CDD EDD efforts.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding: Community Project Idea Submittal Form

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Manouchecha Lord
857.244.9186
mlord@popportunityforall.org
Program Director, Popportunity

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description: *(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):*

Popportunity is a pandemic-inspired initiative that provides low-cost pop-up stores and technical support to local entrepreneurs, so they can graduate to permanent stores on Main Street.

As a newly minted 501-c3, Popportunity counteracts the negative economic impacts of COVID, specifically the widespread closure of brick and mortar businesses and the corresponding job loss. Its first site, located on Municipal Lot #5 alongside Starlight Square, opened in November 2020 and consists of 13 pop-up stores. The first year saw 220 applicants, a rotation of 31 entrepreneurs, and one permanent placement on Main Street. If given the resources to expand its pop-up infrastructure to new sites in the city, Popportunity could provide opportunities to more entrepreneurs and help restore the COVID-19 losses on Main Street.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: *What can funds be used for?*

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers

To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines

To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Popportunity addresses the COVID-19 crisis by offering a roadmap for the necessary programming, policy, and infrastructure to reseed our Main Streets with local businesses that reflect and affirm the

contribution and cultures of the people who live here. We believe it is an essential part of the City's recovery from COVID-19.

Using Central Square, Popportunity's first site, as an example, we saw 13 of the long-standing, locally-owned businesses in the Cultural District close due to COVID. This is on top of the large, long-term vacancies in the Square prior to the start of the pandemic. (According to the City's Vacant Storefront Database, the City estimates Central Square's ground floor vacancy has doubled between January 2020 and January 2021 and four (4) prominent properties that have been vacant for over two (2) years. Similar trends can be seen in other historic, commercial areas like Harvard Square.)

Popportunity enabled 13 new businesses to open within months, immediately increasing the number of POC- and Cambridge resident-owned businesses in the Cultural District/Cambridge.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the community? If so, how?

Yes, the proposed initiative can and has served historically underserved groups in Cambridge. Thus far, Popportunity has served entrepreneurs who identify as female (47%); identify as a person of color (61%); and live and/or work in Cambridge (74%). Popportunity serves these groups by providing a low-cost, low-risk opportunity to test a business idea, share and sell work with the local community, and earn income.

The proposed initiative not only provides outreach to underrepresented communities, but also addresses a broken Main Street ecosystem defined by regulation and high cost of entry, which favors formula businesses and corporate interests. Popportunity is a counteracting effort to the systemic exclusion of immigrants and business owners of color due to the difficulty in navigating the regulatory system, access to financing, and the high requirement of capital.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities* and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Unfortunately, COVID-19 negatively affected communities that were already hurting. As it relates to Popportunity, the most impacted community we worked with were entrepreneurs of color who are historically undercapitalized, under-resourced, and underrepresented because of racist systems. Due to COVID-19, this group (Black and Latinx women and business owners) was disproportionately affected across metrics like job loss, access to federal relief, and business closures.

On top of the macroeconomic effects, COVID also forced the cancellation of holiday markets and more informal selling opportunities for our entrepreneur community. Popportunity, by virtue of being outside, helped entrepreneurs recoup losses and establish their business in their own backyard. An initiative like this builds the resiliency of our local economy and, in doing so, helps stabilize program participants' income.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Currently, we measure Popportunity's impact by tracking gross sales by program participants, jobs created, and graduation to permanent locations. Demographic qualifiers can also be applied for relevant KPIs to ensure the project is centering underserved communities and those that were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.



POPPORTUNITY A HOMETGROWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



A 501c3 Non-profit



| Popportunity Roadmap



THE PROBLEM

Exclusion on Main Street

The cost of starting a brick-and-mortar business is too high, resulting in an increasingly vacant and corporate Main Street.

PHOTO: Compilation of vacant stores in Harvard Square, 2020.



THE OPPORTUNITY

Provide Entry-Level Retail Opportunities

Popportunity provides low-cost pop-up stores and small business support to local entrepreneurs, so they can graduate to Main Street.

PHOTO: Caro Campana of Made by Carola outside of her Popportunity Pop-Up. She is one of eleven retail entrepreneurs in residence at the Starlight Square site.



PHOTO: Maria Ines Soler Menenses outside of Boston Artesanal, her shop that celebrates Mexican culture and shares revenue with the artesanal makers she supports from her hometown of Jalisco.

POPPORTUNITY POP-UP STORES



Part of Popportunity is the unique design and development of mobile infrastructure to support the program. PHOTO 1: The first generation of Pop-Ups opened in 2020. PHOTO 2: The latest Popportunity retail prototype debuted at Small Business Saturday, November 2021.





FROM POP-UP TO PERMANENT

Popportunity incubates the next generation of diverse and local Main Street business owners.

PHOTO: Nicole Lyons and Kirk Yi celebrate Opening Day at 541 Massachusetts Avenue, the first Popportunity business to graduate into a brick-and-mortar.





YEAR 1

- 1 Site
- 13 Pop-Up Stores
- 220 Applications
- 31 Entrepreneurs
- 2 Permanent Placements

PHOTO: Popportunity Vendors

ROAD MAP

Over the next three years, Poppportunity aspires to create 100+ entry-level vending opportunities across multiples sites.

2021 – 1 Site (Central Square)
– 13 Pop-Up Shops
– 1 Permanent Placements

2022 – 2 Sites
– 37 Pop-Up Shops
– 5 Permanent Placements

2023 – 4 Sites
– 85 Pop-Up Shops
– 15 Permanent Placements

2024 – 8 Sites
– 140 Pop-Up Shops
– 50 Permanent Placements



ASK

1 – \$565,000 to meet 2022 Roadmap Goal

Poppportunity needs funding in order to expand its footprint and build the organizational capacity to keep up with the demand for the program.

FOUNDING TEAM

Popportunity is a pandemic-inspired initiative. Within months of its arrival, COVID-19 forced 13 businesses to close in Cambridge's Cultural District. Popportunity immediately helped to recoup those losses.

Since its start in 2020, Popportunity has been incubated by the Central Square BID, with design and development work provided by Flagg Street Studio. It is now its own 501c3 non-profit.

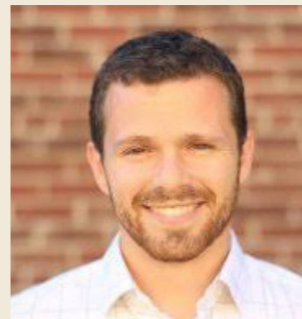
The program received early support from the City of Cambridge and Berkshire Bank's ReevX Labs; won funding from the Barr Foundation's Winter Placemaking for Main Streets & Neighborhoods; and shared in the success of Starlight Square's Best of Boston award.



Manouchecca Lord



Michael Monestime



Matt Boyes-Watson



Nina Berg



POPPORTUNITY PROGRAM BUDGET (3 YEAR)

	YR: 2022	YR: 2023	YR:2024
Program Revenue	\$ 56,680	\$ 170,040	\$ 453,440
Program Expense	\$ 622,238	\$ 1,137,707	\$ 1,496,643
Net Operating Income	\$ (565,558)	\$ (967,667)	\$ (1,043,203)
Mobile Infrastructure	\$ 255,400	\$ 460,597	\$ 386,901
Pop-Up Store 1.0	\$ 52,738	\$ -	\$ -
Pop-Up Store 2.0	\$ 202,662	\$ 460,597	\$ 386,901
Site & Placement	\$ 136,478	\$ 311,851	\$ 744,482
Site #1 – Lot #5	\$ 27,295	\$ 27,295	\$ -
Site #2 – Palmer St	\$ 109,183	\$ 66,189	\$ 66,189
Site #3 – Norfolk St	\$ -	\$ 109,183	\$ 66,189
Site #4	\$ -	\$ 109,183	\$ 66,189
Site #5	\$ -	\$ -	\$109,183
Site #6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109,183
Site #7	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109,183
Site #8	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109,183
Site #9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109,183
Team	\$ 188,270	\$296,770	\$ 296,770
Executive Director (FT)	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Program Director (FT)	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000
Flagg Street Studio	\$ 112,320	\$ 112,320	\$ 112,320
Fringe	\$ 5,950	\$ 14,450	\$ 14,450



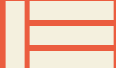
POPPORTUNITY SITE PRO FORMA

	YR: 1	YR: 2	YR: 3
Site Revenue	\$56,680	\$56,680	\$56,680
Site Expense	\$109,183	\$66,189	\$66,189
Site NOI	\$(52,503)	\$(9,509)	\$(9,509)
Site Expense	\$109,183	\$66,189	\$66,189
Market Staff	\$32,688	\$32,688	\$32,688
Environmental Treatments	\$53,075	\$10,081	\$10,081
Program & Marketing	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
Site Management	\$16,420	\$16,420	\$16,420
Site Revenue	\$56,680	\$56,680	\$56,680
Popportunity Stalls on Site	22	22	22
Annual Vendor Sales Estimate	\$316,800	\$316,800	\$316,800
Rents (10% of Vendor Sales)	\$31,680	\$31,680	\$31,680
Sponsorships	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000



POPPORTUNITY MOBILE INFRASTRUCTURE UNIT COST

Pop-Up Store Version 2.0	1	\$ 9,211.94
3'x6' PV Cell	1	\$ 286.95
Rechargeable 120V Battery	1	\$ 699.99
Lumber + Corrugated Plastic	-	\$ 2,900.00
Hardware & Fasteners	-	\$ 675.00
Fabrication Labor	-	\$ 2,400.00
Pegboard & Shelving	-	\$ 516.00
Vinyl Flooring	-	\$ 340.00
Retractable Awning System	1	\$ 310.00
LED Interior Lights	4	\$ 124.00
LED Exterior Lights	1	\$ 260.00
Exterior Paint	-	\$ 450.00
Signage	1	\$ 250.00





THANK YOU

PHOTO: Nefisa Siraj of Cini Coffee, Cambridge's smallest coffee shop, which brews beans imported from Siraj's native Ethiopia.

POPPORTUNITY A HOMEGROWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



A 501c3 Non-profit



| Poppportunity Roadmap 13

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Elissa Spelman
Executive Director, Breakthrough Greater Boston
espelman@btgbmail.org, (617) 349-6647
P.O. Box 381486 | Cambridge, MA 02238

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Breakthrough Greater Boston (BTGB), a 501(c)3 nonprofit that has served 7th-12th grade students in Cambridge for 30 years, respectfully requests support from the City of Cambridge to launch our new College Success Program.

Nationally, only 14% of students from low-income backgrounds complete college within eight years of high school graduation (compared to 60% of their more affluent peers). Low-income students of color additionally face the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 as they navigate paths to and through college. The pandemic is an educational crisis, particularly for the key demographic that Breakthrough serves. In this especially difficult time, BTGB is powerfully positioned to leverage our six-year relationships with students and our research-based, holistic College Success Program model to help the students most affected by COVID-19 enroll, persist, and graduate from college.

Breakthrough is piloting the College Success Program to extend BTGB’s support for our students through their college years. BTGB delivers tailored guidance that addresses the academic, social-emotional, and financial challenges faced by low-income students, students of color, and first-generation college students during the high-risk transition to college and their undergraduate years. BTGB’s Board of Directors is excited by the potential for a permanent launch of the College Success Program and aims to ensure there is adequate funding and community partnership support for this expansion.

Partnership with the City of Cambridge would serve as a strong endorsement for this work, which would mark the most significant programmatic expansion in BTGB’s organizational history by moving from six to 10 years of programming. We respectfully request an investment of \$500,000 to be distributed from FY22 through FY26. \$100,000 per year would cover approximately half of College Success programming costs, and BTGB would commit to raising the matching funds from external sources.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts***
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers***
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines***
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband***

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Nationally, COVID-19 has created myriad challenges for low-income students, including a decline in college enrollment, and for students who do matriculate to college: difficulties in building relationships, budgeting and financial aid, time management, accessing campus resources in a virtual setting, as well as housing displacement and disruption. In a national survey, 80% of students said COVID has negatively impacted their mental health, with higher rates among students of color. BTGB's College Success Program addresses these needs by providing 10 years of consecutive holistic support to ensure students enroll in college, successfully transition, and continue to succeed once there. Through coaching, BTGB provides guidance in the three vital areas that create the greatest risks: academic, social-emotional, and financial. Key topics include: navigating increased autonomy; utilizing office hours; identifying mental health support; selecting a major; internships; study abroad; graduate school applications; financial aid renewal.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Founded in Cambridge in 1992, BTGB has been a vital resource to marginalized Cambridge students for 30 years, serving approximately 10% of all CPS students in grades 7-12 across every CPS school, where a significant majority of our students represent historically underserved communities. The 120 College Success Program students from Cambridge that BTGB are engaging in 2021-2022 are especially high-need: 90% are of color, 75% are first generation college students, and 86% are from low-income families.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affects our students' families: nearly a third of our 7-12th grade students are from single-parent families, 98% are of color, and 81% are from low-income families. Our students and families have experienced financial strain, including a decrease in jobs, difficulties with food insecurity, housing, and access to the Internet. Without guidance, these students are at risk of being pulled out of college to support their families, due to the health crisis and workforce crisis created by COVID-19. BTGB is prepared to powerfully support these students, as they are on the precipice of entering the Cambridge workforce with the value of a college degree.

¹ "Disproportionately impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, BTGB conducts evaluation by tracking National Student Clearinghouse data, as well as ongoing check-ins with our college students. Currently, 80% of the students enrolled in our College Success Program are on track to graduate. At the end of their second year, 93% of students receiving coaching had a 3.0+ GPA. Over the past eight years, 94% of Breakthrough's graduating seniors have matriculated to college. 82% are persisting, putting Breakthrough on track to far exceed the national college graduation rate of 14% for low-income students.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Michael Johnston
Cambridge Housing Authority
Phone: 617-520-6228, Email: mjohnston@cambridge-housing.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Provide Funding for Off-site Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Mitigation Required for Construction of 278 Affordable Apartments at Jefferson Park Federal.

By adding 103 units of housing to a site that currently has 175 units, the state Department of Environmental Protection requires added sewer flow be offset by on-site or off-site mitigation at a rate of four to one. This is because the Cambridge sanitary sewer is a shared storm/sanitary sewer that discharges into surrounding waterways during storm events. The estimated 24,520 gallons of increased sewer flow will require the mitigation of 98,120 gallons by the project. Approximately 14,100 gallons will be mitigated on-site, leaving 83,930 gallons to be mitigated off-site in a project chosen by Cambridge DPW. DPW staff have recommended estimating \$15/gallon for the project, meaning the off-site mitigation will cost the project approximately \$1.3 Million.

The financial stresses and turmoil of the pandemic have led to increased rates of homelessness and created an even higher demand for affordable housing in Cambridge. The Revitalization of Jefferson Park Federal will preserve 175 affordable units at risk of being lost to poor building conditions and create 103 additional affordable units with a total of 278 units of new housing. Given the demographics of the residents of Jefferson park and the CHA wait list, many residents are front-line essential workers who will directly benefit from this housing.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The proposed funding for sewer mitigation will allow for this shovel-ready housing development to be built, providing housing to hundreds of people and directly addressing the economic and public health problems exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, by its very nature, CHA's housing serves historically under-served, marginalized and adversely affected groups in the community.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The CHA is able to provide not only affordable, but deeply affordable housing to residents with incomes below 30% of Area Median Income (AMI). This allows the CHA to provide housing to people who are unemployed or underemployed.

¹ “Disproportionately impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. Metrics include: # of affordable apartments created, # of gallons of sewer flow mitigated.

5. Funding Amount Request = \$1.3 million

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Michael Johnston
Cambridge Housing Authority
Phone: 617-520-6228, Email: mjohnston@cambridge-housing.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Safe and affordable housing is key to improved health outcomes and economic opportunity. Cambridge Housing Authority plans to begin construction in the next year on two affordable housing sites: Jefferson Park Federal and 116 Norfolk Street.

At Jefferson Park Federal, CHA plans to bring the family housing site from 175 to 278 units, providing housing for some of the 21,000 households on CHA's waiting list. The pandemic exacerbated the already difficult economic circumstances of low-income families in Cambridge, increasing the already dire need for more affordable housing.

At 116 Norfolk Street, CHA will increase units on site from 37 to 62, convert single room occupancy housing to studio apartments, and conduct intake for the new units from the City's Coordinated Access Network for people experiencing chronic homelessness in Cambridge. The pandemic has shown the shortcomings of the congregate living model currently at 116 Norfolk Street, in which seniors and people with disabilities share kitchens and shower rooms. After construction, all residents will have their own kitchens and bathrooms, increasing privacy as well as protecting against contagious illnesses. Both projects require the need for funds from the City. Permanent Supportive Housing like that planned at 116 Norfolk has been shown to reduce the hospitalization rate of people who were experiencing chronic homelessness prior to entering such programs. Safe and dignified housing coupled with supportive services is a base from which people exiting homelessness can pursue their goals for health, employment, and social connection.

Providing funds for the renovation and expansion efforts at Jefferson Park Federal and 116 Norfolk would support the health and wellness of low-income families and people currently experiencing homelessness, two of the groups most impacted by the pandemic.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The proposed funding will allow for two shovel-ready housing developments (one for families and one for individuals exiting homelessness) to be built and provide affordable homes to 340 Cambridge households. This directly addresses the economic and public health problems exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. Over 83% of households on CHA's waitlist are at/under 30% AMI (\$42K for a family of four) and 100% of people in the City's Coordinated Access Network experience chronic homelessness.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The proposed initiative would house up to 278 low-income families and 62 people experiencing chronic homelessness. Both groups are more likely to experience the negative economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We know from the early days of the pandemic that where you live can determine if you live.

¹ "Disproportionately impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics include the # of families and individuals housed.

For 116 Norfolk, performance metrics also include hospitalization and arrest rates of people exiting homelessness for Permanent Supportive Housing at 116 Norfolk, as well as housing tenure and the percentage of residents who access supportive services.

5. Funding Amount Request = As available. City funds are supporting \$54 million of cost.
-

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Michael Johnston
Cambridge Housing Authority
Phone: 617-520-6228, email: mjohnston@cambridge-housing.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) has the opportunity to build new affordable housing in East Cambridge on vacant land within the Millers River parcel. This new construction project on Cambridge Street would add up to 100 new affordable units to East Cambridge, help preserve the diversity of the neighborhood and bring more commerce to Cambridge Street. Increasing the supply of affordable housing, protecting diversity, and supporting small businesses all help combat the impacts of the pandemic. Furthermore, these are three major goals coming up in the City's ongoing planning effort for Cambridge Street between Inman and Lechmere.

The CHA is requesting ARPA funds for pre-development costs to support the creation of up to 100 new affordable apartments in East Cambridge. Creating more affordable housing is a long and expensive process that begins with pre-development. Receiving ARPA funds would allow the CHA to set these plans in motion and reach the end goal of creating more affordable housing to serve historically underserved populations.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts***
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers***
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines***
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband***

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The proposed initiative addresses two issues exacerbated by COVID-19: housing instability by providing more affordable housing in Cambridge and economic decline for small businesses by increasing the number of residents on Cambridge Street to patronize local businesses.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. Over 83% of households on CHA's waitlist are at/under 30% AMI (\$42K for a family of four).

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Affordable housing provides housing security to families and individuals that previously had little to no security due to rising rents, the termination of eviction moratoriums, and loss of income. Furthermore, increasing affordable housing in Cambridge creates a greater labor force for local employers currently struggling to find workers to stay open and brings more people to the Cambridge Street corridor which supports local businesses who are still struggling to weather the pandemic.

¹ "Disproportionately impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics include the # of families and individuals housed. Every unit of affordable housing created is a unit that is helping an underserved population.

5. Funding Amount Request = \$2 million

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Michael Johnston
Cambridge Housing Authority
Phone: 617-520-6228, Email: mjohnston@cambridge-housing.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Food is essential to both our physical and mental well-being. Food security, however, proves increasingly difficult to access amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for populations who bear greater health risks, such as low-income seniors and people with disabilities. To help mitigate the stress resulting from the pandemic, the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) proposes the creation of a free meals program at four of our developments with the largest community of at-risk populations: the L.B. Johnson Apartments (177 households), Frank J. Manning Apartments (205 households), Daniel F. Burns Apartments (198 households) and Millers River Apartments (300 households).

This meal program includes the integration of a commercial kitchen at the LBJ Apartments to parallel the existing kitchens at the other three developments. For these kitchens, the CHA will hire chefs for each location who will work to supply fresh, quality, and healthy meals to up to 880 residents daily. Additionally, this program creates the foundation to provide meals for the properties surrounding these three developments, such as family properties like Woodrow Wilson Court (69 households), Putnam Gardens (122 households), and Roosevelt Towers (199 households), ensuring food security for hundreds of low-income families as well. The food program will also assist in countering the isolation that many elders experience which has been exacerbated through the pandemic. CHA has had an existing program at John F. Kennedy Apartments which enhances the social atmosphere and mental wellness with healthy food. Furthermore, the meals program will create the opportunity to offer cooking classes for residents in order to provide in-house programming and opportunities for connection between residents to help combat isolation exacerbated by the pandemic.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 public health emergency made it increasingly difficult to access food security and, in turn, difficult to ensure both the physical and mental well-being of at-risk populations like low-income seniors and people with disabilities. The Meal Program with an on-site chef ensures at-risk CHA residents' food needs are met daily, and it also allows the CHA to serve the greater Cambridge community.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The proposed initiative will provide free and healthy food daily or a reduced price to up to 880 households of low-income seniors and people with disabilities by incorporating meals into the provided services of where they live. The program has the potential to expand to serving and additional 390+ low-income families. Over 50% of the people serviced identify as Black, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, or American Indian/AN.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The Meals program will directly serve low-income seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income families, all who bear greater health risks amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. These populations have a higher likelihood to experience severe illness from COVID-19, in turn forcing these groups to self-isolate and making it more difficult to access places with fresh, quality meals which has been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics include # of meals served, # of small businesses supported, and resident evaluations of their physical health, mental health, and life enjoyment before/after enrollment in the Meals Program.

5. Funding Amount Request = \$3 million from 2023-2026 (4 years).

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Michael Johnston
Cambridge Housing Authority
Phone: 617-520-6228, Email: mjohnston@cambridge-housing.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

In March 2020, the CHA, Cambridge Health Alliance, and Boston Medical Center started a Community Wellness Program pilot to provide a full-time community wellness advocate and part-time nurse at Manning Apartments in Central Square. Manning is home to 205 elders and people with disabilities. The community wellness advocate and nurse are medical and public health professionals that can effectively consult residents on healthcare and insurance options, improve medication management, and make connections with doctors, health specialists, rehab facilities, healthy food sources, legal services, and disability assistance. Approximately 150 residents are active participants in the program and many have seen significant benefits. One resident in her late 70s was having difficulty with transportation because she could not see. The pilot program connected her with primary care and eye doctors, and drove her to her initial appointments. When doctors discovered she had cataracts, the program connected her to the correct medical help and now she can see and move around the City safely and independently. Another resident was suffering from mental health issues and frequently hospitalized due to difficulty managing medications before the program assisted him by organizing his medications into pill boxes and getting him a 3-week supply. He hasn't been hospitalized since. As shown in the examples above, the Community Wellness Program helps keep elders and people with disabilities housed and living independently.

Funding for the program at Manning runs out in early 2023. CHA hopes to utilize ARPA funds to sustain the Community Wellness Program at Manning (205 households) and expand the program to Millers River (300 households), Burns (198 households), LBJ (177 households), Russell Apartments (52 units) Putnam School (33 units) and Truman (69 households) to better serve over 1,000 low-income seniors and people with disabilities in Cambridge.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 public health emergency exacerbated existing issues of isolation and lack of affordable healthcare for low-income seniors and people with disabilities. The proposed program addresses the needs of this population by increasing access to affordable healthcare/services, by providing medication management and behavioral health services onsite, and by assisting with transitions into housing.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. The proposed initiative would exclusively serve over 1,000 low-income seniors and people with disabilities. Furthermore, over 50% of the people serviced identify as Black, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaska Native.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The proposed program would directly serve over 1,000 low-income seniors and people with disabilities, a population disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Seniors and people with disabilities are more likely to experience severe illness from COVID-19. The pandemic forced many in this group to self-isolate, including foregoing employment opportunities and suffering the physical and mental health effects of reduced social contact and delayed preventative healthcare.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. Performance metrics could include # of referrals to medical care, # of residents provided with medication management, hospitalization rate of residents, and resident evaluations of the program's impact on their physical/mental health and life enjoyment including tracking progress against individual goals set by residents.

5. Funding Amount Request = \$1 million annually; \$4 million from 2023-2036.
-

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Michael Johnston
Cambridge Housing Authority
Phone: 617-520-6228, Email: mjohnston@cambridge-housing.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

A significant portion of the ARPA funds should be allocated to strengthen existing, transformational programs that are positively and successfully assisting low-income families as they struggle to afloat and stay in Cambridge. Since September 2021, Cambridge RISE has been allocating a guaranteed monthly income to 130 single parent households. The positive outcome of "guaranteed income" programs worldwide are well-documented. They are effective, often curing the awful choices many families must make between essentials like heat, food, and education. Guaranteed income pilots also make fiscal sense as the least expensive way to break intergenerational poverty.

The Cambridge Housing Authority supports over 5,000 families at or below 30% AMI and almost 7,000 families at or below 80% AMI. Expanding the Cambridge RISE program to more households (including expanding eligibility requirements beyond single caregiver households) now could not be more timely as low-income households across Cambridge continue to struggle due to compounding impacts of inequality and the pandemic.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Expanding the reach of CambridgeRISE means immediate help can flow now to assist hundreds more low-income households who need the assistance most. Dollar for dollar, a guaranteed income program is one of the most cost effective and result driven investments to support Cambridge residents most impacted by the pandemic.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. By targeting low-income households, the program services historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected groups. The socio-economic inequality in Cambridge reflects the inequity of our society as a whole. Low-income households are a critical part of the Cambridge community and they have been most impacted by the pandemic.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The impact of the pandemic on low-income families and households around the world has been well-documented. It is no less the case in Cambridge. Job loss and employment stress caused by a fluctuating employment market, school closures, virtual learning, and illness has taken a damaging toll on Cambridge families, particularly low-income households. Cambridge RISE provides families with the money to cover gaps in their buying power to get through this crisis and support their futures.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. Use existing metrics for CambridgeRISE.

5. Funding Amount Request = \$9M for a 500 participant program expansion for 3 year program; \$18M for a 1000 participant program expansion for 3 year program

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Steven Nutter
Green Cambridge
857-891-7944
steven@greencambridge.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Outdoor activities that involve community engagement like urban farming, break cycles of disempowerment and isolation that many are feeling due to the pandemic. With our youth, this has become a public health emergency. Growing food provides a sense of agency to alleviate the mental health affects and food security issues caused by the pandemic.

Growing space at CRLS has been a perennial request by faculty. In 2018 through Spring 2020, teachers participated in professional development workshops to coordinate integration of climate justice in an interdisciplinary way and across the curriculum. The effort included Lesley University faculty, Green Cambridge, and Cambridge Youth Programs. One outcome was the need for growing space on campus as a classroom.

During COVID, CPS leadership established an ad-hoc working group to understand how to integrate outdoor learning into curriculum. This group also identified the need for outdoor, hands-on classrooms.

Green Cambridge has extensive experience creating and managing educational growing spaces using a collaborative model in Cambridge. We partner with Cambridge DPW to revitalize and operate the Riverside Press Park, operate our Hurley Street Neighborhood Farm with funding provided by Cambridge Public Health, and have built a learning garden for Nurtury Preschool at Moses Youth Center funded by the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority. We share our Hurley location with City Sprouts, and support Cambridge City Growers. In addition, our Executive Director Steven Nutter is on the City’s Food Planning Task Force and Climate Protection Action Committee.

With CRLS stakeholders, Green Cambridge would facilitate a community process to develop a design by working with James Shen, Loeb Fellow and Partner at People's Architecture Office. A full description of the project can be found at: bit.ly/CRLSfarm.

Green Cambridge would operate the Farm by creating a Grow Team Intern program to pay students. We would collaboratively coordinate the Farm with Cambridge City Growers and in coordination with City Sprouts and Lesley Faculty.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Mental health impacts of COVID are showing up in increased risk for depression and suicidality among high school youth. Students who are given the opportunity to produce food that is needed in their own community will experience improved mental health as well as physical health. Food insecurity is another major impact of the pandemic, and this initiative will build infrastructure and capacity to bring healthy locally produced food to those who need it. These gardens will be used by students at the high school during the school year as well as the teen program at the adjoining public library. The outline for a wellness curriculum at CRLS was included in the recently released Cambridge Food Action Plan, but implementing this curriculum needs the growing facilities that a Classroom Farm @ CRLS would provide.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

CRLS serves a large percentage of the historically underserved population of Cambridge. The student population is approximately 63% minority, and has a large proportion of students from low socioeconomic status families. Because the Farm @ CRLS would be available to students from a variety of courses and growing food can be incorporated into many classes at CRLS, students will have the time and resources and instruction to practice growing their own food.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The resources needed to grow the food can be provided to anyone for free or at a reduced price for those who qualify, so those who have experienced unemployment or some other kind of negative economic impact from COVID-19 will still be able to grow their own food.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

In collaboration with Dr. Sarah Schwartz of Suffolk University, pre- and post- surveys will be developed, implemented and analyzed to show impacts on student mental health and feelings of agency. Similar surveys can be used to look at impacts of production and access to locally sourced food. Her research focuses on the need for contexts that allow youth to feel supported by adults and make space for youth to take the lead in advocating for themselves and their communities.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$372,480

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.


The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.


The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.



the**OUTDOOR**CHURCH

P.O. Box 400945 
Cambridge, MA 02140

www.theoutdoorchurch.org 

director@theoutdoorchurch.org 

The City of Cambridge, MA
Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Submitted: February 22, 2022

Sponsor: The Outdoor Church of Cambridge, Inc
P. O. Box 400945
Cambridge, MA 02140

What group will conduct the project? The Outdoor Church of Cambridge, Inc.

Tax Identification Number: 20-1734080

Contact Name: Steven Bingaman
Telephone: (978) 631 9283
Email: director@theoutdoorchurch.org

Website: <https://www.theoutdoorchurch.org>

Note: The Outdoor Church holds a license from the MBTA to use a portion of their space for our Sunday meeting and outreach in Porter Square. We also have an arrangement for storage and meeting space at both St. James Episcopal Church and Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church in Porter Square and Harvard Square respectively.

A:

A brief description of how grant funds will be used, including a description of services, anticipated number of residents served, duration of services, and how this funding will support your continued ability to meet the needs of vulnerable Cambridge residents.

The mission of the Outdoor Church of Cambridge is to care for the unhoused, homeless, and economically disadvantaged community of Cambridge, Massachusetts. In the course of undertaking this mission, we provide spiritual, pastoral, and outreach care to over 250 of the community weekly, in many instances, multiple times a week. We provide this care by bringing food and other items to the various locations where our community congregate. During the COVID crisis, we have met the increased need for food and other care uninterrupted. The City has supplied 175 meals for our Sunday afternoon outreach that we distribute. Additionally, we have undertaken to expand our food and sundry item distribution during our Sunday morning community meeting at Porter Square and provide

water and food on Thursday evenings throughout Harvard and Central Squares. And, we provide our food outreach on Saturday afternoons similarly through Harvard and Central Squares.

B.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

C.

How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The purpose of the grant request is to continue strengthening our capacity to serve our Church community during the COVID pandemic. We provided three meals per week on Sunday morning, Sunday, and Saturday afternoons. In addition, we conduct these food outreach ministries in Porter Square, Harvard Square, and Central Square to support the community. We also provide water and snacks on Thursday afternoons. Our Sunday afternoon outreach is supported by the City of Cambridge that supplies 175 meals. The city is believed to be willing to continue delivering meals for distribution through March 2022. All the other meal offerings were supported and managed by our ministers, local churches, and a small cadre of volunteers.

Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community?

Our outreach efforts directly serve the unhoused, homeless, and economically disadvantaged population in Cambridge. We provide care in the form of food and living essentials, and communal and spiritual care to this marginalized population.

How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Notwithstanding the many programs that the City of Cambridge runs to benefit its unhoused and homeless residents, the number of unhoused and homeless people in Cambridge does not vary from year to year. Currently, we consider our community of unhoused and homeless people to be approximately 250. Approximately two-thirds of our community are men. Ages range from sixteen to eighty. The older community members we serve usually have been on the street in Cambridge or Boston for an extended period of time and are uniformly impoverished and in poor health.

Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Our metrics are defined through our budget and continued presence on the street multiple times per week:

Our undertakings on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings during the last 90 days cost over \$7,500.00. Our Saturday afternoon outreach will cost at least \$10,000.00 over the next six months. This budget does not include the costs associated with additional staff and support.

26 Week Budget for Outreach Care on Sunday mornings, Thursday evenings, and Saturday Afternoons:

Outreach Sunday and Tuesday:		
Sandwiches - 5,000 @ \$1.75 ea		\$ 8,750.00
Water - 260 cases @ \$3.00 per case		\$ 780.00
Outreach Saturday		
Sandwiches - 3,500 @ \$1.75 ea		\$ 5,500.00
Water - 130 cases @ \$3.00 per case		<u>\$ 390.00</u>
26 Week Total Cost		\$15,420.00

We participated in two Emergency Covid Grants for the City of Cambridge during 2020 and 2021 that significantly helped us to provide food and care to the unhoused, homeless, and disadvantaged community.

Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$10,000.00

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Stephanie Guirand

stephanie.guirand@gmail.com

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Cambridge HEART (Holistic Emergency Alternative Response Team) is a crisis response and public safety program for Cambridge, MA. HEART addresses a need for alternative ways for individuals experiencing crises (including those related to mental health, substance use, and domestic violence) to receive help at their moment of need. It also enhances community cohesion by facilitating residents’ knowledge of and access to existing community services. HEART is led and staffed by community members representing the most marginalized communities in Cambridge.

The COVID pandemic has had adverse effects on the health and social-economic well-being of residents, with those from marginalized backgrounds experiencing a disproportionate impact (Artiga, Garfield, and Orgera 2020). The HEART program addresses these adverse effects. HEART responders provide trauma-informed care and support for those experiencing mental health crises, and is specifically designed to meet the needs of marginalized community members such as those who are unhoused. HEART responders also provide conflict mediation services to support the resolution of both private and public disputes including instances of domestic violence.

Cambridge community members who are financially vulnerable may have exacerbated economic needs due to the pandemic. HEART provides mutual aid to directly meet their needs. Furthermore, HEART indirectly addresses economic impacts of the pandemic by providing employment opportunities within the organization for community members: as responders, program staff, and more.

Artiga, S., Garfield, R., & Orgera, K. (2020). Communities of color at higher risk for health and economic challenges due to COVID-19. <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/communities-of-color-at-higher-risk-for-health-and-economic-challenges-due-to-covid-19/>

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The HEART program addresses public health needs by (1) proactively providing services that address mental and physical health concerns, (2) responding to crises when they occur (3) and providing aftercare—long-term follow-up and connections to services after a crisis has occurred. The HEART program responds to pandemic-related economic harms by providing direct material aid (PPE, food, materials for young children, shelter, financial aid) and other forms of resources (e.g., employment, legal, and language services) through mutual aid.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Serving historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the community is at the foundation of HEART. Through a participatory action research process with residents who are the most marginalized members of the community, a need for a new, community-centered crisis response and public safety program was identified. HEART was developed by residents with experiences of marginalization themselves to address this need.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

A core principle of HEART is to explicitly center the experiences and voices of communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic in order to serve them according to their expressed needs. HEART is also explicitly designed to serve the crisis response and public safety needs of communities who experience high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and experience housing insecurity.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

- Types of services requested by individual served
- Number of calls resulting in referrals to resources by resource type
- Response time

More performance metrics can be found in Attachment A.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

We are requesting \$5.5 million, to be spent over two years.

Although the city council passed Policy Order #114 on June 7, 2021 requesting allocation of funding to the HEART program, this funding has not been able to be allocated due to the MA Anti-Aid Amendment.

Our funding request is to the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Funding of the City, which is not subject to the MA Anti-Aid Amendment.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

Attachment A

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Public Health Harms

The HEART program addresses public health needs by (1) proactively providing services that address mental and physical health concerns, (2) responding to crises when they occur (3) and providing aftercare—long-term follow-up and connections to services after a crisis has occurred.

- (1) HEART proactively connects residents in need to existing services using a digital database of service providers and their resources. Furthermore, HEART responders will also use mutual aid channels to connect residents to material aid (PPE, food, materials for young children, shelter, financial aid) and other forms of resources (e.g., employment, legal, and language services, support navigating governmental assistance). Mutual aid allows HEART to leverage resources within the Cambridge community to support those who are experiencing acute need as a result of the pandemic, while also building community ties and social cohesion.
- (2) HEART responders have over 500 hours of training including in trauma-informed care, conflict mediation and resolution, mental health response, and emergency medical training and will respond to residents at their moment of crisis. HEART will respond to calls for help including calls for help during crises related to substance use, mental health, and domestic violence.
- (3) HEART provides aftercare to those who experienced a crisis, by providing long-term follow-up to ensure the wellness of the resident, and connecting the resident to long-term care such as mental health counseling, as appropriate.

Economic Harms

The HEART program will respond to pandemic-related economic harms affecting residents in several ways. It will provide direct material aid (PPE, food, materials for young children, shelter, financial aid) and other forms of resources (e.g., employment, legal, and language services, support navigating governmental assistance) through mutual aid. This relief and support will help community members stay in their homes, keep their jobs, and receive the support and care that they seek.

HEART also addresses economic harms by providing opportunities for employment for Cambridge residents at a living wage. These employment opportunities include: responder,

dispatch, program staff, researcher, and community engagement coordinators. These employment opportunities are best suited for residents with lived experience of experiencing marginalization within the Cambridge community.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Serving historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the community is at the foundation of HEART. Through a participatory action research process with residents who are the most marginalized members of the community, a need for a new, community-centered crisis response and public safety program was identified. HEART was developed by residents with experiences of marginalization themselves to address this need.

Participatory Action Research Process to Identify Needs

During the summer of 2021, at the height of the pandemic, the HEART team conducted surveys and interviews with residents about their needs related to crisis response and public safety. Those who are the most marginalized members of our community including those who are undocumented, unhoused, low-income, disabled, and those with a history of incarceration, reported being under-served by existing crisis response and public safety systems. In particular, these residents identified the following as necessary for meeting their needs:

- To have access to immediate material support and other resources
- To be able to quickly get to a safe place
- To have someone listen to them with empathy
- To be treated with respect and care
- To be able to trust the responder and have them understand their needs
- To be able to give explicit consent to services
- To be able to receive help regardless of outstanding warrants or immigration concerns

The HEART program meets these stated needs, all of which are even more urgent in the wake of the pandemic.

HEART Protocols to Address Needs

HEART responders' training requirements and protocols are designed to explicitly center support for the most marginalized community members. HEART trainings and protocols are developed in coordination with the following organizations:

- CAHOOTS (<https://whitebirdclinic.org/cahoots/>) a community-based crisis response program in Eugene, OR in operation since 1969.
- Mental Health First (<https://www.antipoliceterrorproject.org/mental-health-first>) a community-based crisis response program in operation in Oakland, CA and Sacramento, CA since 2020.

- Wildflower Alliance (<https://wildfloweralliance.org/>)
- Project LETS (<https://projectlets.org/>)
- Urban Strategies Council (<https://urbanstrategies.org/>)
- Cataldo (<https://cataldoambulance.com/training/>) who have been providing emergency medical services training in Eastern Massachusetts for over forty years.
- Transition House (<https://www.transitionhouse.org/>), a Cambridge based leader in domestic violence intervention and prevention.
- Unity Circles (<https://unitycircles.org/>) and Creative Interventions (<https://www.creative-interventions.org/>) supports Circle Process, conflict mediation, and conflict de-escalation training for HEART responders.
- The Material Aid and Advocacy Program (MAAP; <https://www.maapma.org/>), in partnership with other local service providers, supports responders with learning how to support unhoused community members.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

A core principle of HEART is to explicitly center the experiences and voices of communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic in order to serve them according to their expressed needs. HEART is also explicitly designed to serve the crisis response and public safety needs of communities who experience high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and experience housing insecurity.

For instance, unhoused populations and housing insecure community members have given input into the design of the HEART program, both directly and through service providers assisting these populations providing guidance at HEART meetings.

Here are some examples of how HEART will address the crisis response and public safety needs of these communities:

- When it's cold or wet, unhoused people seek shelter in the ATMs. After an hour, it triggers an alarm connected to the police. The police are the ones forced to remove the person, this is a call that HEART might answer instead. We learned about this during an informal interview with a police officer in Cambridge who was frustrated at not having better solutions.
- There was a woman who was the victim of coercive and financial domestic violence. She was genuinely contemplating suicide because she didn't know how she was going to pay the bills. She didn't know that there are services, like the Margaret Fuller House, that help people pay their arrears. We heard this story and supported her with mutual aid and connected her to long-term services.

- After community tragedies, like the tragic shootings that have taken place this year in Cambridge, HEART could coordinate a long-term follow-up program to support the family with logistical and emotional needs. We are putting this into practice now: the partner of a community member was recently shot. We are helping the community members by connecting them to resources, showing up with mutual aid, and following up for regular check-ins.
- A city councilor told a story in a public meeting about an unhoused man who came to him at 5am asking for help finding a place to sleep, he said the only way was to call the police. This is a call for HEART.
- There was a young Black man in distress outside a building in July 2020 (<https://boston.cbslocal.com/2020/07/10/i-team-cambridge-police-man-handcuffed-video-investigation/>). The police were called because no one knew what to do or how to help him. It turns out the young man's mother suddenly passed away in that building while visiting a friend. The police handcuffed him to a fence, and he spent hours in a heightened state. This would be a call for HEART instead.
- There was a baby that was crying very loudly non-stop for hours. A neighbor called the police. The family was undocumented. The members of the family feared that ICE would be called on them and were thus extremely distressed. The mother was crying while talking to the police. The two children, including the baby, were also crying during the encounter. The father feared that the police might think he was physically abusive because everyone was crying around him. HEART could be answering calls about noise complaints (where there is no violence reported). We heard this story while interviewing an undocumented person in Cambridge. We would connect the family to other support services.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics we can collect and analyze in collaboration with our partners and stakeholders include:

Service provision:

- Demographic breakdown of individuals encountered - race, age, area of residence, housing status, gender
- Types of services requested by individual served
- Number of transports from scene, and number of transports by location (e.g. to hospital, individual's home, etc.)
- Amount of supplies distributed to individuals served by supply type (e.g. clothing items)
- Number of individuals served by their needs (e.g. substance use, mental health, unmet basic needs, etc.)
- Number of calls taken by alternative team by call origin, call type, and call outcome
- Number of calls resulting in referrals to resources by resource type
- Percentage of calls allocated from Emergency Communications
- Response time

- Time spent on scene
- Number of calls for which law enforcement was requested as backup
- Number of de-escalations via phone
- Number of repeated calls for same individual or location
- Number of individuals served by follow-up care

Criminal legal system archival quantitative metrics:

- Percentage reduction in non-warrant arrests
- Officer hours saved
- Cost-savings calculation (dollars saved in police response, transport, involuntary commitment, etc.)

Satisfaction with program quality:

- User assessment of and satisfaction with service quality and areas for improvement
- Staff members assessment of service quality and work environment and areas for improvement of both
- Community service providers' assessment of service quality and areas for improvement
- General community members assessment of quality and community benefit and areas for improvement

Cambridge HEART Budget for FY 2023, 2024, 2025

	Item	Year 1 (July 1 2022 - June 30, 2023)	Year 2 (July 1 2023 - June 30, 2024)	Year 3 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)	Total over 3 years	Notes
REVENUE						
	Private donations	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 775,000.00	
	Foundations	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 1,050,000.00	
	State funding	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 405,000.00	
	ARPA funding	\$ 1,800,000.00	\$ 2,100,000.00	\$ 1,600,000.00	\$ 5,500,000.00	
Total revenue		\$ 2,200,000.00	\$ 2,780,000.00	\$ 2,750,000.00	\$ 7,730,000.00	

EXPENDITURES							
Staff salaries							<i>5% COLA for all salaries</i>
	Co-directors	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 157,500.00	\$ 165,400.00	\$ 472,900.00	2 each year	
	Responders - cohort 1	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 525,000.00	\$ 552,000.00	\$ 1,577,000.00	10 responders	
	Responders - cohort 2	\$ -	\$ 525,000.00	\$ 552,000.00	\$ 1,077,000.00	10 responders	
	Responder team liaison (manager)	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 78,750.00	\$ 82,690.00	\$ 236,440.00		
	Clinical social workers	\$ 112,500.00	\$ 118,125.00	\$ 124,031.25	\$ 354,656.25		
	Partnership liaison	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 78,750.00	\$ 82,690.00	\$ 236,440.00		
	Community engagement coordinators	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 136,500.00	\$ 143,325.00	\$ 409,825.00		
	Communications coordinator	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 68,250.00	\$ 71,660.00	\$ 204,910.00		
	Compliance manager	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 78,750.00	\$ 82,690.00	\$ 236,440.00		
	Data manager	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 68,250.00	\$ 71,660.00	\$ 204,910.00		
	Office manager	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 68,250.00	\$ 71,660.00	\$ 204,910.00		
	Fringe (24%)	\$ 315,000.00	\$ 456,750.00	\$ 479,953.50	\$ 1,251,703.50		
Total salaries		\$ 1,627,500.00	\$ 1,903,125.00	\$ 1,999,806.25	\$ 5,530,431.25		

Support for responders and staff

	Consultants to HEART	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 400,000.00	
	Convenings of the Network of Massachussets Alternatives	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 26,250.00	\$ 27,570.00	\$ 78,820.00	
	Responder Training Costs	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 440,000.00	

Professional Development for Staff	\$	30,000.00	\$	45,000.00	\$	47,250.00	\$	122,250.00	
Transportation costs for staff and responders	\$	20,000.00	\$	21,000.00	\$	22,050.00	\$	63,050.00	
Uniforms for responders	\$	5,000.00	\$	10,500.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	17,500.00	
Communication tools for responders (phone, etc.)	\$	10,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	50,000.00	
Supplies for responders (PPE, etc.)	\$	70,000.00	\$	73,500.00	\$	77,200.00	\$	220,700.00	
									Purchase of 1 van in year 1 plus maintenance, purchase of 2 vans in year 2 plus maintenance, vans maintenance in year 3
Transportation	\$	100,000.00	\$	200,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	320,000.00	
Staff retreats (quarterly)	\$	3,000.00	\$	3,150.00	\$	3,310.00	\$	9,460.00	
Total support for staff	\$	438,000.00	\$	719,400.00	\$	564,380.00	\$	1,721,780.00	
Fees for community support and engagement									
Legal fees for clients	\$	8,000.00	\$	8,400.00	\$	8,820.00	\$	25,220.00	
Community engagement events	\$	30,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$	30,000.00	\$	90,000.00	
Outreach materials	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	30,000.00	
Mutual aid stipends	\$	25,000.00	\$	26,250.00	\$	27,500.00	\$	78,750.00	
Total fees for community support and engagement	\$	73,000.00	\$	74,650.00	\$	76,320.00	\$	223,970.00	
Infrastructure									
Insurance	\$	20,000.00	\$	21,000.00	\$	22,050.00	\$	63,050.00	
Marketing including website	\$	6,000.00	\$	8,000.00	\$	8,000.00	\$	22,000.00	
Rent	\$	2,400.00	\$	4,800.00	\$	4,800.00	\$	12,000.00	Rent for 1 room at the Democracy Center is \$2,400.00 per year, 2 rooms from year 2
Office supplies and materials	\$	22,000.00	\$	23,100.00	\$	24,255.00	\$	69,355.00	
Total infrastructure	\$	50,400.00	\$	56,900.00	\$	59,105.00	\$	166,405.00	
Total expenditures	\$	2,188,900.00	\$	2,754,075.00	\$	2,699,611.25	\$	7,642,586.25	
BALANCE	\$	11,100.00	\$	25,925.00	\$	50,388.75	\$	87,413.75	

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts
Gregory Nicaise
99 Bishop Allen Drive STE 007
Cambridge, MA 02139

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

To rebound Cambridge businesses and boost long-term economic development, we propose a Independly-owned Local Business Procurment Fair. Many local shops, service providers, and industries have suffered from a lack of institutional sales. With hospitals, schools, government facilities, and business spaces at reduced capacity, the network of businesses that support these institutions have seen significant drops in revenue and some have had to close. In addition, we have seen a shift towards digital providers and online delivery services. To focus support, sales, and attention towards these greatly impacted, locally-owned businesses, we need an organized initiative to put them center stage again.

This procurement fair will do just that. The Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts has specialized in managing the Local Food Trade Show for 11 years, and would use this expertise to conduct a highly successful B2B convention. Bringing together the diverse array of Cambridge businesses, we would match supply and demand needs in the market and refocus institutional purchasing towards the businesses that give Cambridge its integrity and culture. This procurement fair is a single day event featuring these business with targeted sales meetings, panels, exhibitions, and networking meetings to deepen these B2B connections.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

This proposal provides direct marketing support to locally-owned businesses, kick-starting their sales prospects, while connecting institutions with an array of incredible businesses to consider as they begin transitioning operations back to in-person.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. Many of the service and industry workers employed by these businesses may be of underserved backgrounds

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

By fueling sales and revenue into locally-owned businesses, this project will improve employment rates in Cambridge.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. Through: 1) Event Registration; 2) Successful new sales connections (survey feedback); 3) Estimated revenue generation for businesses (survey feedback)

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$30,000

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts
Gregory Nicaise
99 Bishop Allen Drive STE 007
Cambridge, MA 02139

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Cambridge food businesses would greatly benefit from a commercial kitchen space for shared-use and business incubation. Food businesses have seen extreme financial hardships during the pandemic, with an estimated 110,000 US restaurants temporarily or permanently closed at the peak. Those who have survived now face extreme difficulties as their margins shrink further due to labor shortages, inflation, and supply-chain shortages. In Cambridge, many restaurants have closed and many storefronts remain unused. Cambridge currently has no such commercial kitchen space, yet the city has signed support for the cottage residential program. Currently, many of these entrepreneurs' only opportunity is at church kitchens or pop-ups. While the Foundry is an incredible project, it will serve as a test kitchen only and doesn't make a space for establishing businesses. Shared-use kitchen's are known to reduce start-up costs and share risks for both established and emerging caterers, restaurateurs, and value-added producers. This project's potential to lower the entry barrier for new food businesses is extremely important considering the high-failure rate that restaurants already face. To expand the impact of this project we propose that a number leases for the space be reserved for Black/Brown-owned businesses, given that there currently only exist about 6 out of the nearly 400 pre-pandemic food service businesses in Cambridge.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency has largely impacted restaurant and food industry businesses. This project would provide an immediate avenue for new and pre-existing food businesses to get back on their feet, while minimizing start up costs.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. This project provides direct support for Black/Brown-owned businesses by reducing start-up costs, sharing risk, and providing a setting with focused technical assistance.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

This project provides proximity to good, healthy prepared meals at affordable prices. By providing for cottage food producers and ghost kitchens, this project provides more avenues for direct-to-consumer food sales, cutting costs, and meeting demand within the immediate proximity.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes: 1) Number of business created and maintained; 2) Workshops and technical support provided; 3) Business growth through expanded revenue; and 4) Direct sales and meals provided to Cambridge residents.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$1,000,000-\$3,000,000 depending upon available real estate.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: "Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea".

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Allison Deyo

Email: allison@sbnmass.org

Phone: 518-649-0727

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Cambridge-Somerville Black Business Network (CSBBN), in partnership with the Sustainable Business Network of MA, Cambridge Local First, and the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts (BECMA), and multiple banks, law firms, and a community foundation, is developing an Equity Fund to increase the number of Black and Brown businesses in MA. Black and Brown founders receive less than 2.6% of venture capital and fewer than 4% of decision makers at the firms are Black or Brown. "Pattern recognition" remains the major driver of investment decisions. Most start-up and growing businesses rely upon "friends and family loans", however the lack of wealth in communities of color across MA reduces access to capital needed to grow businesses.

According to the Business Diversity Directory, only 3 food businesses identify as Black-owned in Cambridge. Black businesses were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, with 41% of Black businesses closing nationally as of August 2020. Only 43% of businesses received all of the Payroll Protection Program funding they applied for, compared to 79% of white-owned businesses (wapo.st/3vvISZp).

Though BECMA will oversee the statewide Fund, CSBBN will be responsible for Fund activities in Cambridge. Activities will include: fundraising; screening businesses; connecting businesses to technical assistance (required to participate); working with bank to train business school fellows in underwriting, therefore building capacity in the community; resource development; and communications to grow the Fund. Capital raised in Cambridge will be earmarked to be used exclusively in the city. To launch this Fund, seed funding is needed for loans and grants for minority businesses in Cambridge.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The program addresses negative economic impacts caused and exacerbated by the pandemic by providing Black-owned businesses with funding, which has historically been more difficult for them to access, and tools to grow and sustain business operations.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, the initiative will specifically serve Black entrepreneurs in the start up and growth stages by providing grants or low-interest loans paired with required technical assistance to give their business a better chance to succeed. Black businesses were less likely to survive the economic disruptions caused by the pandemic and were less likely to receive monetary assistance. Additionally, it will build community capacity by training BIPOC business student fellows to serve as underwriters for the loans.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Due to systemic racism, it is more difficult for Black-owned businesses to acquire funding from traditional financial institutions and friends and family as a result of a lack of generational and community wealth. This Equity Fund will offer a new funding and training pathway for Black entrepreneurs.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, community-centered impact and activity operating metrics will be developed in collaboration with BECMA. Examples include: Number of businesses accepted into the program; Sales and financial reports; Number of employees in local participating businesses; Number of local student fellows trained; Total dollars directed toward local businesses accepted into the program

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$2 million in seed funding for the Equity Fund to be allocated specifically toward Cambridge businesses.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.



A. PROJECT IDEA DESCRIPTION

Name and Contact Information of Submitter

Angela Chan O'Donnell
Philanthropy Manager
angelachanodonnell@justastart.org
(617) 356-1594

May the City contact you for more information? Yes

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Just A Start respectfully requests \$75,000 to support costs of deleading activities. The funding will be a grant to the homeowner for up to \$5,000 per unit to be used for deleading activities including lead testing.

The funding would leverage Just A Start's Home Improvement Program (HIP). This funding will remove a barrier to the critical public health issue of remediating lead paint hazards, which has historically had a disparate impact on low-income families and communities of color. The cost of deleading, in particular lead testing, has become an increasing burden over the past two years as the pandemic has negatively impacted our clients' finances. Furthermore, homeowners are spending more time at home, often in unsafe and substandard housing. The HIP program is often the only viable option for homeowners with poor credit and/or low income to make essential repairs to their homes.

Part of the HIP program's charge under HUD is to ensure homes participating in the program are lead safe. The associated costs with deleading are often unexpected and prohibit homeowners from moving forward with HIP and making critical repairs to their home. Homeowners must pay for lead testing (up to \$500) out of pocket before they know the scope of the deleading work or whether they can receive HIP or other funding. Once the scope is determined, and they qualify for the program, we can help clients access city grants and state loans but they typically don't cover full deleading expenses.



B. Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts.

C1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

COVID-19 has caused many homeowners to become unemployed, or underemployed causing them to struggle financially. As a result of the pandemic, people are home more often and putting more wear and tear on their homes.

The cost of deleading and lead testing is often an economic burden. This homeowner expense can prevent those living in unsafe, or poor housing conditions from accessing funds necessary to make essential repairs through the HIP program.

C2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The HIP program serves low to moderate income homeowners in Cambridge. The homeowners typically do not have the disposable income to pay for lead testing. Providing funding for this initiative would remove a financial barrier to our program.

In addition, the risk of suffering from lead poisoning disproportionately impacts African American children. Of the 2,500 clients Just A Start serves as an organization, 33% are Black, 18% Asian, 12% mixed-race, and 22% White.

See: Yeter D, Banks EC, Aschner M. Disparity in Risk Factor Severity for Early Childhood Blood Lead among Predominantly African-American Black Children: The 1999 to 2010 US NHANES. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2020; 17(5):1552. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17051552>

C3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The HIP program serves the community of low-moderate income homeowners in Cambridge. Several of our homeowners have lost jobs, or are underemployed as a result of the pandemic. The funds received would allow homeowners with limited or no disposable income to undergo necessary repairs through the HIP program.



4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples

We track the number of homes that are tested for lead paint and remediated. Homeowners must meet income requirements to qualify for ARPA funding. The requirements be consistent with HUD guidelines – 80% AMI or up to 120% AMI in Neighborhood Revitalization Strategic Areas. The clients we serve are between 30% to 120% AMI with an average of 80% AMI.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested. Specific line items.

We respectfully request \$75,000. We will allocate up to \$5,000 per unit to be used on an as needed basis including \$350 to \$500 (estimated) per unit to be used towards lead testing. No staffing charges would be incurred.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Tobin Scipione, Director of Strategic Partnerships
tscipione@servings.org
617-522-7777
Community Servings
179 Amory Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Community Servings’ mission is to actively engage the community to provide scratch-made medically tailored meals to individuals and their families experiencing critical or chronic illness and nutrition insecurity. We commit, in all our programs and business practices, to prioritize racial and economic justice and health equity. Over the past 23 years of service in Cambridge, Community Servings has provided nearly 500,000 home-delivered medically tailored meals to Cambridge residents. Our "Nutrition Program for Cambridge Residents Affected by Critical & Chronic Illnesses" is a critical health intervention and an emergency household nutrition assistance program for individuals and their families who are experiencing the dual challenges of poverty and serious illness, including cancer, renal disease, diabetes, and COVID-19.

Cambridge residents who are severely immune-compromised and nutrition insecure have faced enormous challenges due to COVID-19, and accompanying economic disruption and rates of food insecurity are expected to remain at historic levels for years, with long-term health consequences. Community Servings is committed to a long-term recovery approach, strengthening our nutrition program for Cambridge populations that have faced systemic underinvestment and been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

ARPA funding will support the home-delivery of 125,000 medically tailored meals, customized to meet the individual health needs of 250+ Cambridge clients, their dependent children, and caregivers over the five-year funding period. Each weekly delivery includes five days’ worth of medically tailored meals for each household member. Funds will be allocated to meals and kitchen expenses associated with the provision of medically tailored meals to Cambridge residents.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

With the pandemic exacerbating disparities along racial/ethnic and socioeconomic lines, Community Servings has deepened its presence in Cambridge. We are serving populations that have borne the brunt of the pandemic's burden in the effort to meet an immediate need for nutritional supports and address persistent health and food access inequities. Our nutrition program has several distinguishing characteristics:

1. High Level of Customization: 15 medical diets for a wide range of illnesses, available in more than 100 different languages.
2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Historically in Cambridge, we have served the city's most vulnerable populations: 92% of our Cambridge clients are experiencing poverty, living at 200% or less of the Federal Poverty Level, and more than 50% identify as Black, Latinx, or Asian. Recent Cambridge health and social service referral partners include Cambridge Health Alliance, Cambridge Primary Care, and Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services. All of our clients are too sick to shop/cook for themselves or access other services, such as congregate meals or food pantries. These individuals have been the most adversely affected by the global pandemic. Our medically tailored meals have a significant and immediate impact on our clients by addressing household food insecurity; supporting disease management and helping keep clients at home and out of emergency rooms/long-term care facilities, which have been vulnerable to COVID-19 outbreaks.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Community Servings' home-delivered medically tailored meal model addresses the critical issues of food insecurity and poor nutrition, key social determinants of health that have profound impacts on an individual's health and wellbeing. As we expand our nutrition services to meet the skyrocketing need due to COVID-19, we are deepening our presence in communities that face systemic underinvestment and disproportionate impacts of COVID-19. Beyond impacting the individual who is ill, through our whole-home approach, our nutrition service improves the overall stability and economic wellbeing of the family and reduces caregiver stress by providing five days' worth of meals for each household member through weekly home deliveries. Within Cambridge, our medically tailored meals help drive health equity by addressing longstanding disparities in food access which have been exacerbated by COVID-19.

¹ "Disproportionally impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Our evaluation is an integrated component of our nutrition program, and we collect quantitative and qualitative data on an ongoing basis. Key grant performance metrics will include: # of Cambridge residents served annually and # of unduplicated residents served over the five-year funding period, # of medically tailored meals provided annually and over the five-year funding period, client demographic data, client feedback via our Client Survey, which measures how our meals are improving energy, increasing or maintaining weight, decreasing hospitalizations, and improving overall food security. In addition, we will track the # of Cambridge referral partners and units of nutrition assessments, counseling, and education.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

The total cost of our Nutrition Program for Cambridge Residents Affected by Critical & Chronic Illnesses is currently \$260,000 annually and \$1.5M over the five-year funding period. We respectfully request \$250,000 in funding to support this program over the funding period. We will allocate \$50,000 in ARPA funding to the program annually for program-related expenses, including client and nutrition counseling and education services to Cambridge clients, raw food costs, meal production expenses, and home-delivery.

Community Servings has the demonstrated capacity and historical experience to manage large-scale, multi-year government funding. The agency is prepared to initiate the spending of these funds immediately, maintain funding compliance, and spend all requested funds within the required funding period. We also

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Elissa Spelman
Executive Director, Breakthrough Greater Boston
espelman@btgbmail.org, (617) 349-6647
P.O. Box 381486 | Cambridge, MA 02238

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Breakthrough Greater Boston (BTGB), a 501(c)3 nonprofit that has served 7th-12th grade students in Cambridge for 30 years, respectfully requests support from the City of Cambridge to launch our new College Success Program.

Nationally, only 14% of students from low-income backgrounds complete college within eight years of high school graduation (compared to 60% of their more affluent peers). Low-income students of color additionally face the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 as they navigate paths to and through college. The pandemic is an educational crisis, particularly for the key demographic that Breakthrough serves. In this especially difficult time, BTGB is powerfully positioned to leverage our six-year relationships with students and our research-based, holistic College Success Program model to help the students most affected by COVID-19 enroll, persist, and graduate from college.

Breakthrough is piloting the College Success Program to extend BTGB’s support for our students through their college years. BTGB delivers tailored guidance that addresses the academic, social-emotional, and financial challenges faced by low-income students, students of color, and first-generation college students during the high-risk transition to college and their undergraduate years. BTGB’s Board of Directors is excited by the potential for a permanent launch of the College Success Program and aims to ensure there is adequate funding and community partnership support for this expansion.

Partnership with the City of Cambridge would serve as a strong endorsement for this work, which would mark the most significant programmatic expansion in BTGB’s organizational history by moving from six to 10 years of programming. We respectfully request an investment of \$500,000 to be distributed from FY22 through FY26. \$100,000 per year would cover approximately half of College Success programming costs, and BTGB would commit to raising the matching funds from external sources.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts***
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers***
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines***
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband***

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Nationally, COVID-19 has created myriad challenges for low-income students, including a decline in college enrollment, and for students who do matriculate to college: difficulties in building relationships, budgeting and financial aid, time management, accessing campus resources in a virtual setting, as well as housing displacement and disruption. In a national survey, 80% of students said COVID has negatively impacted their mental health, with higher rates among students of color. BTGB's College Success Program addresses these needs by providing 10 years of consecutive holistic support to ensure students enroll in college, successfully transition, and continue to succeed once there. Through coaching, BTGB provides guidance in the three vital areas that create the greatest risks: academic, social-emotional, and financial. Key topics include: navigating increased autonomy; utilizing office hours; identifying mental health support; selecting a major; internships; study abroad; graduate school applications; financial aid renewal.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Founded in Cambridge in 1992, BTGB has been a vital resource to marginalized Cambridge students for 30 years, serving approximately 10% of all CPS students in grades 7-12 across every CPS school, where a significant majority of our students represent historically underserved communities. The 120 College Success Program students from Cambridge that BTGB are engaging in 2021-2022 are especially high-need: 90% are of color, 75% are first generation college students, and 86% are from low-income families.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affects our students' families: nearly a third of our 7-12th grade students are from single-parent families, 98% are of color, and 81% are from low-income families. Our students and families have experienced financial strain, including a decrease in jobs, difficulties with food insecurity, housing, and access to the Internet. Without guidance, these students are at risk of being pulled out of college to support their families, due to the health crisis and workforce crisis created by COVID-19. BTGB is prepared to powerfully support these students, as they are on the precipice of entering the Cambridge workforce with the value of a college degree.

¹ "Disproportionately impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, BTGB conducts evaluation by tracking National Student Clearinghouse data, as well as ongoing check-ins with our college students. Currently, 80% of the students enrolled in our College Success Program are on track to graduate. At the end of their second year, 93% of students receiving coaching had a 3.0+ GPA. Over the past eight years, 94% of Breakthrough's graduating seniors have matriculated to college. 82% are persisting, putting Breakthrough on track to far exceed the national college graduation rate of 14% for low-income students.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Allison Deyo

Email: allison@sbnmass.org

Phone: 518-649-0727

May the City contact you for more information? **Yes**

Project Idea Description:

Develop a program that will allocate 20 total full "All Alcohol" licenses for minority-owned businesses, with half specifically set aside for Black-owned businesses. There are currently only four minority-owned restaurants/bars in Cambridge that have full liquor licenses according to the Cambridge Business Diversity Directory. Black-owned businesses across the country were severely impacted by the pandemic, with more than 40% closing within the first six months of the crisis. Bars and restaurants in Cambridge were also hit hard, leading several to go out of business due to several pandemic-related factors. As a result, several former bar and restaurant spaces are vacant. This program will make it more financially feasible for minority-owned food and beverage businesses to move into these spaces. It will also make it easier for existing minority-owned businesses to expand their offerings and generate more revenue through alcohol sales as they recover from the economic fallout of the pandemic. Both of these outcomes will potentially lead to job creation within the city as well.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Food businesses struggled during the pandemic due to COVID-19 restrictions that lasted over a year and limited the number of customers. Minority-owned businesses entered the pandemic at an economic disadvantage due to systemic inequities. Waiving the liquor license fees for 20 minority-owned businesses liquor licenses will increase potential for them to survive the pandemic and grow as we enter the next phases, saving and creating jobs along the way.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, the initiative will directly benefit minority-owned food businesses who have a disproportionately lower number of liquor licenses in the city and increased revenues earned through liquor sales businesses will help them to succeed. Additionally, it could potentially draw more diverse food businesses to open in Cambridge, where there is an untapped market for restaurants/bars and the number of vacant storefronts has increased drastically since the start of the pandemic.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity

who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The proposed initiative will allow existing and new minority-owned food businesses to acquire liquor licenses at no cost. Minority-owned businesses were less likely to survive the pandemic and were significantly less likely to receive federal economic assistance from programs like the Payroll Protection Program. This would allow businesses to explore a new revenue stream and potentially allow them to hire more employees.

¹“Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The following performance metrics should be considered (baseline data and regular reporting post-initiative rollout required): Number of total full and partial alcohol licenses in Cambridge (broken down by ownership demographics), number of restaurants and bars in Cambridge eligible (broken down by ownership demographics), number of vacant restaurants/bar spaces in Cambridge, sales revenue totals for businesses granted free licenses before and after participating in initiative, job reports for businesses granted free liquor licenses to indicate job growth.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$5,000 for waived licensing fees for businesses

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Gerry Zipser, Director of Housing
Just A Start
1035 Cambridge St. #12
Cambridge, MA 02141
gerryzipser@justastart.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

We are proposing a Digital Navigator Program for Cambridge residents living in affordable housing. The services offered would be in line with the recommendations of the **Digital Equity in Cambridge: Data and Strategic Recommendations Report** which was prepared for the City of Cambridge, MA and released in April 2021.

Just A Start trains adults in a 9 month tuition free program for entry level positions in IT. Many graduates are Cambridge residents, have lived in affordable housing and are multi-lingual. The IT graduates could be hired as Digital Navigators. They would work with the Resident Service Coordinators of each housing development to offer services including: signing up residents with low-cost providers and enrolling eligible residents in the Affordable Connectivity Program. Digital Navigators would also be available to help residents set up connectivity in their homes or trouble-shoot when problems occur. They would also connect residents to free/low-cost computers and related equipment when needed. Digital Navigators would work with residents to identify their individual needs and wishes for being connected. Individual and group trainings on site would be offered.

Depending on funding level, Just A Start would seek to partner with the Cambridge Housing Authority, Housing Resources Inc. (HRI), Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH) and other Cambridge affordable housing providers to bring services to their residents. We would also work closely with the Cambridge Public Library as their programming also works on digital access issues.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the ways in which the digital divide has negatively impacted low income residents. So many of the residents in Just A Start's affordable housing who are not tech savvy or didn't have the right equipment or enough resources lost access to services during the pandemic. Application for assistance had to be done on-line. They didn't have the option of tele-health--for both physical and mental health services. And they lost connection with friends or social avenues like the Senior Center

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, the Digital Navigator program would serve those in affordable housing. Residents in

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Just A Start Resident Services Coordinators were in frequent contact with our affordable housing residents as the pandemic progressed. Our residents were more likely to work in service or gig work and were disproportionately laid off. Fewer residents had employment that could be conducted remotely. Many are single parents or caretakers for children and the elderly and had to leave work to care for others. Affordable housing residents suffer disproportionately from health conditions making them more vulnerable to severe COVID-19 infection.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics around the number of residents who obtain an internet connection, are enrolled in a discount program, receive assistance in getting a computer, hotspot, or other equipment, or who receive training can be tracked. Surveys can be given at intervals to residents to measure if they are benefiting from increased digital connectivity.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

Project name: Digital Navigator Program

Project Budget per 600 families served/year: \$93,400

EXPENSES

Salaries and wages: \$60,000

Employee benefits and taxes: \$14,400

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Ian Davis, Financial Opportunity & FMF Program Manager
Just A Start
1035 Cambridge St. #12
Cambridge, MA 02141
iandavis@justastart.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Complete building, program and operate a Financial Opportunity Center in Central Square.

The ongoing COVID-19 crisis has resulted in lay-offs, lost work through quarantining and needing to provide childcare for children learning from home, long COVID symptoms: resulting in increased costs with everyone at home, financial strain, and the depletion of savings. These negative economic impacts, particularly on low income residents and communities of color, will take years to overcome.

Just A Start has been in the process of building out a storefront location in Central Square, at 55 Norfolk St, a small building owned by our company, on the Financial Opportunity Center model, combining one-on-one career coaching and financial coaching services under one roof, additionally leveraging our community contacts for direct referrals and warm hand-offs to food pantry, childcare, and benefit sign-up assistance services. During tax season, this storefront location will host intake for our volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) site, offering free tax preparation to income-qualified community members, with an eye on maximizing refunds, handling complicated tax situations like gig economy work from people adapting their working lives to the pandemic, and advising on the use of refunds through integration with our one-on-one financial coaching.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

This initiative will address the economic harm created or exacerbated by the COVID -19 public health emergency through the implementation of wrap around services: financial coaching from an accredited financial coach or Money Management certified coach, direct referrals either in-house to JAS career services, the Cambridge Employment Program, and MIT Job Connector for career coaching, and finally local, physically close partners providing other direct services such as the pantry and childcare available at Margaret Fuller House or the suite of benefits assistance provided by the Cambridge Economic

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

This initiative will continue to promote its services through direct outreach via the Cambrid

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

This program seeks to directly address unemployment through career services including resume and interview coaching as well as direct job search support. It seeks to address limited economic opportunity by acting as a community repository of adaptive financial strategies pulled from our community members, through a team with 4+ years coaching experience on these topics in Cambridge.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics around unemployment can be tracked, including job applications filed, resumes completed, interviews attended, and ultimately individuals moving from unemployment to employment. Similarly, the JAS financial coaching program tracks month to month cash flow and whether or not our participant is generating a surplus to use for goal setting, as well as net worth and credit score. Just A Start uses Salesforce to track these and similar metrics.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

Project name: Financial Opportunity Center

Project Budget: \$273,385

EXPENSES

Salaries and wages: \$114,000

Employee benefits and taxes: \$27,360

Total personnel costs: \$141,360

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Angela Chan O'Donnell, Philanthropy Manager
angelachanodonnell@justastart.org
617-356-1594

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Just A Start is respectfully requesting \$252,000 to provide stipends to students of our Biomedical Careers Program and IT Careers Programs, which provides full-time workforce development training to adult students to enter careers in the growing life sciences and IT sectors.

The COVID pandemic has highlighted systemic inequities that exist in our communities, and especially in our workforce. Low-income people have been especially hit hard due to losing jobs and/or job security, leading to volatility in income. This uncertainty of the next paycheck has led to housing, financial and food insecurity. The need for family-sustaining wages is high, and with it the need for programming to help them achieve economic stability.

Our workforce development programs aim to support the economic resiliency and mobility of low-income individuals and families. The 9-month long programs take place Mon- Fri from 9am-2pm. The time commitment (22 hours/week class time plus homework) is intensive and can make the program inaccessible to some students due to family, childcare, work, and other responsibilities. Tuition is free but not free of cost as students forgo time, and therefore income, to be able to attend the program.

Stipends will be a critical tool in providing financial assistance that will allow students to participate in a program that has proven to increase earning potential. The average wage increase is \$15,000/year - a substantial increase considering participants need to earn 80% or less of the Area Median Income to qualify, and most students earn 50% or less.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 global pandemic, social reckoning, and evolving workforce culture together have created a unique opportunity for low-income workers to not only obtain higher-paying jobs but to enter high-demand and high-growth fields that can lead to significant economic mobility. Our workforce development programs aim to do just that, but as previously stated, the intensive time commitment can be a barrier for people to participate in a program that will ultimately increase their economic potential and social mobility. Providing education to underserved populations is a critical component of our workforce development strategy.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. Of our 2020 graduates, 100% are low-income immigrants. In the aggregate, over the

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The need for well-trained Biomedical employees is high, as is the need for reliable, family-sustaining careers. Our program fills the mismatch between supply and demand for talent in the region. For every technologist employed, there are four unfilled tech positions (World Economic Forum, 2022). As the 2021 Life Sciences Employment Outlook indicates, it is projected that Massachusetts may indeed up to 40,000 new biopharma employees by 2024.

Just A Start recognizes that this is a crucial time for workforce development training. We use a

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, we already have in place performance metrics that are developed to measure our programmatic goals, which are listed below. Our Manager of Learning and Evaluation and Grant Manager/Comptroller will track the funds requested for stipends.

The performance metrics include:

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$7,000 per student = \$252,000 total

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

House Every Unhoused Person in Cambridge

Goal: Between April 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023 the City of Cambridge, employing residents', non-profits', institutional and government resources, will rehouse 400 individuals experiencing homelessness, and functionally end homelessness in Cambridge by April 1, 2024. Housing is a human right, and this goal is not only possible, but a necessary mandate. It is long past time that we recognize homelessness in Cambridge as a policy failure, and take definitive action to remedy our shortcomings.

How:

The Cambridge Unhoused Stipend Program (CUSP) for unhoused residents embraces a Housing First approach to ending homelessness, and performs three key activities:

- Identifies eligible households,
- Finds and secures available units, and
- Moves those eligible households into those units, and provides long-term supportive services as necessary.

After placement, CUSP will cover the full cost of living for participating unhoused individuals and families.

CUSP's estimated budget is on the order of \$160 million over 10 years. This is equivalent to approximately \$100/person/year for every resident of Cambridge. This encompasses the cost of rental assistance and incentives for each resident, case management and supportive services before and after move-in, property management expenses, and non-personnel and move-in fixed costs. Each of these costs are outlined in more detail in Appendix B's budget shell. The specific personnel are outlined more completely in Appendix C, but include three director positions for each of the new proposed programs, one case manager for every twenty unhoused individuals served by CUSP, and five to ten separate positions to assist with management, operations, and logistics. As individuals and families are housed, we anticipate costs decreasing in the medium-to-long term. We also anticipate that these budget expenses will be offset in other areas of the city budget that might otherwise be serving these vulnerable residents; this, while speculative, is supported by the well-established finding that Housing First is more cost-effective than traditional services.¹

To finance this program, we propose an initial allocation of \$10 million from either Free Cash or the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, matched dollar for dollar by both Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). After this, CUSP will remain sustainable in the medium term as another use of funds for Cambridge's Affordable Housing Trust, which we propose further funding through increases in Cambridge's linkage fee and property taxes, as well as the adoption of a real estate transfer fee. We also propose establishing a precedent through a new PILOT agreement that all allocations from the Affordable Housing Trust to CUSP will be matched dollar for dollar by both Harvard and MIT.

In the below sections, we will examine the three key activities of CUSP in more detail.

1. Identifying eligible households

Eligibility for CUSP initially follows the criteria and process established by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for distribution of Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV), as well as the particular screening process that has been and continues to be built out in Cambridge.² Building on the programmatic development and unprecedented infusion of federal money, CUSP establishes two amendments to HUD criteria for EHV utilization:

- Households are not required to have a member with a social security number.
- CUSP makes permanent the waiver authority granted by HUD during COVID³ allowing households to be enrolled without documentation provided there is a good faith belief of eligibility and documentation is acquired within 90 days of move-in. This change acknowledges that acquiring and safeguarding documentation can be extremely difficult while a person is unhoused, and that this process is made much easier after safe and stable accommodations are provided.⁴

Reiterating the current process, the individuals and families currently eligible for EHV include

- homeless households,
- households at risk of homelessness,
- households fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, or trafficking, and
- recently homeless households.

CUSP expands the pool of partners that can establish eligibility and make a referral. Inclusion of faith-leaders, neighborhood, and community groups, and other trusted entities delivers on Cambridge's commitment to a "No Wrong Door" approach.⁵

Beyond these, we suggest continual amendments to the requirements and prioritization for CUSP or similar programs to make them more inclusive, including the following broad changes:

- Documentation requirements that are not absolutely necessary for the function of the system should be removed.
 - Within this, income requirements should be specifically loosened. Exact income estimates are not necessary for CUSP until at least the third year of a tenancy, as such income documentation should not be required. If income is decided to be relevant to program eligibility, proxies for being below an income threshold, such as eligibility for federal or state benefits programs, should be accepted.
- "Opt-in" requirements should be removed.⁶ Said differently, all screening protocols should be designed to screen people in, rather than screening them out, and all households known to or in the shelter system should be offered this screening.
- Proof of residency documentation should be abolished, and eligibility should be extended to all those who identify as members of the Cambridge community

Above all, CUSP rejects a scarcity mindset and avoids means-testing⁷. Criteria should be restricted to those that maintain a scalable, efficient system, and otherwise removed.

2. Identifying available units

Once eligible households are identified, the next step is to identify appropriate housing units. CUSP utilizes two complementary strategies to identify and acquire housing: first, a landlord incentives program that reserves particular housing units for CUSP-eligible individuals, and second, a general housing search support program to help eligible participants find ideal units and sustainably afford them. These are drawn from successful strategies in other cities.^{9,9,10}

First, and most importantly for a rapid transition, we propose the creation of the Landlord Partnership Program (LPP), a large-scale landlord incentives program that would allow Cambridge to acquire units at scale from property owners and reserve them for CUSP-eligible households. LPP, broadly, is a way for the City to use its financial resources and institutional leverage to acquire and hold units as they become vacant. Once units are reserved under the LPP program, LPP case managers would match and directly place eligible households in participating units. Participating landlords would have the ability to refuse a tenancy only in exceptional circumstances. The incentives for landlord participation include:

- Up to 3 months of holding fees paid by the City to keep a unit vacant until an eligible household is moved in
- Up to 2 months of rent in security deposit
- \$200/unit if the number of units reserved is greater than 10, and \$400/unit if greater than 20
- Access to up to \$5000 beyond the security deposit from a damage reimbursement fund.⁸

Many of these incentives are not new; they are eligible activities for Emergency Solutions Grant COVID (ESG-CV) funds already provided by HUD, and have been or are starting to be deployed in a number of instances, including by the Los Angeles Housing Authority.⁹ To carry out this program, CUSP hires a realtor as a **Unit Acquisition Coordinator (UAC)**, ideally housed under a new City Department of Housing Stability, but currently under the Department of Human Services Program (DHSP). This UAC's role would be threefold:

- If not already accessible, work with the city's Community Development Department and CoStar to get and maintain a detailed report on multifamily vacancies across Cambridge, identified to specific owners rather than LLCs. This will allow the identification of the largest property owners as well as vacancies to target for potentially available units.
- Negotiate with identified property owners to reserve the maximum possible units under LPP.
- Be in constant contact with case managers to ensure that the composition of units acquired meets the needs of eligible households seeking housing

Second, we propose augmenting existing one-on-one housing search that takes place at the Multiservice Center and other locations with a program that incentivizes landlords to rent market rate units to CUSP eligible tenants. This second approach provides three main benefits:

permits client choice of housing unit, avoids density concerns by using scattered-site units, and encourages smaller landlords, who might not otherwise rent to unhoused individuals, to participate in the program. Together, individualized search could expand the volume, range, and location of housing options available for housing every person. Other cities such as San Diego, California and Greensboro, North Carolina have instituted programs offering monetary incentives and support services to landlords renting to individual unhoused section 8 voucher recipients. In San Diego, this has found a great deal of success: 1300 landlords have joined the Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program (LEAP), renting to 3,832 households.¹⁰ We propose establishing a similar program for landlords renting apartments according to a Rent Reasonableness Standard. Similar to San Diego, we would provide qualifying landlords with monetary incentives that mirror those of the LPP, excluding the holding fees and including application fees:

- Up to 2 months of rent in security deposit
- Access to up to \$5000 beyond the security deposit from a damage reimbursement fund.
- Up to \$25/unit to cover credit report and other application fees
- \$500 for the first unit rented to an unhoused individual or family, \$250 for additional units rented

To manage this program, as with the LPP, CUSP retains a **Landlord Incentives Manager (LIM)**. The LIM collaborates with the UAC in reaching out to property owners, with a focus on outreach to small landlords. It will also collaborate with the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA). For units rented under the LPP or LIP, CUSP will follow existing CHA procedures used in the Housing Choice Voucher Program and other similar subsidies, as applied for unit inspections, lease agreement templates, and other aspects of the lease-up process. During the first phase of the program, modifications can be considered that would tailor this protocol to best meet the needs of newly housed residents.

These housing identification and acquisition approaches prioritize moving eligible individuals into housing as fast as possible, and follow a number of successful pandemic-era efforts that have rapidly housed hundreds or even thousands of community members.¹¹ We do not believe that the LPP or LIP programs replace a long-term vision of housing justice, which necessitates the creation of social housing.¹² We also hope that the city will continue to pursue medium-term strategies¹³ to create publicly-owned, permanently affordable units that complement the strategies outlined above. Our focus with this proposal is to identify strategies for Cambridge to use its financial and institutional leverage to place individuals and families into market-rate units as quickly as possible, no later than April 1, 2023.

3. Moving eligible households into appropriate units

Once eligible households and appropriate units are identified, housing unhoused persons is a matter of assisting the household with accessing their new space, moving their belongings, and acquiring additional resources that they may need to settle into their new home.

In the past, services for unhoused persons have not had the capacity or resources to connect clients with these types of supports, and a coordinated system for facilitating transition to housing has been lacking. We recognize that move-in assistance and material support are essential components of a system to house every unhoused person^{14 15}.

We believe that at the minimum, every person should receive:

1. Support for gathering, transporting and unloading their personal belongings,
2. Provision of durable, accessible, and quality furniture, appliances, kitchen wares, toiletries and cleaning supplies
3. Assistance accessing their new space and orientation to how they can raise concerns or seek further support if they need it.
4. Access to long term supportive service as needed.

The system for accessing move-in support should be simple, fair and centralized so that every person has all their needs met in a timely manner. This work will require dedicated staff and resources to ensure that the process is easy to navigate for clients and a variety of service providers, as well as equitable. To ensure that the process is sustainable and open to all Cambridge residents we believe this work would be best housed within the city government, as opposed to a non-profit organization. To operationalize, Cambridge should dedicate one or more staff persons to serve as **Move In Coordinator(s) (MIC)**. The MIC should be housed within the Department of Human Services Programs (DHSP), though in an ideal future, this role would be housed under a Department of Housing Stability. The role of the MIC would be threefold:

- Serve as a central referral point (from service providers and client self referral) for clients eligible for and matched with housing based on the steps above.
- Administer dedicated budget that funds a “bundle” of contracts with move-in service providers, outlined below, as well as discretionary funds to help cover the unique move in needs of each individual.
- Coordinate scheduling of a move-in date and oversee execution of bundled services.

The bundle of services available to each person should assist the client with securing and transporting their personal belongings, and filling gaps in resources through contracts with high quality service providers. Many high quality move-in service providers already exist, and under the newly created MIC role, their work can be combined and coordinated to avoid gaps or duplications. The MIC should ensure that there is a primary contract with a move-in company that can help the client acquire their belongings from storage units or friends/families spaces as a first step. Discretionary funds should be available to help pay expenses such as storage unit impound fees.

An advocate, trusted service provider, and/or the MIC should then help the client complete a standardized inventory to identify whether they have all of the items that they need, corresponding to services that can be provided from the provider contracts. Appendix A has a list of supplies and suggested service providers that the city can contract with to meet anticipated needs. Next, the MIC should facilitate the appropriate service bundle from the available menu. Service provider contracts should be awarded based on 3 criteria:

- Ability to efficiently and sensitively meet the needs of unhoused clients
- Ability to be flexible to the needs of unhoused clients
- Ability to coordinate with other services on a move in day

Finally, clients should be given access to their new home, and provided support for orienting to their new space, as soon as possible. An advocate, trusted service provider, and/or the MIC should help bring the client to see their new home at least once before move-in day. On move-in day, the MIC should be present and/or on call to help with day-of coordination needs. The client should be provided with emergency service numbers, contact info for their property manager/landlord, and contact information for their local tenants rights organization. Within one week of move-in, An advocate, trusted service provider, and/or the MIC should schedule a brief home visit with the client (at the client's convenience) to ensure they have everything they need and to work through any issues that have arisen.

Conclusion and Future Directions

We recognize that this proposal is not entirely comprehensive. It raises many new questions that must be answered and aspects that can be refined. For example, while the focus of this document is to provide a clear plan for housing all of Cambridge's unhoused residents as efficiently and equitably as possible, long-term supportive services are critical to make these solutions sustainable. Our program must be supplemented with ongoing case management follow-up, eviction and legal support services, and funding for the basic necessities (such as food, utilities, and health services) that make housing livable. Our hope is to not let perfect be the enemy of the good, or to let high level questions distract us from the active emergency at hand: every person in Cambridge does not currently have a safe, affordable and dignified place to live. We must address this crisis; we must house every unhoused person – not later, but now.


Appendix A: Move in Service Providers

Below is a list of existing move-in related service providers with which the city could contract to meet clients self identified needs. In addition, private donations from crowd-sourced websites such as Everything is Free and Buy Nothing groups can be used to supplement particular items. However, emphasis should be placed on ensuring that every client's needs can be met in a sustainable and timely way through a set of well established contracts.

- Kitchen Supplies:
 - [The Pots and Pans Project](#) (starter kitchen kits for the newly housed)
 - [Habitat ReStore](#) (run by Habitat for Humanity)
 - Salvation Army
 - Goodwill
- Furniture (table, chairs, couch, bed, dresser):
 - [Habitat ReStore](#) (run by Habitat for Humanity)
 - Salvation Army
 - Goodwill
 - Furnishing Hope
 - New Life Furniture Bank
- Towels and Bed Linens:
 - Salvation Army
 - Goodwill
- Groceries:
 - [The Daily Table](#)
 - [Lovin Spoonfuls](#)
 - [Food for Free](#)
- Toiletries/ Cleaning Supplies:
 - [Cleenland](#) (bulk cleaning supplies and toiletries by weight, can bring your own containers or buy theirs)
 - [Good Filling](#) (same concept as Cleenland, but operates under a model where online orders are picked up at lockers with several locations in Cambridge)
- Moving:
 - [Home on the Go Moving](#) (founder used to run Solutions at Work's Moving Up program for unhoused families)
 - Mocano Moving (works with Metro Housing Boston for moves connected to Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT))
 - Gentle Giant
- Other:
 - [Solutions at Work](#) (workwear, children's items)
 - Dress for Success
 - Cradles to Crayons (children's good)

Appendix B: Budget

Full one and ten year budget estimates for CUSP can be found at

 House Every Unhoused Person - Budget.xlsx .

Appendix C: Personnel

The detailed list of personnel are as follows.

- **Twenty (20) Case Managers:** these case managers work with unhoused participants CUSP throughout the entire process, from the initial housing search to lease up to move-in to eventual long-term supportive services. The exact number of these case managers is contingent on the total number of CUSP participants, abiding by the criteria that there will always be at most twenty participants per single case manager.
- **Three (3) Finance Staff Members:** these personnel will be in charge of handling all of the monetary details of the program. They will be in charge of cutting checks for one-time incentives and monthly rental payments to landlords, managing requests to the repair reserve funds, and periodically ensuring the integrity of all payments distributed through CUSP.


The remaining personnel are detailed at greater length in the text of the proposal but are listed below.

- **One (1) Unit Acquisition Coordinator**
- **Two (2) Landlord Partnership Program Staff Members:** these staff will support the UAC in developing and operationalizing the day-to-day logistics of the LPP.
- **One (1) Landlord Incentives Manager**
- **Two (2) Small Landlord Incentives Program Staff Members:** these staff will support the LIM in developing and operationalizing the day-to-day logistics of the small landlords incentives program.
- **One (1) Move In Coordinator.**

Pay and benefits details can be found in Appendix B's budget shell.

Appendix D: One Page Version

A condensed, one-page version of this proposal can be found at

 House Every Unhoused Person - 1 pager .

References

1. There are many studies examining the efficacy of Housing First across different dimensions, a vast majority of which show a significant effect of Housing First approaches on being cost-effective and having a wide variety of other benefits. Two studies that review the literature are <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4679127/> and <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4679128/>, the former of which finds that "People receiving HF achieved superior housing outcomes and showed more rapid improvements in community functioning

and quality of life than those receiving treatment as usual” and the latter that “While our review casts doubt on whether HF programs can be expected to pay for themselves, the certainty of significant cost offsets, combined with their benefits for participants, means that they represent a more efficient allocation of resources than traditional services.”

2. The Cambridge emergency housing voucher (EHV) program page mentions a simple screening process for receiving a voucher, without completing a full CCAN assessment. As of October this has been rolled out for those fleeing domestic violence, homeless families with children, and households at risk of homelessness: <https://www.cambridgecoc.org/ehv>

3. Waivers to HUD program requirements granted during the COVID pandemic. A waiver for “Source Documentation for Income Determinations” requirement is listed on page 18. This gives the participating jurisdiction authority to document an applicant’s income after they have moved in, within 90 days, instead of requiring it prior to them moving in:

https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/Flexibilities_Waivers_Guidance_for_CARE_Act_CPD_Funds_062320.pdf.

4. An article exemplifying the unique difficulties of providing documentation for unhoused individuals is <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2017/05/15/without-id-homeless-trapped-in-vicious-cycle>.

5. A paper discussing the “No Wrong Door” approach in which citizens should be able to work with their preferred individuals and agencies within government when receiving a service.

<https://papers.governing.com/No-Wrong-Door-A-Holistic-Approach-to-Human-Services-73108.html>

6. Homeless households currently need to opt-in to receiving a screening for the EHV program, when talking to shelter staff, according to section 3.a.ii) on <https://www.cambridgecoc.org/ehv>. We suggest instead making the default screening people in instead.

7. A paper by the Child Poverty Action Group highlighting the potentially complex and intrusive nature of means testing programs.

<https://cpag.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/policypost/The%20problem%20with%20means-testing%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

8. Past implementation experience has shown that this sort of repair reserve fund has rarely been used, but is rather simply a form of risk aversion that further incentivizes landlords to participate in the program.

9. See the incentives for Los Angeles’s Homeless Incentives Program, <https://www.hacla.org/hip>

10. Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program (LEAP) page on the San Diego Housing Commission’s website. As mentioned on the page, this program has provided housing to 3,832 people and engaged over 1,300 landlords.

<https://www.sdhc.org/doing-business-with-us/landlords/landlord-engagement-and-assistance-program-leap/>

11. Most prominently, Houston’s Community COVID Housing Program has served over 6,000 community members experiencing homelessness over the last two years through a variety of interventions, some analogous to those proposed here. More details can be found at <https://www.homelesshouston.org/cchp>.

12. We define social housing as housing that is decommodified and permanently affordable at <30% of a household’s income, empowers its residents, and treats housing as a public good, not a speculative commodity

13. In line with medium-term strategies to create public housing, POR 2021 #280 which was presented at the Cambridge city council meeting on December 20, 2021 reads “That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate City departments to ensure multifamily properties on the market are reviewed as quickly as possible as potential affordable housing acquisitions.” This is on page 7 of the agenda from that meeting: <https://cambridgema.igmp.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=3558&Inline=True>

14. As part of Los Angeles’ Housing Incentives Program (HIP) unhoused individuals are provided with utility assistance and furniture essentials: <http://home.hacla.org/HIPincentives>

15. A Home Essentials for Newly Housed Residents was approved as a participatory budget item in 2021. These kits include linens, towels, pots, and cleaning supplies, among others. This item, linked below, is only budgeted at \$60,000. This is a good start and can be expanded to provide unhoused individuals with comprehensive services they need when moving in. <https://pb.cambridgema.gov/pb4kits>

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Angela Chan O'Donnell, Philanthropy Manager
AngelaChanODonnell@justastart.org
(617) 356-1594

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Just A Start requests funding to build an Economic Mobility Hub at the intersection of Rindge Avenue and Alewife Brook Parkway (located within close proximity to the Alewife MBTA Station). Just A Start will consolidate and house all of our programs and operations under one roof, including career training for youths and adults, financial opportunity, 24 affordable apartments, housing resources, and four universal child care classrooms. The 70,000 square foot, \$36 million mixed-use project will include a state-of-the-art bioscience lab and IT lab. The new additions will allow us to double the number of students we train for life sciences and IT careers while enhancing our curriculum to seamlessly integrate lab work. Additionally, we will be building a cutting-edge Construction Training Center to train youth in the increasingly high-demand industry.

By providing a continuum of services in one central location, Just A Start’s Economic Mobility Hub will address the negative community impacts from the pandemic by serving as a bridge to economic opportunity for residents who have lacked those opportunities.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The proposed initiative will address the harms resulting from COVID-19 by increasing our capacity to work towards our three organization-wide goals: accessing stable housing, building pathways to economic opportunity, and promoting equity through policy advocacy and community engagement. All our programming and services are guided and inspired by these goals.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. Since our founding in 1968, Just A Start has been serving historically underserved gi

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The proposed initiative will serve disproportionately impacted communities, including ones that house our target population of low-income residents, whose economic impact from the public health emergency include high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunities, and housing insecurity.

The ramifications of the pandemic on the low-income communities we serve will persist. The pandemic has not only brought to light the systemic injustices that have long existed in housing,

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. We have existing performance metrics for all our current programs, and we will develop performance metrics that will reflect our increased capacity to meet our programmatic goals. Examples include:

Workforce Development

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

Just A Start respectfully requests \$500,000

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.



Everyone deserves affordable nutritious food

City of Cambridge/Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding Community

[Project Idea Submittal Form](#)

Submitted by Daily Table on March 30, 2022

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Michael Malmberg, Chief Operating Officer

mmalmberg@dailytable.org

917-325-5473

May the City contact you for more information? Yes

Project Idea Description (250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

With record unemployment, lost wages, high inflation, and many having little-to-no savings to protect them from the economic impact of COVID-19, food insecurity has doubled in Massachusetts in the past year and significantly impacted Cambridge residents served by Daily Table, a nonprofit community grocery store. Daily Table is committed to increasing access to fresh, healthy food and fighting the real face of hunger -- the lack of affordable nutrition for the food insecure.

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding will help Daily Table in Central Square serve Cambridge residents who are unable to afford a balanced and nutritious diet because of low incomes and rising prices. Our primary customers are the working poor and those living in

low-income households within a one- to three-mile radius of Daily Table. Philanthropic funding is critical so that we can continue to provide healthy, nutritious food at affordable prices and offer programs and services that help increase equity and contribute to the vitality and economy in the City of Cambridge, and will: subsidize our operating costs enabling us to offer prices that are 25% to 35% less than other grocers; support our online grocery ordering and free delivery service within two miles of the store; support our partnerships with mission-aligned, Cambridge-based organizations to distribute shopping vouchers, groceries and meals to those facing financial concerns; and help underwrite the operation of our store and commissary kitchen, which makes healthy, prepared meals that meet strict nutritional guidelines for low sodium and sugar established by a world-class team of Boston Med-Ed dietitians.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for? The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress. Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Daily Table in Central Square addresses the immediate need for affordable, nutritious food, a complex issue exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through our unique model, we remove economic barriers that hinder residents from choosing a healthy diet. We offer a wide range of fresh produce and grocery staples at prices that are 25% to 35% less than for-profit grocers and our large commissary kitchen makes healthy, culturally-relevant, and delicious prepared meals, which are priced lower than fast food alternatives and are all 100% SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) eligible.

There are no other organizations exactly like Daily Table. In Central Square, there are plenty of fast food restaurants and convenience stores offering highly-processed, unhealthy calories. For profit grocery store chains are not easily accessible and expensive. Although vital, food banks

and charitable food pantries focused on hunger relief do not solve the basic problem that food is expensive. In addition, no food bank can provide enough food to meet a family's needs and often what is distributed is not healthy.

Daily Table procures fresh excess food from growers and suppliers to offer fresh and healthy produce, grocery staples, and prepared meals that meet strict nutritional guidelines for low sodium and sugar. In 2021, our Central Square store at 684 Massachusetts Avenue had over 68,000 transactions and served more than 200 customers per day.

We partner with dozens of mission-aligned nonprofits (e.g. Food For Free, Margaret Fuller House, Cambridge Community Center) providing vouchers and gift cards to give to their clients so they have the opportunity to experience our store and see how much further their food dollars can go toward purchasing delicious, nutritious food. Daily Table offers another critical tool in the fight against hunger and nutrition insecurity, providing a shopping experience that engender dignity and one more route to access healthy foods.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

America's food system is a paradox. We have hunger alongside sky-high rates of obesity and diet-related illnesses, often in the same places. Healthy foods, especially fruits and vegetables, are economically out of reach for a lot of families. It's not just a shortage of calories, it's a shortage of affordable nutrients.

Daily Table is open to everyone, but primarily serves the working poor and those facing significant economic challenges. We know from surveys and community demographics that we are providing underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected groups in the surrounding community. Seventy percent of our customers live within three miles of our stores. A fall 2021 customer survey revealed that almost 60% of our customers earn less than \$50,000/annually. SNAP enrollment rates in communities we serve range 20-30% (Central Square average 20%). Our SNAP redemptions continue to rise; they have increased 90% compared to 2019. This rate does not include those who choose not to enroll or do not qualify for SNAP though they are close to eligibility. Many residents also face accessibility challenges, including seniors, homebound individuals and those who rely on public transportation. Our online ordering and free delivery within two miles of our stores and convenient locations are critical to making it affordable for individuals and families to eat healthier where they live.

In addition, we hire from local communities; 80% of our team lives in the communities we serve; providing living wages and retail training and keeping local dollars in local communities.

With stores in Dorchester (opened 2016), Roxbury (opened 2018) and Cambridge (opened January 2021), we have a six-year track record of enthusiastic customer and community response to the strong value we provide. As these quotes from customers demonstrate, many rely on Daily Table to provide high quality, delicious food at affordable prices.

“I am on an extremely tight budget and Daily Table offers good healthy food at affordable prices. Even with SNAP, I have to carefully manage my resources.

“The staff is always pleasant and helpful. Daily Table is a real community asset.”

“You can afford to feed your family healthy, fresh fruits and vegetables, because their prices are affordable for any budget!”

“Most important to me and my family is that Daily Table is in the neighborhood. Thank you Daily Table for giving my family a chance to live a healthier lifestyle.”

“What a great store and concept! I just discovered the Central Square store. It’s like the answer to: ‘I wish somebody would...’ and you did!”

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Daily Table in Central Square, Cambridge provides residents, who have been disproportionately impacted with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, housing insecurity, and/or the pandemic, with an affordable, convenient option for purchasing healthy groceries and nutritious prepared meals.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted the communities we serve. Unemployment has skyrocketed. The pandemic called on us to strategically respond to very different circumstances and unforeseen needs not anticipated. Yet despite these challenges, Daily Table adapted and has been able to truly deliver its mission and successfully advance our program goals. To respond to these circumstances and serve Daily Table customers, we will continue to:

- Provide a free online ordering and delivery service to shoppers living within two miles of our stores. This service gives residents an affordable, neighborhood option (not just Amazon and Walmart), employing local residents and helping keep dollars in communities. Online shopping provides access to varied foods, increases convenience, and supports peace of mind by eliminating grocery trips. Importantly, it provides a path for the most vulnerable and minimizes barriers to nutritious food and reduces hunger, worries, and health-related issues for those who need our food the most -- those concerned about potential Covid exposure and those with health and mobility challenges.
- Offer SNAP Online, which launched in January 2022, further increasing service to the most vulnerable. In FY21, we expect to serve 4,000 customers online; we expect this amount will continue to grow in FY22. With the addition of SNAP Online, we expect 1,200-1,500 additional customers, reaching 5,500-6,000 online customers in FY22.
- Continue to participate in the Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB) program, which provides a 50% discount on fresh produce to customers paying with EBT. This program has been phenomenally successful to date and makes fresh produce affordable to those that need it most. A Tufts University study showed that DUFB increased participants' consumption of fruits and vegetables by 27%.
- Provide Daily Table gift cards to those facing food insecurity, putting purchasing power in their hands, supporting dignity, reducing stigma, and helping them feed their families on their terms. In FY21, Daily Table provided more than \$330,000 in gift cards and vouchers to hundreds of community organizations, distributing groceries and meals to more than 30,000 residents facing financial concerns.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

We constantly monitor how our retail store model is advancing our mission and creating a sustainable business model that delivers value for our prime customers, low-income residents, and is helping them achieve success. We measure success through: tracking store operations (transaction counts and sizes; SNAP purchases; etc.); evaluating product purchasing data; measuring savings achieved by our customers; and reviewing qualitative data. Qualitative data is collected from community stakeholders, customers, and staff through surveys, interviews, and online feedback. We currently have two customer surveys underway: one targeting residents living within two miles of stores and another focused on our SNAP users and learning more of their use of Double Up Food Bucks. We also regularly communicate with our community

stakeholders, seeking their feedback and engagement to help us strengthen and increase connections with our prime customers and partner with us to promote healthy purchasing incentive programs. We track our pricing against for profit markets, and consistently keep our prices 25-35% lower than our for-profit competitors.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$500,000

6. Recent Press

2/8/22 Supermarket News

Nonprofit grocer Daily Table teamed up with nonprofit About Fresh to promote the nutritional and wellness benefits of fresh fruit and vegetables.

Click [here](#) for article and link to video.



ISSUES & TRENDS

NGA teams with grocers in 'food as medicine' video projects

Daily Table, Stop & Shop highlight 'produce prescriptions' for food insecure consumers

A Daily Table customer shops fresh fruit after receiving a produce prescription through the USDA's Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP).

2/9/22 Boston Globe

Boston expands online ordering for federal food aid program

City of Boston partners with Daily Table to offer free delivery on online orders paid for through SNAP benefits.

Click [here](#) for article.



10/25/21 Boston Globe

A prescription for... food. Debit card program enables doctors to help patients buy healthy groceries.

Click [here](#) for article.



3/2/21 Boston Globe

The pandemic revealed our food system is broken. We can fix it.

More than a quarter of families with children are food insecure, in part because our supply chains are too consolidated. There are better models, including some right here.

Click [here](#) for article.



3/2/18 Boston Globe

Can this Boston grocery store change the way we eat?

Click [here](#) for article.



City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Mark T. McGovern, MSW
Director, Cambridge/Somerville Health Care for the Homeless
mmcGovern@challiance.org
office: 617-806-8781
cell: 978-302-6216

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Given the success of the City funded Street Medicine Project, which provides funding for a Physician to work up to 12 hours/week with the Baycove First Step Outreach Team, I am interested in new funding to expand this project.

We would like to extend hours of direct care MD services and add a community health worker to existing team. The role of the MD on the van has been demonstrated the ability to bring acute health care services to people living on the street. This MD is also providing care in our shelter-based clinic at the CASPAR/Baycove shelter at 240 Albany St, one afternoon/week and works on inpatient units at The Cambridge Hospital. The ability to see patients in these 3 settings has helped to provide an increased continuity of care as well as nurture relationship building with these traditionally hard to engage people. So, we would like to enhance this model by adding MD time on the outreach van and add clinical sessions in our shelter-based clinics in order to see these same patients in a clinical setting. I would like be able to hire an additional MD for this so that we could build a team.

We propose to add an MD to do 2 Street Outreach Sessions/Week and 2 Sessions/week in shelter-based clinics for a total of 16 hours/week.

We are also proposing to add a Community Health Worker to the team in order to provide critical support to the MDs in order to assist with coordination of care, transportation to clinic sites, assist with access to health insurance, provide for medication pick up and delivery when needed and work the clinic sessions with the Street MDs to provide the familiarity of connection when these patients present in the shelter-based clinic. The Community Health Worker would be a FT 40 hour/week position.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

With COVID 19 came the need to provide physical distancing in the shelters. This caused the decrease in emergency shelter beds. The City of Cambridge provided an additional shelter, now at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital to provide more beds but the City has still seen a net loss of beds. Additionally, the upcoming closure of seasonal shelter beds will move more people living outdoors.

The health care systems emergency response to the Covid 19 pandemic has led to people

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. Health Care for the Homeless has long worked to bring health care services to this r

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Adding the Community Health Worker to the Street Medicine Team will provide referrals and access to resources for benefits to help address the economic impacts suffered by people living outdoors; including helping to provide C-Can Housing assessments, applications for EAED-C, SSI and MassHealth.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

All patients seen by our team would have documentation in their medical records. This will allow us to track number of patients seen, number of visits both outside and in clinics. We will also be able to track number referrals made to mainstream services. This is of course in addition to our own tracking of Clinical Outcomes.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$220,000

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Sharon Zimmerman
Executive Director
Cambridge Camping Association
99 Bishop Allen Drive
978-944-2876

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

This project idea is generalizable to all direct care serving nonprofits who are struggling to pay increasing wages and keep staff and youth healthy. However this project idea is focused on the specific needs of Cambridge Camping since it is such an urgent need as our seasonal staff hiring is happening right now for April vacation camp, the summer and into the fall for weekend camp. For Cambridge Camping, funds would be used for reimbursement for sick days for seasonal part-time or full-time front-line staff working directly with youth. As per the CDC guidelines, if someone tests positive they are to stay home for 5 days. There is a disproportionate impact on those who with lower incomes and who are BIPOC which for Cambridge Camping is the case for 80% of our seasonal staff working summer, school vacations and weekends. We want our staff to feel able to stay home if they have symptoms or test positive for Covid without fear of lost wages, which many of our staff use to help support their families. Nonprofits don't usually budget for paid time off for seasonal part time staff and those are the people who need the money the most, come to work sick and spread illness. Many nonprofits who run summer, school vacation and weekend programming have to get substitutes to fill in when staff are sick, then having to pay double. As wages increase due to the economic impacts of Covid, this financial burden is unmanageable, especially as we are hiring more staff than in typical years to help meet increased camper mental health needs. Our camp staff and their communities have been disproportionately impacted by loss of income and illness throughout the pandemic, and these funds would allow us to support their essential work supporting vulnerable youth. We are also requesting funding for home Covid tests for youth and staff to help prevent transmission.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Funds to pay sick time and for substitute counselors would keep sick staff home, allowing them to recover and prevent transmission without increasing their economic burden, and meet camper needs, at a time when many of our seasonal staff and camper families have already been deeply and disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Providing home COVID tests for youth and staff take the burden of preventative care costs off of them and prevent COVID spread at camp.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Most of the staff this would impact are from the same communities served by the agencies:

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Disproportionally impacted communities are the very people who this reimbursement would help the most. In the case of Cambridge Camping, 80% of our summer camp staff come from the under-resourced communities we serve and sick day pay will allow them to help their families financially, stay home and not spread their illness, and leave funds in the budget of our agency for other needs like increasing costs for programming, rent, etc. due to inflation, so we can best meet the needs of under-resourced families. Covid tests are an urgent need for this same population to keep campers and staff as healthy as possible.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

We could measure the frequency of Covid cases within our programs.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

For Cambridge Camping Association, 5% of our seasonal salary line item would help us cover sick time for staff and pay substitutes as well as cover the costs of at home Covid tests, which would be \$15,000 for one year.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

John Lindamood, Director of Resident Services
Cambridge Housing Authority
jlindamood@cambridge-housing.org
(617) 520-6266

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Work Force Youth Program (TWF) has been serving youth and families since 1984. The goal of TWF is to disrupt the cycle of poverty by helping youth attain post-secondary credentials that position them for sustained economic mobility and the creation of generational wealth. TWF serves about 360 youth annually from the 6th grade through completion of their post-secondary degrees. Our sites operate at CHA's three largest family developments, CRLS, and the CSUS. Sites are staffed by a full-time Teacher-Counselor, a part-time Learning Center Coordinator and are supported by a full-time Director, Alumni Coach, and Career Development Specialist. Our success is measured by tracking multiple outcomes. Key metrics include annual matriculation into 2- or 4-year colleges (90% and above) and college graduation rates within 6-years of leaving high school (nearly 80%). The program's comprehensive approach and meaningful engagement with families produce outcomes that are well above the national averages for low-income youth. However, the pandemic has created significant challenges for our participants and their families. Many of our students, families, and seniors are struggling with trauma and need greater supports. Loss of income, food insecurity, and prolonged illness due to COVID, social isolation, and learning loss and atrophied social-emotional development during remote learning have severely impacted many of our residents. To meet these needs, we are seeking funding to support a three-pronged approach over three years. Funding would assist us in securing a second Alumni Coach, provide sequential training to staff on trauma informed practices, and support the expansion of a unique intergenerational pilot. Responsible for a caseload of well over 100 students, our Alumni Coach worked to meet the needs of our alumni as they struggled with isolation, remote learning, and persistence in college. The addition of a second Coach creates more manageable caseloads and enhances support services for each graduate. Additionally, targeted training in trauma informed practices will bolster our ability to support both current participants and alumni as they contend with post-pandemic challenges. Finally, to address the social isolation at many of our elderly developments, we are proposing the expansion of our Intergenerational Basic Computer Literacy and Cyber-Security pilot, an eight week program built on Tech Goes Home modules taught by two TWF high school seniors.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Low-income communities have been the hardest hit by the pandemic. Many of our residents feel isolated as they contend with compounded issues related to trauma and loss. We want to address these issues by providing staff with substantive training on how to manage behaviors due to prolonged experience of trauma, increasing coaching supports to program alumni, and engaging our elderly residents to enhance their use of the internet to stay connected with family and friends.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, the initiative will serve Cambridge Housing Residents.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The components of this proposal will serve disproportionately impacted Cambridge residents: 87% of CHA residents live at 30% AMI or below. Our proposal will provide much needed post-secondary supports to first-generation Work Force graduates to help them stay on track to secure their first major asset in a timely manner with reduced debt loads. Increased trauma informed practices will enhance staff delivery of critical support services to current program participants. Both of these initiatives will bolster the long-term educational and employment success of our youth by increasing their opportunities to increase lifetime wages and build wealth.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics will include college matriculation, retention and persistence rates, as well as four, five and six-year graduation rates. Metrics for Trauma Informed Practices will be documentation of reduced behavior disruptions in class and at school as tracked through academic and social-emotional indicators. Metrics for the Computer Literacy program will include total number of seniors served and follow-up client satisfaction and overall program success surveys.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

We are asking for three years of funding totaling \$742,700 to defray costs for the outlined components: \$291,450 to support a second Alumni Coach for the Work Force Post-Secondary Success Initiative; \$251,250 to support 25% of our five Teacher-Counselors' salary over three years to learn and implement extensive Trauma Informed Practices into our five-year curriculum and case management protocols; \$150,000 to run six 8-week Intergenerational Computer Literacy cohorts at two additional CHA Elderly Developments; and \$50,000 toward ongoing consultation and staff training in Trauma Informed Practices.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

John Lindamood, Director of Resident Services
Cambridge Housing Authority
jlindamood@cambridge-housing.org
(617) 520-6266

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

In April of 2021, the CHA's Resident Services department incorporated a team of eight Service Coordinators and a Director into the agency to provide comprehensive aging-in-place supports to residents of our elderly/disabled developments. All members of the team are credentialed Social Workers and/or Clinicians who have extensive experience working with under-resourced clients in a variety of social service settings. Growing concerns over the health and welfare of our senior residents during the pandemic served as the primary impetus to take this important step. Social isolation and reduced services contributed to an alarming increase in various mental health issues. Over the past year, the individual and concerted efforts of the Service Coordinator staff were instrumental in diminishing the impact of the pandemic on CHA elderly and disabled populations. The proposed project seeks funding to support a small portion of the Service Coordinators' and their Director's salaries over the next three years (25% annually), as well as a small amount to conduct training enhancements, in the form of Certificate programs in Gerontology and/or Aging-In-Place Case Management Services. As we navigate the aftermath of the pandemic, ongoing city support for the critical services this team provides to our most vulnerable residents is imperative, as is increased training opportunities to position them to provide the best possible services to the thousands of residents who make CHA's elderly developments their home.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Low-income elderly and disabled residents comprise nearly 60% of the CHA's clientele. The effects of prolonged social isolation and reduced services contributed to a host of associative mental health issues that were particularly pronounced among our seniors during the pandemic. The proposed initiative seeks to ameliorate these trends by supporting the essential work and training of our Service Coordinators in CHA elderly/disabled developments over the next several years.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Nearly 90% of the CHA's clientele live at 30% of the Area Median Income or below, and re

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Few of the city's residents bore the brunt of the pandemic more than our under-resourced elderly community. Many of this population experience a host of mental health, degenerative diseases, and other physical disabilities under "normal" circumstances; the prolonged duration of the pandemic and resulting trauma created a "perfect storm" -- a true public health emergency -- among the most vulnerable of this population, exacerbating many of the problems with which they contend.

¹ "Disproportionally impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The department has developed a case management outcome tracker that is currently used by the Service Coordinator team. With the advent of training in the proposed areas, our plan is to incorporate additional metrics and measures that will document the site-based performance of our team. We thoroughly expect to see improved outcomes regarding the overall health and welfare of our senior residents with addition of these trainings and certificate completions.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

The CHA's Resident Services Department is requesting a total of \$520,000 to cover the above costs: \$402,000 will support 25% of the salaries of eight Service Coordinators over three consecutive years; \$68,000 will cover 25% of the Director of Service Coordinators salary over the same three-year period; and \$50,000 is being requested to cover Gerontology and/or Case Management Certificate training programs (\$40,000) and a series of workshops on Team Building and Effective Communication Skills delivered by a local consultant (\$10,000).

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Darrin Korte, Cambridge Community Center (CCC)
darrink@cambridgecc.org
Cell: 413-329-0680

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Cambridge Community Center (CCC) aims to increase access to mental/behavioral health services and treatment for youth and families enrolled in our programs who are experiencing mental/behavioral health challenges by providing community-based therapeutic services. We hope to utilize the currently unoccupied space located at 205 Western Avenue to provide:

1. Support for Youth: Youth with high-level mental/behavioral health needs will be identified by our Social Worker to receive additional support and/or treatment. These services will take place at 205 Western Avenue during regular program hours. Therefore, services will be provided in a setting that's familiar to the child at a time and location that's convenient for their caregivers.
2. Support for Families: Our Social Worker will work with caregivers to co-create plans to best support youth in their home environments, building on the positive impact of services provided during program hours. Additionally, caregivers who require additional support and/or treatment themselves will be able to receive those services at 205 Western Avenue while their children are being cared for in our program.

Mental/behavioral health issues among Cambridge Public School students have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic according to data reported in the 2021 Cambridge Youth Health Survey. In 2021, 35% of high school students and 27% of middle school students reported feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks or more that they stopped doing usual activities. This compares to 26% of high school students in 2018 and 24% of middle school students in 2019.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

CCC has been working to better address the mental/behavioral health challenges that our community faces since 2016. This ongoing challenge has been greatly exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrated both anecdotally through our own observations and through published reports that have confirmed this troubling trend both locally and nationally. The proposed initiative confronts and addresses common barriers for communities of color in accessing mental/behavioral health services to increase overall rates of treatment.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The formatting of this box wouldn't work on my computer. Please see attached PDF.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

At its core this initiative is designed specifically to serve communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Mental/behavioral health challenges at the individual level also present significant barriers to maintaining consistent employment and achieving financial security. Our outreach strategies and service delivery model has been designed with the goal of providing these services for low-income communities of color who, for the most part, have been disproportionately impacted by the public health emergency.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

We are utilizing the PEAR Institute's Holistic Student Assessment to monitor the ongoing social-emotional well-being of the youth we serve. We will use the Community Attitudes toward the Mentally Ill scale to assess attitudes and public stigma towards people with mental distress in the community. Stigma is a major barrier to accessing mental/behavioral health services in Black communities. Finally, we will utilize the CSQ-8 to measure overall client satisfaction.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

Our current understanding is that the vacant space at 205 Western Avenue may need extensive renovations in order to be compliant for our use. Therefore, part of this request would be whatever amount is needed to get the building up to code and ready for us to occupy it. We would not want to speculate on what that amount may be. In addition, we would like to request funds to launch and operate the program in the amount of \$250,000/year through 2026.

Request: \$1,000,000 (\$250,000 for four years) plus the cost to renovate 205 Western Avenue.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Since 1929, CCC has provided adaptive programs and services designed to meet the needs of the most under-resourced and under-represented youth, families, and seniors living in Cambridge. The proposed initiative aligns with the work that we have done in our community for over 90 years. The most pressing needs that we are currently seeing among the Cambridge residents that we serve stem from untreated mental/behavioral health risks caused in large part by the generational stresses of institutional inequity and race-based discrimination. These needs have demonstrably increased as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: "Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea".

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Sasha Purpura
781.888.3636
sasha@foodforfree.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Food For Free's Weekend Eats Program (formerly Cambridge weekend backpack program) has shifted to what we call "Carrot Cards" which are debit cards similar to those used in Cambridge's UBI pilot. We have received overwhelming feedback from families that they prefer these to food as it allows them to get culturally appropriate foods. As a side note, we see in the data that a number of families use these cards at their local ethnic bodegas. We plan to move away from food entirely and go with the Carrot Card.

Due to the drastic increase in food insecurity, our program grew from about 900 kids across Cambridge and Somerville to over 2000. We also now distribute an additional 6 million pounds of food across Eastern MA. We need to ensure we have funding to keep up this work, as we don't see a decline in demand anytime soon.

Cambridge historically funds \$75k of Weekend Eat. An additional \$100k was approved through ARPA. I'm asking for an additional \$200k in ARPA (for a total of \$300k ARPA) to cover the entire cost of the cards. Food For Free would find other funding for the staffing/management/execution of the program. We are asking the same of Somerville for their students.

Our budget went from \$1.4m pre-pandemic to over \$4m. We now distribute around 8 million pounds versus 2m in 2019. We need our cities and state and others in the community to help share the burden of this new crisis in hunger so that we can keep up with the demand.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Food insecurity increased massively in Massachusetts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and although there was a brief recovery period, the rate of food insecurity remains about 30% higher than it was pre-pandemic. Recent census surveys show that one in 10 households is considered food insecure, with food insecurity among households with children rising. According to Project Bread, in December of 2021 approximately 21.4% of households with children were facing food insecurity.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes - hunger disproportionately affects historically underserved and marginalized commur

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Same as above. We're reaching children facing food insecurity which has disproportionately impacted certain communities.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.



**Rescuing
Leftover
Cuisine**

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
cambridge, ma

solutions at work
Working Together to End Homelessness

Louis A. De Pasquale

City Manager
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

April 7, 2022

Manager DePasquale:

We are part of the unhoused advocacy group (UAG), a coalition of organizations that work directly with unhoused folks in Cambridge. We are directly accountable to the priorities set forth by people who are living on the street and in shelters. On June 30th, 2021 we submitted a detailed proposal requesting American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to help initiate services and benefits, as well as continue assistance to community members who are unhoused and surviving poverty. We have since reached out on November 16, 2021 and we are once again reaching out. We want to address and highlight the overlaps between the recently released Ad-Hoc Homelessness Report's recommendations and the requests for funds by the UAG in our letters from 2021.

We agree with the Ad-Hoc Homelessness Report's assertion that homelessness is a life and death crisis. Cambridge can act quickly on the recommendations put forth by the Report by investing in the UAG's requests - and investing in housing and healthcare, which are evidence-based solutions to homelessness and substance use.

We want to elevate our proposal because we believe that the overlap between the Report's recommendations and the UAG's requests reveal a consensus among people who are unhoused, service-providers, consultants, and city employees. The consensus is that Cambridge needs to invest in housing and healthcare that meets people's needs and we implore you to include our requests in the City's ARPA funding priorities.

First, we want to thank the city for allocating ARPA funds to hire housing navigators. We recognize that this also fulfills Recommendation 2.3 to “increase the number of housing navigators.” We believe this will positively impact the unhoused community.

However, Cambridge needs to invest in more affordable housing units in order for the housing navigators to be the most effective. Recommendation 3.7 echoes this call - “to significantly increase the number of permanent supportive housing units.”

The UAG has a solution. Using ARPA funds, we want to create 35 additional low-threshold housing subsidies with 4 staff members for two years. During that time, we want the city to identify a sustained funding source to maintain these subsidies through a City Rent Subsidy Program. Our proposal lays out a pathway to ensure that these units are available to the community, and sustained beyond the initial funding.

We support the city’s proposal to expand the units at 116 Norfolk St and provide residents with apartments that better meet their needs. The process to access these units, as well as the policies and the support, should be as low-threshold as possible and supportive of people who have had contact with the criminal legal system and people who use drugs.

We want to reduce the barriers for people who use drugs and/or have mental health concerns to access culturally competent and low- barrier healthcare. The Report reveals similar goals under recommendations 1.5 and 2.7 “to increase access to mental health/substance use services” and “to increase street outreach coverage”, respectively. We believe that this can be accomplished through our request to establish an integrated low-threshold outreach program similar to that of Boston’s Carezone van.

Adding to our original requests, we also want to emphasize the importance of a 24 hour drop-in space that is low-threshold and not run by the police or the business improvement district. This space should also be a meaningful place for people to spend time and access resources and support - beyond bathrooms and showers, storage for belongings, and phone charging stations, although these elements are certainly important.

When we describe a low-threshold option, we mean much more than accommodating couples and people with pets as defined in the report, although certainly people should be able to access housing with their partners or whoever they feel safe with, and with animals. We are also describing an environment that does not rely on transactionary relationships or punishment or surveillance, and where personal information is not collected. The police and policing entities (like private security or business improvement districts) are not present. There are no sobriety requirements and people can be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. A low-threshold space, as part of both housing and healthcare, actively works to minimize barriers to access, understands relationship building as key to the health and safety of everyone, and provides a wide range of offerings that can be tailored to people’s unique and self-identified needs.

We want to elevate the priorities - an investment in housing and healthcare - that have been brought forth by people living on the street and in shelter - and actualize the recommendations that affirm these priorities.

The Unhoused Advocacy Group

Jim Stewart, First Church Shelter

Cassie Hurd and Rachel Bolton, Material Aid and Advocacy Program

Stephanie Haynes, Cambridge Women's Center

Cameron Van Fossen, Y2Y Network

Dana Siles, Rescuing Leftover Cuisine

Robin Lutjohann, Faith Lutheran Church & Faith Kitchen

Alice Kidder, Solutions at Work

Summer Shelter Directors, Harvard Square Homeless Shelter

Cassandra Ling, YWCA Cambridge

Rev. Kate Layzer, Friday Cafe

Cassidy Ockene, Fenway Health

Cc: Ellen Semenoff

Assist. City Manager

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Green Cambridge
99 Bishop Allen Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139

steven@greencambridge.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Little Pond Trail in the Alewife Reservation is the longest woodland trail in the city, and one of the few natural areas accessible by public transportation. Though part of the Alewife Master Plan, it has never been fully developed into an accessible trail that would provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to access a kind of nature rare in Cambridge. Working with DCR, Green Cambridge, which runs the Friends of Alewife program, would manage and coordinate a feasibility study for the trail, including being able to assess environmental, habitat, justice, wetland, and accessibility impacts. In addition, the study would look at inclusive signage and wayfinding to have the space be educational for a variety of ages and language speakers. The Alewife Reservation is 130 acres of green and open space, nearly as large as Fresh Pond Reservation, both part of the historic Great Swamp. The Alewife has a direct connection through Jerry's Pond to the Ridge Ave neighborhood, providing access to nature that is rare in the city. Access to nature is a key component of good mental health, and through the pandemic we have seen dramatic increased use of the Alewife Reservation.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Multiple studies show access to nature is a key component to community and individual mental health. Through the pandemic we have seen a dramatic increased need for a robust, accessible, and inclusive public realm.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The Alewife Reservation is in one of the city's environmental justice neighborhoods, and ir

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Better access to the Alewife Reservation is a component of improving quality of life .

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, we can measure trail use before and after improvements. In addition, we are working currently with the National Park Service to better understand how adjacent residents and Reservation users view and use the area..

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$120,000

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter: Duane de Four, Executive Director
Boston Area Rape Crissis Center 99 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139
ddefour@barcc.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes

Project Idea Description (250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic)

BARCC is the second oldest rape crisis center in the nation and is headquartered in Cambridge since its founding in 1973. BARCC provides 100% of Cambridge residents with free services, regardless of gender, race, income, ethnicity, class, age, religion, physical/developmental disabilities, and sexual orientation.

On behalf sexual violence survivor community we serve in Cambridge, we request funding to serve Cambridge's most at risk residents who have suffered the disproportionate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We request that an investment of \$1,000,000 be allocated to support services for survivors, prevention programming for schools in Cambridge and our work with Cambridge city agencies. These funds will be used to mitigate the declining federal funding for BARCC's services, estimated to be between 18%-35% over the next 3 years. BARCC has a long-term partnership working with the City of Cambridge to mitigate the impact of sexual violence and to prevent sexual violence. Our work with Cambridge residents and the city of Cambridge is vitally important and at risk. Allocating funding to BARCC from State and Local ARPA funds will ensure our work together will continue and not be impacted.

We serve all Cambridge residents and collaborate with the City of Cambridge through numerous inter-agency task forces and working groups; impacting thousands annually. We work with and respond to Cambridge Public Schools. BARCC direct services, clinical, Legal and Immigration Advocacy, Case Management, Medical Advocacy, and Hotline all serve Cambridge residents free of charge.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

BARCC suffered a reduction in-person event fundraising revenue over the last 18 months of over \$600,000. These funds are unrestricted use and support all survivor services at BARCC and community outreach and prevention programming. The uncertainty of returning to large scale in person events is an additional burden as well as a loss of supporters for these events.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. Sexual violence is an insidious crime. Although it most often happens away from public view, the ramifications are far-reaching and undoubtedly public. Sexual violence is associated with increased costs in health care, lost wages and work hours in the short-term and reduced lifetime earnings, a marked decrease in the level of education attained, and greater rates of homelessness and food insecurity. At BARCC, we have witnessed this outsized negative impact on Black, Latinx and Asian clients firsthand. Many of our Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) clients are at greater risk for eviction when the moratorium expires. Sexual violence, especially against BIPOC individuals, is not simply a personal trauma; it is an economic one as well.

Last year, for those survivors who provided racial/ethnic demographic data (66% of BARCC clients), 29% were Latinx, 21% multiracial, 15% Black, 4.5% Asian, and 30% white. Nearly 1 in 4 of Case Management clients are

eligible for and participate in sessions regarding SNAP (food stamp) benefits. All of BARCC's programs are free and serve marginalized and adversely affected groups.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Without additional funding, programs serving survivors of sexual violence in Cambridge will face an unprecedented reduction through 2025. This could not happen at a worse time: the intersection of sexual violence, housing insecurity, the pandemic, racial injustice has put survivors of violent crimes in a vulnerable and untenable situation. Increased need, coupled with funding cuts, would mean a ripple effect of significantly longer wait times and reduced capacity for services for survivors of sexual violence in Cambridge. These cuts would come on the backs of some of the most vulnerable members of our community, essentially violating them twice. 17% Hotline, 11% clinical, 63% Legal Advocacy and 123% case management while at the same time seeing a significant reduction in revenue, 30%, from in person fundraising events. Additionally, we know we will receive up to a 34% reduction from government funding as will all sexual and domestic violence agencies in Massachusetts.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Jesse Edsell-Vetter
Homeowner's Rehab Inc
jedsell-vetter@homeownersrehab.org
(617) 868-4858

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Low- and moderate-income residents throughout Cambridge continue to struggle with economic resiliency, accessing benefits, housing stability, education gaps, and food security issues caused by the ongoing COVID pandemic. We ask that the City of Cambridge provide \$250,000 in funding to non-profit housing providers in order to ensure that affordable housing providers can provide critical services such as benefit screening, emergency rental assistance, food security/pantries, and other COVID related services.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted low-income residents and communities of color. A US Health and Human Services report found that poverty increased during the pandemic. Unfortunately, pandemic related aid is ending. According to this report, As recently as March 2021, 22 percent of Black and 20 percent of Hispanic renters could not pay the prior month's rent on time, compared with nine percent of White renters. Resident Service providers are uniquely positioned to screen residents for assistance and develop

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

This proposal would provide individualized pandemic response to low-income households

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Through this funding, low-income residents would receive individual support and access to programs to address education, employment, housing, and food security related concerns that arise in vulnerable communities impacted by COVID 19.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Examples of metrics include the number of evictions prevented, number of residents accessing new employment or job training, number of low-income youth participating in programming to bridge the education gap, and number of households accessing food security programming.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$250,000

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Jennifer Jonassaint
jenniferj@homeownersrehab.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

We will address negative community impacts from the pandemic to ensure low income seniors fix their homes without additional financial distress. A large number of seniors with limited access to affordable housing resources due to safety issues. The proposed project would mitigate senior owners to gain smart ways to make their home comfortable, repair, renovate, safely, and a grant handy man program to help them remain. By 2030, one in five people in the U.S. will be age 65 or over. And it's projected that by 2034, such older adults will outnumber children under 18 for the first time ever. AARP surveys consistently found that older adults want to remain in their current homes and communities for as long as possible. We at Homeownerowners Rehab Inc. Home Improvement Program 47 year program confirms the same. But America's housing stock doesn't fit its rapidly changing and rapidly aging population. We will work in the four core program and an important one that can address the following Health and safety, Code violations Weatherization, Lead/Asbestos removal over \$10k. in addition we hope to implement a new senior Handy Man repair project model

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Low income unbanked, underbank house rich and cash poor seniors who live in unsafe, poorly maintained and distressed homes that contain, unsafe porches, handrails, lead absetos, out of date electrical and plubming systems harm owners, tenants and community at large and in turn is most likely a public health

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

100 percent of historically underserved, marginalized groups will be served in this effort dt

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Housing quality negatively impacts health and poor housing conditions are associated with respiratory infections, asthma, lead poisoning, and injuries especially for seniors and low income families. Disproportionally impacted communities including but not limited to racial and ethnic minorities and individuals with low-incomes are more likely to live in substandard housing is heightened as a result of the recent pandemic who have lost jobs due to economic decline.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

We will use an internal strategy to track our input from intake to project close as we do in larger development and each project will be assigned a case number to effectively monitor each project

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

We are requesting \$200k in grant funds

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Housing Navigator Massachusetts, Inc. www.housingnavigatorma.org
245 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Cambridge
Jennifer Gilbert, Executive Director
jennifergilbert@housingnavigatorma.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Formed in 2019 and based in Cambridge, Housing Navigator Massachusetts Inc. (HNMI) is changing the divide in housing and digital equity. Our housing search tool, live since August, 2021, is innovative, beautiful, and reliable– Zillow, fine-tuned to affordable rental listings. We address a significant pandemic impact: housing insecurity.

With unique access to data via partnership with government and housing owners, we currently show 2300+ properties in 280 municipalities across the state including 100+ in Cambridge. These include the full range of income-restricted options: LIHTC, public housing, inclusionary, etc. We offer free 24/7 access to information. Since launch, 1100+ individuals from Cambridge have searched on the site. In monthly analytics, Cambridge is routinely the third or fourth top location in which our users are located.

Our success indicators include:

- Hosting over 34,000 users within our first six months
- A steadily increasing monthly rate of visitors-11,000 in April
- 10% of users are ages 65+
- 800+ social service providers have attended our online information sessions including Cambridge-based Transition House and CASLS.

We have tremendous traction. We know there is much more to do. In the coming two years and with the requested support, we want to:

- Add to our inventory, including all affordable properties in Cambridge, and increase the visible ADA units
- Maintain our high quality of with regular “check-ins” and maintenance
- Develop additional user-friendly features, based on our users’ feedback
- Pilot a universal pre-application to simplify applying for housing

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 public health emergency significantly exacerbated the already high level of housing instability in our community. While the eviction moratorium delayed some harms, more than ever low-and-moderate income individuals need to find stable, affordable housing more easily. As reported in the Boston Globe, rents in Greater Boston climbed 11% in 2021, and even market-rate supply is extraordinarily limited. Further, in-person application is 1) potentially risky

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, the initiative directly serves groups in all three categories. First, our effort streamlines

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

See answer to #2 above. Affordable housing listed on Housing Navigator serves communities with limited economic opportunity and directly affects housing insecurity. The vast majority of listings are targeted to households earning less than 80% AMI. Many are targeted at those under 50% or 30%. Further, low and moderate-income households with mobile housing vouchers are able to use our search tool. Our search tool lessens the emotional and time burden to find housing options. Finally, as COVID variants and waves unfortunately continue to cause disproportionate health impacts, part of public health response should be decreasing the need to apply for housing in

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, we can track user statistics for use of our search tool overall as well as specific analytics (e.g. types of buildings searched for, some user demographics. We would also track progress toward piloting a streamlined application process. We would want to develop exact performance metrics for software discovery phase, user research, software development and piloting. We would also measure against benchmarks around community benefits.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

We are requesting \$250,000.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Sarah Gyorog, Executive Director
Transition House
sarah@transitionhouse.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

This proposal aims to meet some of the pressing needs for the survivors of domestic violence in the Cambridge community. These key areas are in alignment with the ARPA priorities, and directly related to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic on survivors of domestic violence. We aim to offer household assistance to survivors, increase our housing support, improve our emergency shelter and offer additional pay for essential workers supporting survivors. During the height of the pandemic we witnessed the trend of increased food insecurity, higher utility costs, mobility and child care needs; and over the next few years we anticipate continuing to see these needs increase. ARPA funds will go directly to providing assistance to survivors in all our programs and increasing the amount we are able to provide to families in the emergency shelter. We know that with economic stability, overall health and wellbeing improves. Our emergency shelter has gone through increased wear and tear as families were largely inside for two years. Investment in the maintenance of our shelter over the next three years will keep our emergency shelter operational for many years to come. Since March 2020, Transition House has remained fully operational and despite staff turnover, has expanded services based to meet the increased demand. The pandemic did not change the reality of domestic violence. Rather, people’s access to related supports has become more challenged due to the disruptive impact resulting in increased poverty and curtailed resources. Transition House respectfully requests \$750,000 in ARPA funding.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Families are now staying in our shelter for 1-2 years, longer than intended. One barrier to families moving out of emergency housing is access to affordable permanent housing and the high cost of actually moving. People who come to our emergency shelter are in imminent danger and often have to leave their possessions and livelihoods behind. Our aim is to offer direct cash assistance to some of Cambridge's most vulnerable residents.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The majority of the people we serve have been isolated from family and community support, and have few options for affordable housing, increasing education or employment opportunities. 80% of the people we serve are BIPOC and low income, to very low income. Survivors of domestic violence have historically struggled to receive services, housing and suffer the stigma and judgment from most of the community.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

All the clients living in our Emergency and Transitional housing are homeless and need affordable housing opportunities to be able to obtain stable, permanent, independent housing. The majority of our clients have suffered an increase of loss in financial opportunities since the pandemic began in March 2020. Moving costs are approximately \$5,000 per family, a lump sum that the families we serve simply do not have.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, tracking of these goals is straightforward, and the majority of this type of tracking already happens at Transition House through our database, Empower DB. We regularly create and provide performance metrics related to our State and local contracts. We track the number of families that are able to access permanent housing through the work of our advocates, requests for financial assistance to get over the hurdle of moving costs and all related spending.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to **ARPA@cambridgema.gov**. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Delphene Mooney, Executive Director

On The Rise, Inc.

341 Broadway

Cambridge, MA 02139

Main: (617) 497-7968

Direct: (617) 497-5775

May the City contact you for more information? **Yes No**

Project Idea Description (250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

On The Rise provides safety, community, and advocacy to 450+ women and trans/non-binary individuals moving through and recovering from homelessness. Participants in our programs face food insecurity and have significant barriers to accessing tangible resources even prior to COVID-19. In our Safe Haven Program, a low-threshold drop in day shelter, participants are provided fresh, hot meals and other tangible essentials for daily survival. The pandemic has exacerbated barriers to access and increased both the demand and complexity of coordinating these goods, including clothing, hygiene items, gift cards, and wellness supplies. Building the capacity to coordinate these resources is a key component of meeting the increased demand. With ARPA funds, we will enhance food aid and resource coordination in the Safe Haven. These seed funds will be used over two and half years to invest in a resource coordinator position to increase the volume and effectiveness of resource delivery for those with the fewest options in our community. Partnering with local Cambridge restaurants, we will purchase prepared hot meals for distribution in our Safe Haven, in addition to working with our community of dedicated volunteer cooks. The position will also coordinate the over \$100,000 worth of purchased and donated goods that annually are distributed in our programs, acting as a multiplier to connect residents in need with community resources.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form B.

Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts**
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

For On The Rise's participants - those who are falling through the cracks of the social services system - the pandemic has exacerbated existing barriers to accessing resources. With funding for food aid and resource coordination, On The Rise will immediately provide more food support and tangible resources while safely navigating the rapidly changing conditions of the pandemic.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, all program participants at On The Rise are unhoused or marginally/recently housed women and trans/non-binary individuals. 100% are experiencing poverty. Funds for food aid and resource coordination will allow On The Rise to provide more food support and tangible essentials.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

All program participants at On The Rise are unhoused or marginally/recently housed women and trans/non-binary individuals. 100% are experiencing poverty. Funds for food aid and resource coordination will allow On The Rise to meet the increased demand for food support and tangible essentials.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

1 *“Disproportionately impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791. City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form*

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. On The Rise currently captures several quantitative metrics - the number of participants served, housing status, engagement type and participant demographics. We also track the quantity of meals (purchased and donated) and other in-kind goods available in the Safe Haven. With greater internal capacity, we can more effectively collect qualitative data i.e., testimonials from participants, to demonstrate the benefits of access to resources in the Safe Haven.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$250,000

Lyons, Betty

From: Mike Nakagawa <mike@alewifeneighbors.org>
Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 2:12 AM
To: ARPA
Subject: Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Mike Nakagawa
mike@alewifeneighbors.org

51 Madison Ave
Cambridge, 02140

May the City contact you for more information? Yes

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The proposed IQHQ development in North Cambridge will transform the area around Russell Field, adding outdoor meeting and recreation spaces (much needed in a pandemic) and other amenities for abutting neighborhoods, including vulnerable residents in high density housing along Rindge Ave. However, the property is highly contaminated with asbestos, and the impending construction is raising pulmonary health concerns already heightened by Covid-19. The pandemic has impeded in-person meetings for neighbors to discuss the potential changes and hazards.

Alewifeneighbors, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) organization) has worked for decades to hire consultants to independently ensure the neighbors remain protected, and to communicate risks and opportunities associated with the IQHQ site. With construction scheduled to start this summer, neighbors need to both be and feel safe in their homes and in abutting outdoor recreational areas.

Alewifeneighbors requests \$19,500 to cover:

- environmental consultant costs to test, review and report on the contamination remediation during construction
- translation services (six languages) to inform the Rindge Avenue tenants and other neighbors about the construction progress and risks, and to inform them of opportunities to discuss site plans, particularly for future outdoor amenities near Jerry's Pond. The translations will help overcome some of the language difficulties because interactive meetings have been reduced with the pandemic.
- outdoor meetings and other outreach, including hiring interpreters, to make the information gathering and sharing more accessible to vulnerable populations in the area.
- assistance to update the alewifeneighbors.org website with timely information.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers

To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines

To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The vulnerable neighbors in the census tract with the highest number of affordable units in the city (Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park) need additional outdoor meeting and recreational spaces, and the IQHQ development across the street will provide those. However, the voices those neighbors have been largely silent during the planning process, and outreach efforts have been hampered by the pandemic. The potential health risks from developing a large contaminated site close to the neighbors' residences, the existing Russell Field Youth Recreation Area and DCR pool, and the Alewife T headhouse also need to be monitored and conveyed in a timely manner, in multiple languages and through multiple outreach methods. Without the input and outreach, the vulnerable neighbors will be underserved in the outcomes of the project.

1. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

See previous response. The census tract with the three Rindge Towers and Jefferson Park has nearly 1100 affordable units, with about 100 more planned for each 402 Rindge Ave and Jefferson Park. This tract has a high concentration of multiple vulnerabilities.

1. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

See previous responses.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

1. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics could include number of informational flyers and translated flyers, number of people attending outreach events, number of surveys completed by residents of the vulnerable residential addresses, number of translated pages in the six languages represented in the community.

1. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested

Alewife Neighbors requests \$19,500 to cover:

- environmental consultant costs to test, review and report on the contamination remediation during construction
- translation services (six languages) to inform the Rindge Avenue tenants and other neighbors about the construction progress and risks, and to inform them of opportunities to discuss site plans, particularly for future outdoor amenities near Jerry's Pond. The translations will help overcome some of the language difficulties because interactive meetings have been reduced with the pandemic.
- outdoor meetings and other outreach, including hiring interpreters, to make the information gathering and sharing more accessible to vulnerable populations in the area.
- assistance to update the alewifeneighbors.org website with timely information.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding: Community Project Idea Submittal Form

A. Project Idea Information

Name Contact Information of Submitter

Luis Cotto

luis@centralsq.org

1-203-215-9614

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description: *(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):*

The Central Square BID, co-managers (with the Cambridge Arts Council) of the Central Square Cultural District, creators of Starlight Square, and stewards of the cultural heart of Cambridge, is applying for \$825,000] towards a Cultural District Resiliency Initiative, which would allow our organization to respond dynamically, on an as-needed basis, to COVID recovery efforts in our district. This fund will be invested in our Cultural District over the course of three years, starting in FY23.

“Our once booming, innovative, and vibrant cultural sector is in economic crisis,” stated Cambridge resident, and Executive Director of the Mass Cultural Council, Michael J. Bobbitt. This was after the state arts agency released their sixth survey in March 2022 showing that artists have lost \$31.9mil throughout the Commonwealth.

In Cambridge, although there has been recent progress toward resumption of live performances and events, the pain of the last 18 months remains, and there continues to be tremendous uncertainty that is affecting audience size, gig possibilities, as well as the ability to plan future programs. Individual artists and producers of outdoor creative manifestations for people to come safely together continue to require infusions of capital to maintain viability and growth.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: *What can funds be used for?*

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers

To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines

To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The BID's Resiliency Initiative addresses immediate and compounding loss from an economic and social perspective. This Initiative aspires to address these effects in three ways. One, by acting as a district-wide conduit for funds to cultural producers who lack capacity to seek funds individually; two, through these funds to create opportunities for our neighborhoods to reconvene safely, restoring the spirit of the Cultural District, which was dimming throughout the pandemic; and three, to enhance our placekeeping initiative in the Square while continuing to hire a majority BIPOC artists.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the community? If so, how?

The Central Square BID's track record in all our cultural offerings is proof that not only CAN this initiative serve our historically underserved populations, but that it WILL serve our underserved populations. Our performing and public arts initiatives have consistently hired residents from this community.

Starlight Square is a public, cultural amenity that is free to all residents, housed and unhoused (underserved and marginalized). It pays artists (adversely affected), a majority of whom are PoC (marginalized), to create culturally-rich and engaging programming that provides a point of social connection for all neighbors and visitors.

We are particularly interested in re-investing in programming and pilots in the public realm, because they are free and accessible to all. We will pilot a music series in Lafayette Square this spring to see the impact of cultural programming in this underutilized park.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities* and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Within the Central Square commercial district's "[Context Area](#)" (pg 12 of Cambridge Development Department's Central Square District Assessment, 2017) are four residential neighborhoods, including the Port (Area 4), the hardest hit Cambridge neighborhood, by COVID case rate. This initiative seeks to create opportunities for these residents to benefit from the richness of the Cultural District as attendees, producers, and performers.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Our goal is to create as many safe, shared experiences as possible, district-wide by enabling our partners (non-profit, cultural producers, etc) to invest in quick-to-implement, resiliency-building ideas. We will work with the Mass Cultural Council as one of only 50 Cultural Districts in the Commonwealth to develop performance metrics for this initiative.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

The Central Square BID is requesting \$825,000 over the three year period for three facets of this initiative:

- \$50,000 a year for three years to support the Central Square BID's placekeeping efforts in the Central Square Cultural District.
- \$75,000 a year for three years to support outdoor cultural producers who want to bring their cultural offerings to Central Square.
- \$150,000 a year for three years to specifically support artist fees for everyone who performs in Starlight Square.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts *Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form*

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Organization Name: Brookline/Cambridge Community Center for the Arts, Inc. (BCCA / CCCA)
Organization Contact: Dan Y. Marshall, President & Executive Artistic Director
Organization Arts Center Address: 41 Second Street, Cambridge, MA 02141
Corporate/Mailing Address: 327 Saint Paul Street, Apt. 2, Brookline, MA 02446
Contact Phone: (617) 642-1444
Contact Email: dan.yonah.marshall@gmail.com
Organization Website: <https://www.CCCAonline.org>

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description (250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Complete the development of a unique non-profit education web technology for organizations and individuals to collaborate, monetize, and distribute creative/artistic educational content. This groundbreaking non-profit software provides a customizable, inclusive, all-around system for marketing, scheduling, enrollment, employment, payment processing, and communications for creative-sector organizations. It supports a broad range of needs of organizations, fully representing their brand and structure, while presenting a unified front to students with a user-friendly and intuitive interface.

Cambridge is poised to be a leader in this field, supporting its creative sector with this highly innovative software option, the only non-profit one of its kind, that will promote cross-collaboration between artists/educators and organizations across the City. The software is not only adaptable to individual organizations and individuals' needs, but will also produce a unifying operational platform for local arts and culture organizations, and highlight their community work, offerings, and services.

As a result of COVID, the City's individual artists and creative organizations have suffered the challenge of loss of work, students and patrons, and arts facilities. They have had to compete with costly and ever-changing technology, and transition back and forth between online and onsite programming. This software promotes gainful employment and fosters student reach, and it provides a solid infrastructure for onsite, online/virtual, and hybrid programming. It is also a central repository for digital educational content allowing for residual income, and its payroll and reporting tools facilitate economical and efficient educational facility administration, and customized and equitable pay for artists/educators/producers.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID pandemic has resulted in extreme losses of income and employment to artists/educators, and has made it very difficult to for them to consistently and effectively engage with their students and patrons, because of health risks, and the need to rapidly shift to online programming as well as hybrid (online and onsite) programming. This has been made further challenging because of the generally lower disposable income, which community members had in the past more readily used for arts and entertainment. Moreover, many community members shifted to free online content, or content produced by affluent content providers, which made it hard for local artists to compete with.

Community members, and especially seniors, at risk (for health reasons) and low-income individuals, and those challenged by the use of online technology, have especially suffered during the pandemic, losing access to many arts, health, and culture offerings that had previously contributed to their well-being and cultural experiences.

Most non-profit arts organizations have struggled during this time, and many have closed due to dwindled programming revenue and the inability to continue funding operational costs, made worse by either expensive or outdated software/technology systems available to them. Some organizations developed their own software tools at a premium, but these tools have rarely been shared among organizations.

Our software has had a long and solid track of efficiently and effectively running our arts and culture programming, while maintaining the branding and individual flavor of each organization and institution that we employ and/or work with. It has allowed us to equitably and affordably engage with artists and community members of all income levels, ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds, onsite, online, and hybrid. This has resulted in gainful artist income and strong student/community engagement, that has steadily increased during the pandemic.

Making this powerful non-profit software tool available to organizations and individuals beyond our non-profit (external institutions/content providers), can make a major contribution to the local arts and culture economy, by helping to equitably restabilize and grow artist careers, increase

the income and management efficiency of non-profit organizations, foster/enable a much higher level of collaboration and cross-pollination among organizations and individuals, reach a more diverse community population, and further tailor to at-risk and low income individuals.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Our non-profit partnership, includes 1 nonbinary person, 15 women and 22 men, consisting of 2 Asian, 12 Black/African American, 9 Hispanic/Latinx, 12 White, and 3 Multiracial members. Our body of artists/educators/producers and community members have varied ethnic and cultural identities; approximately 25% are Black/African American, 12% East Asian, 18% Hispanic/Latinx, 8% Middle Eastern, 10% South Asian, 7% Southeast Asian, 10% White, 1% Indigenous and 9% Multiracial. Moreover, over 70% of the community members we've served are of low to medium income levels, and many at-risk.

This educational software is a long-term investment into arts and culture organizations, and the education community at large, to employ creatives at customizable, equitable rates, and to greatly increase student engagement, attendance, and educational growth. It provides greater accessibility for immune-compromised individuals, visually- and hearing-impaired individuals, and those with less technology knowledge.

The software encourages and facilitates partnerships among organizations and artists, and enables them to more easily and affordably share and advertise their community programming, as well as increase their income and cultivate sustainable programming models that make arts and culture more affordable to all.

The highly customizable scaled rate artist/educator/arts facility use engagement model that is built into the software, allows for organic and diverse arts programming development that enables both up and coming, struggling, and established artists, to work on a more even playing field.

This non-profit software platform can help restore and increase the stability, resilience, and longevity of all organizations and individuals in a very changing and challenging market environment.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities, and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Artists and educators have not only been highly impacted by the pandemic, but in general have suffered from high unemployment rate through the ages, and many of them are low-income and cannot afford to live in the cities they teach and perform in (Cambridge included). Artists also represent a large section of LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities. The extremely competitive nature of the arts and entertainment industry, has made it even harder for artists to have enough opportunities for successful careers, and the ever-changing market is increasingly technology-driven, especially during COVID times, has made it even more challenging for them.

Arts and culture organizations have likewise suffered, especially those who serve low-income communities, because of great shortages in funding for the arts during a pandemic crisis, and because past community engagements were largely in person, rather than virtual.

By using and continually developing our ground-breaking education web and institution, artist, educator, and student management web software technology, for artist gainful employment and student reach, we've produced income for the hundreds of artists/producer faculty members we have worked with during the pandemic. We helped stabilize and rejuvenate the non-profit organizations we partnered with, and served tens of thousands of community members onsite and online through both live and archived content.

This ARPA funding, will allow us to provide these valuable software tools at cost to all Cambridge non-profits who wish to use them, so that they and their artist and community members can benefit from higher quality, more accessible and sustainable, and more affordable arts and culture programming, and better visibility, collaboration, and cross-pollination.

¹ "Disproportionally impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. Based on extensive past experience and research, we have developed a set of metrics and a roadmap with clear goals and milestones to achieve, for the current and future community and organizations whom we serve with our non-profit software.

A. Software development background and needs assessment:

In 2003 we developed the first version of our software, which at the time was an industry first (both in the non-profit and for profit world), and which allowed our former Brookline Community Center for the Arts (BCCA - 2003-2005) to equitably and effectively employ and work with 350 artists/educators/producers and provide 170 classes/week and 500 events/workshops per year, in dance, martial arts, health and fitness, acting, visual arts, and more, to over 7,500 regularly attending community members, and many more visiting patrons. This extremely culturally diverse body of artists, ranging from ages 12 to 98, earned roughly \$550,000 during these 2 years from their public programming we helped produce, and also a significant amount from additional programming they rented our arts facility for.

The software was custom developed by our cross-functional artist, technology, and business team, and tried, tested, and consistently improved based on the feedback of the artists and community we served. 14.5 years later, when we established the Cambridge Community Center for the Arts (CCCA) in the Fall of 2019, and seeing that no affordable, non-profit,

equitable, and encompassing, comparable software had been developed since, we restored our software to the web and began using it for the center. We immediately observed that it was able to work on all operating systems, devices, and web browsers, and proceeded to recommence developing it. Our software quickly proved invaluable to the local artists/producers and students our non-profit served, especially in the onset of COVID, when we were the first organization able to transition to online learning within days of the March 2020 shutdown.

We have discussed the software extensively with the Cambridge Non-Profit Coalition's (CNC) Arts & Culture Subcommittee organizational members (we have been a part of since the onset of the COVID pandemic), with Jason Weeks of the Cambridge Arts Council, with City officials, the Cambridge Community Foundation, the Mass Cultural Council, BioMed Realty (our former arts facility sponsor at Canal District Kendall), Erica Schwarz and Diana Navarrete-Rackauckas of The Foundry and the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority, Adria Katz of the Multicultural Arts Center, and many Cambridge organizations and artists, as well as the growing body of local students/community members we serve.

We have incorporated everyone's valuable advice into developing the software to the point where it has been operating smoothly, serving patrons of all ages and technical knowledge, and to which it seamlessly offers an essential set of tools/features with relatively low staff/administration needs.

The major software release in April 2021 was presented in video conference to 9 Cambridge arts and culture organizations (and many more since then), including The Dance Complex, Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Cambridge Community Television, Central Square Theater, The Brattle Theatre, Global Arts Live and 585 Arts, etc., and received great accolades, with many hoping they can make use of the software as soon as we release a version for external institutions/content providers (external to our non-profit). In almost all cases of organizations and individuals we surveyed and discussed the software with, our non-profit platform would reduce their costs, increase productivity and versatility, increase visibility and potential income, improve operations and community engagement, increase cross-organizational and -artist collaborations, result in more equitable artist employment/contracts, and improve access to arts and culture programming for members of all abilities and backgrounds.

One example of the latest software candidate the we have reached out to, based on Jason Week's recommendation, is Starlight Square, that has been using EventBrite for their free-attendance-based programming, and to which our software would provide much more encompassing and inclusive tools, for not only free registration, but added donations, artist/presenter profiles, organizational branding, and detailed interactive content - we have communicated with Cambridge BID's Luis Cotto, and look forward to discussing the prospect with him,

The software has proven time and time again to be secure, never succumbing to any data breaches, and rarely experiencing downtime, while all along running on an extremely economical (~\$80/month) virtual dedicated server, due to its efficient and normalized data structure. Moreover, by holding firmly to the philosophy and practice of each individual and organizational content provider fully maintaining their own copyright/ownership of content, and not requesting unnecessary user information, the software has minimized the need to store sensitive data, which has not only resulted in a higher level of security, but also highly minimized storage (amount) needs and increased performance.

We have had a clear strategic goal outlined in the last paragraph of our mission since our inception (<https://cccaonline.org/about/>): *Through the use of multimedia, telecommunication, and Internet technology, we promote the pursuit of thriving careers and contribute to the creation of an extended network of artists and institutions in all different social and economic communities locally, nationally, and internationally.* With that goal in mind, we wanted to set forth to not only develop a platform that could serve our non-profit's needs, but one that would be robust, scalable, and secure enough to serve the needs of any/all (external) organizations and individuals. Staying true to this goal, required a large multi-phase software development undertaking, that since December 2019, has cost \$309,108.06 of which we have paid \$282,917.77. The total hours billed were 10,694.64, at an average rate of \$28.90/hour for a truly expert team of software developers. On average we raised and paid \$10,303.60/month for 356.49 monthly hours of software development work. Based on industry standards, we have achieved a very high level of software at low development cost. Moreover, because we have and will continue to maintain this software as a non-profit, it will always result in lower and more equitable cost to members, as compared with for-profit softwares.

Putting things in context, we'd like to ask for \$150,000 (roughly half of our expenditures to date) to complete the project, and be able to provide these valuable online services, at cost, to all the interested Cambridge organizations and individuals.

B. These are the two main milestones we expect to achieve, should we receive this ARPA funding:

1. ~\$60,000 will allow us to complete a major software release that will provide already confirmed early adopters like The Foundry and the Multicultural Arts Center (on time for their Fall 2022 sessions) to get their own accounts in the software, use the full set of tools and features it offers, and collaborate with us and other organizations and individuals who join. Note: Early adopters will receive 3 months of free membership (unless they otherwise elect to make a contribution), in acknowledgement of their comradery and valuable insight in making important software improvements and providing further market analysis.

2. The remaining ~\$90,000 would be used to automate and make efficient the software's organizational and individual membership infrastructure, hold seminars to train organizations and individuals in how to use the software, implement important features that the growing network of content/offering providers could benefit from, based on their regularly collected feedback and surveys, provide adequate technical support and maintenance, and strive to attain a break-even level of membership to sustain long-term non-profit software services.

C. Estimated break-even software operations:

We currently estimate that we will be able to provide a high level of service for this software platform, while keeping the platform well maintained, at roughly a monthly membership of \$110/organizations and \$55/individuals (external institutions/content providers). In order to achieve a self-sustainable software development budget, without the need for additional funding, we will need to grow the membership to roughly \$15,000/month. Note: These are software membership dues only, as we do not collect a share of the income from external institutions/content providers.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$150,000

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations. The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

Increased Access to Testing and Vaccines: Support for Small Businesses and Demand-Based Mobile Vaccine/Testing Units

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Theodora Skeadas (theodora@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

Pooja Paode (pooja@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Increase vaccine and Covid testing access in Cambridge with an emphasis on small businesses with a higher testing burden, essential workers, and populations that are less able or less likely to get vaccinated (especially with regards to booster shots) via:

- 1) incentives and tests allocated specifically for essential workers, low-wage workers, and other marginalized populations, and
- 2) widely circulating mobile vaccination / testing units.

Units (it can even be a total of one unit, if that is more feasible) should circulate in business districts / areas with a high concentration of locally-owned small businesses, transit hubs, large employers, libraries, schools, public housing, and similar locations. These units can circulate for a specified amount of time (i.e., a month) to line up with Covid (and flu) vaccine booster timings. If needed, the program could provide an incentive to individuals - especially essential workers, low-wage workers, and low-income residents - by providing a half-day or day’s pay in return for an individual taking the shot, so they are able to take the day off without financial ramifications.

In addition to, this program specifically support small businesses that employ lower-wage workers (based on the area median income) by setting a set amount of tests set aside and accessible to them to help mitigate long-term economic harms as a result of Covid.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The initiative increases herd immunity and supporting populations who are not as easily able to take time off of work to access boosters and testing, as well as small businesses that take on the financial burden of handling testing for employees (to the benefit of the public).

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The project's emphasis on increased vaccination and access to testing addresses multiple historically underserved and adversely affected groups. mitigate some of the harms and inequities associated with the pandemic (in the long-term). We understand that lower-wage workers, including immigrants, non-English speaking residents, and Black and Brown individuals are less likely to be vaccinated, have access to testing, and thus experience Covid-related health harms. This initiative would specifically target them and address vaccine and testing access-related inequities.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

One of the barriers that prevents adequate vaccination and testing is a lack of time or availability, or limitations of public transit that make it difficult to access vaccinations and testing. Another is the inability to take time off of work for financial reasons. This initiative could directly address these issues, which strongly correlate with limited economic opportunity, in a focused way. If mobile units travel to areas near public housing or social services locations, they could also provide a public health benefit to individuals experiencing housing insecurity.

¹ "Disproportionally impacted communities" are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, "in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served." Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

- Number of Covid tests and/or vaccinations distributed
- Vaccines and tests delivered to various target groups, including those that report that this effort made it “easier” or “increased access” to vaccines and tests
 - # of individuals that work at small businesses
 - # of individuals identifying as low-income / belonging to a historically marginalized group
 - # of individuals that got vaccinated for the first time

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$100,000 (ideally \$150,000) / year for 3 years, depending on funding availability, for a minimum allocation of \$300,000 over the course of 3 years.

If funding is a limitation, we hope that funds for this project may be sourced from a) existing small business support funds and b) existing funds allocated to testing and vaccinations. In the latter case, it may be possible to do a cost-benefit analysis reviewing the public health impact of these mobile clinics versus existing testing centers.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

Increasing Diversity in Public and Anchor Institution Procurement in Cambridge

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Theodora Skeadas (theodora@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

Pooja Paode (pooja@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Support locally- and independently-owned businesses by increasing local procurement through strategies such as results-driven contracting targeting contracts for both local anchor institutions and the City of Cambridge. This will help make procurement more equitable and directly support small businesses (drivers of economic mobility and reflections of community identity) in the Cambridge area.

This process should include:

- 1) Measuring levels of local procurement across departments.
- 2) Developing and implementing a business engagement survey to provide businesses with the opportunity to share their suggestions related to the City of Cambridge procurement process and vendor outreach, in order to identify gaps and barriers that prevent local businesses from becoming City of Cambridge Vendors. This will provide the city with clear steps to make it easier for more diverse, small, and local, businesses to participate in city contracting.
- 3) Facilitating focus groups with stakeholders such as the Economic Development and University Relations Committee and local anchor institution procurement representatives (including universities) to identify barriers to procurement with BIPOC- and women-owned businesses and help identify opportunities for these businesses (and other local businesses) to secure contracts.
- 4) Setting targets and taking actions to increase the relative amount of local procurement across local anchor institutions, City Departments and the City as a whole. This can be paired with activities such as creating a list of local businesses (highlight BIPOC- and women-owned businesses), holding procurement fairs, and facilitating procurement matching.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The proposed initiative addresses long-term economic harms to small businesses as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, and is an opportunity to improve city processes around procurement in the long-term. This links to an existing effort related to the City of Cambridge Diversity Study (which the Cambridge-Somerville Black Business Network is engaged in).

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. By increasing supplier diversity, the initiative can help the city serve historically underserved or marginalized small business owners. This program would invest in equity to drive social mobility over the long-term, improving city processes and supporting groups adversely affected by the pandemic, including local businesses, women-owned businesses, and Black and Brown businesses. According to the National League of Cities, “Contracting with anchor institutions like universities, hospitals, corporations and utility companies is an important factor in the revenue growth of businesses — especially businesses owned by women and people of color.” You can learn more here: <https://www.nlc.org/events/city-inclusive-entrepreneurship-speaker-series/>.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Please see above. In addition, there is considerable evidence that local procurement programs increase the amount of revenue circulating in the local economy, leading to broader benefits towards disproportionately impacted communities: <https://ilsr.org/procurement-more-than-a-policy-change/>. In addition, the initiative reduces barriers to earning city contracts for BIPOC- and women-owned businesses.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

We propose performance metrics related to business engagement, number of new contracts, increased procurement diversity, based on the following model: https://www.nlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Edits-Equitability-in-Procurement_PPT-presentation-NLC-final-8-11-21_PB-Read-Only.pdf. This program, part of the City Inclusive Entrepreneurship Program, offers hands-on assistance and financial support (\$15k) for cities that implement new commitment programs. Learn more here: <https://www.nlc.org/initiative/city-inclusive-entrepreneurship/>

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

We request \$20,000 for the first year to stand up the project to support facilitation in procurement fairs, and to support the city staff time on the program (with the possibility of a potential NLC partnership contributing dollars), then \$12,500 per year next two years (to support with measurement and maintenance) for a total of \$45,000 over the next 3 years. We do believe the project can be done within a slightly smaller budget if needed, depending on existing resources.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Theodora Skeadas (theodora@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

Pooja Paode (pooja@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Along with setting shared targets for contracting with local suppliers and BIPOC-led suppliers and vendors, we propose using ARPA funds and existing city assets to invest in an energizing accelerator space to build a pipeline of BIPOC-owned businesses. This program idea is based on the Fairmont Innovation Center, located in Boston: <https://www.filboston.org/>.

We propose the support of a creative co-working space and microbusiness accelerator focused on young BIPOC creatives in Cambridge. This space, could operate as a business incubator, low-cost co-working space, and pop-up shop inspired by existing locations such as the Loop Lab (which offers student classes) and Community Arts Center Mural Program. This location could start as a part-time space (a few days a week) and grow over time. Youth that engage in this program can access start-up-related workshops, practice pitching their ideas, and more.

Possible locations include part of the Foundry, an existing youth center, or another vacant storefront. The program will most likely include an initial period of location identification, identification of mentors and leaders (which the city is lucky enough to have) and interested individuals in high school or slightly older who have ideas they want to focus on developing (most likely in 6-month “residencies” at the incubator).

This program could also link to other ideas submitted by CSBBN (with an emphasis on Cambridge residents).

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

According to the Brookings Institute, long-term recovery for small businesses will involve new platform investments in small business support to catalyze higher-quality, more racially inclusive regional economies. While previous ideas we submitted focus on relief, this one focuses on long-term recovery.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes - the initiative will focus on supporting the growth and development of BIPOC creatives and entrepreneurs.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Small businesses are an important avenue for economic mobility, especially for BIPOC individuals (who have also been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and decades of rising inequity in Cambridge). The initiative will focus on these individuals (especially disadvantaged groups referenced in the Cambridge Community Foundation Innovation Cities Report).

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

- New microbusinesses started.
- Individuals that submit ideas and pitches
- Funding acquired
- Post-engagement outcomes

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$240,000 over 3 years for staff support, marketing, etc. (plus support in securing a location).

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

Small business capital infusion / buy one, get one program

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Theodora Skeadas (theodora@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

Pooja Paode (pooja@cambridgelocalfirst.org)

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

To drive consumer spending in Cambridge towards in-person, local businesses, we propose a “Buy One, Get One” program similar to one established in Oswego, New York where Cambridge residents can pay \$10 to receive a \$20 dollar gift card or \$25 to receive a \$50 gift card to a local and independently-owned business. This program could target businesses and subsets of businesses that have been most negatively impacted by the pandemic and where residents might not be aware of local options, including (but not limited to) BIPOC-owned businesses, retail businesses, gyms, child care establishments, and restaurants.

This is a fairly simple program that can be utilized outside of typical "buying seasons" and based on business feedback (such as the holidays) to boost business growth. This program could pair with Black History Month, Small Business Week, and Women-Owned Business Month (for example).

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

According to Opportunity Insights and other consumer purchasing data, the pandemic has driven much consumer spending online and away from local businesses. In addition, the pandemic increased small business costs related to operations, business closures due to the pandemic, and has caused overall challenges to the strength of the small business ecosystem in Cambridge.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes. There are specific subgroups of business owners that have been historically underserved and that have received relatively less support from Covid relief funds. For example, data from our analysis of Restaurant Relief Funds suggest that women- and BIPOC-owned businesses received significantly smaller funds in Cambridge compared to the rest of Massachusetts and the United States. Targeting this program towards these types of businesses and microbusinesses (and perhaps even businesses that have not previously been able to access funds) can address these equity issues.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

See above. It is possible that we could set aside a larger amount of gift cards for disproportionately impacted communities.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

- Capital diverted towards businesses
- Dollars spent on gift cards by consumers
- Consumer interest in gift cards
- Consumer perspectives on whether they would visit a new business again
- Estimated business-reported benefit from marketing efforts and direct capital support

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$5-7,000 for marketing and other staff time; \$18-20,000 total for gift cards over the course of 3 years (although this can be reduced).

Total request: \$25,000 across 3 years. We anticipate this program could be extended with sponsor or donor support if this pilot period is successful.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: "Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea".

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Kavish Gandhi, projectrighttoshelter@gmail.com

May the City contact you for more information? **Yes** No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

This project proposes that the City of Cambridge rehouse 400 individuals experiencing homelessness between April 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023, and functionally end homelessness by April 1, 2024. This could be accomplished through the proposed Cambridge Unhoused Stipend Program (CUSP), which would cover the full cost of living for participating unhoused individuals and families for three years, and a significant portion (at least rent less 30% of household income) for the following 7 years. CUSP embraces a Housing First approach to ending homelessness, and performs three key activities:

- Identifies eligible households,
- Finds and secures available units, and
- Moves those eligible households into those units, and provides long-term supportive services as necessary.

We have attached a more detailed description of CUSP to this email. This proposal was written by Project Right to Housing and incorporates input from homelessness services providers and unhoused community members.

The unhoused community has been disproportionately affected by the ongoing pandemic. Limited shelter and housing options have left many people on the street or in crowded congregate shelters where life is difficult and the risk of contracting COVID-19 is high. There have been reductions and changes to resources, including health services, day centers and homeless services, that were available to people who are unhoused prior to the pandemic, making their lives significantly more challenging. Stringent requirements for identification and other impediments have also made it hard for many unhoused people to gain access to federal aid that many people have been able to obtain.

Though the burden of the pandemic has eased somewhat, rehousing through CUSP will go a long way towards sustainably addressing these needs, which remain at crisis levelsmic.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Across the country, unhoused individuals and families were disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Whereas 420 in 1000 homeless individuals were hospitalized in the entire year of 2013, 286 were hospitalized with the coronavirus in March 2020 alone, including 40 in Middlesex County. Cambridge was no exception.

In addition to being disproportionately affected by COVID-19, broader negative economic prospects have also affected unhoused individuals who already face challenges maintaining a livelihood with no permanent housing and address.

CUSP would directly address these exacerbated harms by housing these individuals and families quickly and scalably. The City of Cambridge is already funding and considering funding several ARPA proposals on the merit of their service to unhoused community members. This proposal builds on existing work in a meaningful and necessary way.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

This initiative directly serves unhoused individuals.

Unhoused individuals are historically underserved, with no stable place to stay and difficulty accessing food and health services, among many challenges. CUSP aims to serve unhoused individuals with their housing needs which, according to a housing-first model, is a first step in supporting their many needs.

As of 2021, at least 67% of Boston's homeless population are people of color, and the reality is similar in Cambridge. CUSP would create housing opportunities for many people of color.

Unhoused people are marginalized, often criminalized simply for trying to meet their most basic needs, functionally “criminalizing life itself”.¹ Providing people with housing, as CUSP is doing, is shown to result in 40% fewer arrests and less interactions with the carceral system².

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities³ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

CUSP would directly serve unhoused residents of Cambridge. Unhoused community members are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19; based on CDC-reported data for Boston Medical Center in July of 2020, homeless individuals comprised 24.3% of non-ICU hospitalizations, 15.9% of ICU hospitalization without mechanical ventilation, 15.1% of ICU hospitalization with mechanical ventilation, and 15.3% of those of whom died. Homeless community members also have limited economic opportunity; the unemployment rate among unhoused adults may be as large as 90%,⁴ compared to less than 10% among the general population, reflecting an array of barriers to finding a job, first and foremost the lack of a stable home. Finally, the unhoused community, by definition, is housing-insecure.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Performance metrics that would be important to collect and analyze as the program is developed include, but are not limited to:

- Number of unhoused families and individuals permanently housed through CUSP
- Number of CUSP-eligible individuals screened into the program
- Number of CUSP-eligible individuals working with a CUSP case manager
- Number of landlords participating in the Landlord Partnership Program (LIP) and Landlord Incentives Program (LIP), proposed as part of CUSP
- Average holding fee and security deposit paid to landlords under LPP
- Average security deposit and application fee paid to landlords under LIP

1

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/06/28/metro/homeless-boston-beyond-laws-can-criminalize-life-itself/>

2

https://denvergazette.com/news/homelessness/disrupting-a-false-narrative-denver-supportive-housing-program-decreases-arrests-emergency-room-visits/article_2d447b3a-e5b0-11eb-91d6-93c2bb153302.html

³ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

⁴ More discussion of the estimated unemployment rate of unhoused adults, as well as the institutional barriers to finding employment, can be found in:

<https://socialinnovation.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Homelessness-and-Employment.pdf>

- Average amount claimed per unit, beyond the security deposit, from the \$5000 damage reimbursement fund
- Average “time to housing”, defined as # of days from initial screening to move-in to a unit. Each individual step should also be measured:
 - # of days from screening to assignment to a case manager
 - # of days from assignment to a case manager to successful identification of a unit (either through LPP or LIP)
 - # of days from successful identification of a unit to move-in
- Quarterly, rather than annual, point-in-time estimates of total # of unhoused families or individuals residing in Cambridge
- Geographic distribution of CUSP-participating individuals/families, with a goal of placing individuals in a wide variety of Cambridge neighborhoods – the exact performance metric could be the sum of squares distance between the empirical distribution and a uniform distribution.
- (longer term) rate of housing retention over time, particularly after the first 3 years of CUSP
- (longer term) a purely numerical cost-benefit analysis of the average \$ amount spent per CUSP participant, versus average \$ amount spent before the implementation of CUSP – this can be estimated using methodology similar to that of <https://destinationhomesv.org/home-not-found-the-cost-of-homelessness-in-silicon-valley/>
- Emergency department usage and estimate of health cost/city spending savings for CUSP housed participants compared either to folks who are not yet housed or themselves in prior years before CUSP

Many of the above metrics could and should be broken down by demographic and income categories, as well as by individuals vs. families, to further get at any differences between how CUSP is effectively serving different subgroups of the unhoused community.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

We request \$10 million. The estimated first-year cost of the program is \$15 million. In our attached proposal, we propose a dollar-for-dollar matching by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in which case the funding amount requested, for the first year, would be \$5 million. Allocating \$10 million with matching could cover the program for its initial two years, after which it could be funded by expanding funding for Cambridge’s Affordable Housing Trust.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including

\$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, communitybased organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

House Every Unhoused Person in Cambridge

Goal: Between April 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023 the City of Cambridge, employing residents', non-profits', institutional and government resources, will rehouse 400 individuals experiencing homelessness, and functionally end homelessness in Cambridge by April 1, 2024. Housing is a human right, and this goal is not only possible, but a necessary mandate. It is long past time that we recognize homelessness in Cambridge as a policy failure, and take definitive action to remedy our shortcomings.

How:

The Cambridge Unhoused Stipend Program (CUSP) for unhoused residents embraces a Housing First approach to ending homelessness, and performs three key activities:

- Identifies eligible households,
- Finds and secures available units, and
- Moves those eligible households into those units, and provides long-term supportive services as necessary.

After placement, CUSP will cover the full cost of living for participating unhoused individuals and families.

CUSP's estimated budget is on the order of \$160 million over 10 years. This is equivalent to approximately \$100/person/year for every resident of Cambridge. This encompasses the cost of rental assistance and incentives for each resident, case management and supportive services before and after move-in, property management expenses, and non-personnel and move-in fixed costs. Each of these costs are outlined in more detail in Appendix B's budget shell. The specific personnel are outlined more completely in Appendix C, but include three director positions for each of the new proposed programs, one case manager for every twenty unhoused individuals served by CUSP, and five to ten separate positions to assist with management, operations, and logistics. As individuals and families are housed, we anticipate costs decreasing in the medium-to-long term. We also anticipate that these budget expenses will be offset in other areas of the city budget that might otherwise be serving these vulnerable residents; this, while speculative, is supported by the well-established finding that Housing First is more cost-effective than traditional services.¹

To finance this program, we propose an initial allocation of \$10 million from either Free Cash or the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, matched dollar for dollar by both Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). After this, CUSP will remain sustainable in the medium term as another use of funds for Cambridge's Affordable Housing Trust, which we propose further funding through increases in Cambridge's linkage fee and property taxes, as well as the adoption of a real estate transfer fee. We also propose establishing a precedent through a new PILOT agreement that all allocations from the Affordable Housing Trust to CUSP will be matched dollar for dollar by both Harvard and MIT.

In the below sections, we will examine the three key activities of CUSP in more detail.

1. Identifying eligible households

Eligibility for CUSP initially follows the criteria and process established by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for distribution of Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV), as well as the particular screening process that has been and continues to be built out in Cambridge.² Building on the programmatic development and unprecedented infusion of federal money, CUSP establishes two amendments to HUD criteria for EHV utilization:

- Households are not required to have a member with a social security number.
- CUSP makes permanent the waiver authority granted by HUD during COVID³ allowing households to be enrolled without documentation provided there is a good faith belief of eligibility and documentation is acquired within 90 days of move-in. This change acknowledges that acquiring and safeguarding documentation can be extremely difficult while a person is unhoused, and that this process is made much easier after safe and stable accommodations are provided.⁴

Reiterating the current process, the individuals and families currently eligible for EHV include

- homeless households,
- households at risk of homelessness,
- households fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, or trafficking, and
- recently homeless households.

CUSP expands the pool of partners that can establish eligibility and make a referral. Inclusion of faith-leaders, neighborhood, and community groups, and other trusted entities delivers on Cambridge's commitment to a "No Wrong Door" approach.⁵

Beyond these, we suggest continual amendments to the requirements and prioritization for CUSP or similar programs to make them more inclusive, including the following broad changes:

- Documentation requirements that are not absolutely necessary for the function of the system should be removed.
 - Within this, income requirements should be specifically loosened. Exact income estimates are not necessary for CUSP until at least the third year of a tenancy, as such income documentation should not be required. If income is decided to be relevant to program eligibility, proxies for being below an income threshold, such as eligibility for federal or state benefits programs, should be accepted.
- "Opt-in" requirements should be removed.⁶ Said differently, all screening protocols should be designed to screen people in, rather than screening them out, and all households known to or in the shelter system should be offered this screening.
- Proof of residency documentation should be abolished, and eligibility should be extended to all those who identify as members of the Cambridge community

Above all, CUSP rejects a scarcity mindset and avoids means-testing⁷. Criteria should be restricted to those that maintain a scalable, efficient system, and otherwise removed.

2. Identifying available units

Once eligible households are identified, the next step is to identify appropriate housing units. CUSP utilizes two complementary strategies to identify and acquire housing: first, a landlord incentives program that reserves particular housing units for CUSP-eligible individuals, and second, a general housing search support program to help eligible participants find ideal units and sustainably afford them. These are drawn from successful strategies in other cities.^{9,9,10}

First, and most importantly for a rapid transition, we propose the creation of the Landlord Partnership Program (LPP), a large-scale landlord incentives program that would allow Cambridge to acquire units at scale from property owners and reserve them for CUSP-eligible households. LPP, broadly, is a way for the City to use its financial resources and institutional leverage to acquire and hold units as they become vacant. Once units are reserved under the LPP program, LPP case managers would match and directly place eligible households in participating units. Participating landlords would have the ability to refuse a tenancy only in exceptional circumstances. The incentives for landlord participation include:

- Up to 3 months of holding fees paid by the City to keep a unit vacant until an eligible household is moved in
- Up to 2 months of rent in security deposit
- \$200/unit if the number of units reserved is greater than 10, and \$400/unit if greater than 20
- Access to up to \$5000 beyond the security deposit from a damage reimbursement fund.⁸

Many of these incentives are not new; they are eligible activities for Emergency Solutions Grant COVID (ESG-CV) funds already provided by HUD, and have been or are starting to be deployed in a number of instances, including by the Los Angeles Housing Authority.⁹ To carry out this program, CUSP hires a realtor as a **Unit Acquisition Coordinator (UAC)**, ideally housed under a new City Department of Housing Stability, but currently under the Department of Human Services Program (DHSP). This UAC's role would be threefold:

- If not already accessible, work with the city's Community Development Department and CoStar to get and maintain a detailed report on multifamily vacancies across Cambridge, identified to specific owners rather than LLCs. This will allow the identification of the largest property owners as well as vacancies to target for potentially available units.
- Negotiate with identified property owners to reserve the maximum possible units under LPP.
- Be in constant contact with case managers to ensure that the composition of units acquired meets the needs of eligible households seeking housing

Second, we propose augmenting existing one-on-one housing search that takes place at the Multiservice Center and other locations with a program that incentivizes landlords to rent market rate units to CUSP eligible tenants. This second approach provides three main benefits:

permits client choice of housing unit, avoids density concerns by using scattered-site units, and encourages smaller landlords, who might not otherwise rent to unhoused individuals, to participate in the program. Together, individualized search could expand the volume, range, and location of housing options available for housing every person. Other cities such as San Diego, California and Greensboro, North Carolina have instituted programs offering monetary incentives and support services to landlords renting to individual unhoused section 8 voucher recipients. In San Diego, this has found a great deal of success: 1300 landlords have joined the Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program (LEAP), renting to 3,832 households.¹⁰ We propose establishing a similar program for landlords renting apartments according to a Rent Reasonableness Standard. Similar to San Diego, we would provide qualifying landlords with monetary incentives that mirror those of the LPP, excluding the holding fees and including application fees:

- Up to 2 months of rent in security deposit
- Access to up to \$5000 beyond the security deposit from a damage reimbursement fund.
- Up to \$25/unit to cover credit report and other application fees
- \$500 for the first unit rented to an unhoused individual or family, \$250 for additional units rented

To manage this program, as with the LPP, CUSP retains a **Landlord Incentives Manager (LIM)**. The LIM collaborates with the UAC in reaching out to property owners, with a focus on outreach to small landlords. It will also collaborate with the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA). For units rented under the LPP or LIP, CUSP will follow existing CHA procedures used in the Housing Choice Voucher Program and other similar subsidies, as applied for unit inspections, lease agreement templates, and other aspects of the lease-up process. During the first phase of the program, modifications can be considered that would tailor this protocol to best meet the needs of newly housed residents.

These housing identification and acquisition approaches prioritize moving eligible individuals into housing as fast as possible, and follow a number of successful pandemic-era efforts that have rapidly housed hundreds or even thousands of community members.¹¹ We do not believe that the LPP or LIP programs replace a long-term vision of housing justice, which necessitates the creation of social housing.¹² We also hope that the city will continue to pursue medium-term strategies¹³ to create publicly-owned, permanently affordable units that complement the strategies outlined above. Our focus with this proposal is to identify strategies for Cambridge to use its financial and institutional leverage to place individuals and families into market-rate units as quickly as possible, no later than April 1, 2023.

3. Moving eligible households into appropriate units

Once eligible households and appropriate units are identified, housing unhoused persons is a matter of assisting the household with accessing their new space, moving their belongings, and acquiring additional resources that they may need to settle into their new home.

In the past, services for unhoused persons have not had the capacity or resources to connect clients with these types of supports, and a coordinated system for facilitating transition to housing has been lacking. We recognize that move-in assistance and material support are essential components of a system to house every unhoused person^{14 15}.

We believe that at the minimum, every person should receive:

1. Support for gathering, transporting and unloading their personal belongings,
2. Provision of durable, accessible, and quality furniture, appliances, kitchen wares, toiletries and cleaning supplies
3. Assistance accessing their new space and orientation to how they can raise concerns or seek further support if they need it.
4. Access to long term supportive service as needed.

The system for accessing move-in support should be simple, fair and centralized so that every person has all their needs met in a timely manner. This work will require dedicated staff and resources to ensure that the process is easy to navigate for clients and a variety of service providers, as well as equitable. To ensure that the process is sustainable and open to all Cambridge residents we believe this work would be best housed within the city government, as opposed to a non-profit organization. To operationalize, Cambridge should dedicate one or more staff persons to serve as **Move In Coordinator(s) (MIC)**. The MIC should be housed within the Department of Human Services Programs (DHSP), though in an ideal future, this role would be housed under a Department of Housing Stability. The role of the MIC would be threefold:

- Serve as a central referral point (from service providers and client self referral) for clients eligible for and matched with housing based on the steps above.
- Administer dedicated budget that funds a “bundle” of contracts with move-in service providers, outlined below, as well as discretionary funds to help cover the unique move in needs of each individual.
- Coordinate scheduling of a move-in date and oversee execution of bundled services.

The bundle of services available to each person should assist the client with securing and transporting their personal belongings, and filling gaps in resources through contracts with high quality service providers. Many high quality move-in service providers already exist, and under the newly created MIC role, their work can be combined and coordinated to avoid gaps or duplications. The MIC should ensure that there is a primary contract with a move-in company that can help the client acquire their belongings from storage units or friends/families spaces as a first step. Discretionary funds should be available to help pay expenses such as storage unit impound fees.

An advocate, trusted service provider, and/or the MIC should then help the client complete a standardized inventory to identify whether they have all of the items that they need, corresponding to services that can be provided from the provider contracts. Appendix A has a list of supplies and suggested service providers that the city can contract with to meet anticipated needs. Next, the MIC should facilitate the appropriate service bundle from the available menu. Service provider contracts should be awarded based on 3 criteria:

- Ability to efficiently and sensitively meet the needs of unhoused clients
- Ability to be flexible to the needs of unhoused clients
- Ability to coordinate with other services on a move in day

Finally, clients should be given access to their new home, and provided support for orienting to their new space, as soon as possible. An advocate, trusted service provider, and/or the MIC should help bring the client to see their new home at least once before move-in day. On move-in day, the MIC should be present and/or on call to help with day-of coordination needs. The client should be provided with emergency service numbers, contact info for their property manager/landlord, and contact information for their local tenants rights organization. Within one week of move-in, An advocate, trusted service provider, and/or the MIC should schedule a brief home visit with the client (at the client's convenience) to ensure they have everything they need and to work through any issues that have arisen.

Conclusion and Future Directions

We recognize that this proposal is not entirely comprehensive. It raises many new questions that must be answered and aspects that can be refined. For example, while the focus of this document is to provide a clear plan for housing all of Cambridge's unhoused residents as efficiently and equitably as possible, long-term supportive services are critical to make these solutions sustainable. Our program must be supplemented with ongoing case management follow-up, eviction and legal support services, and funding for the basic necessities (such as food, utilities, and health services) that make housing livable. Our hope is to not let perfect be the enemy of the good, or to let high level questions distract us from the active emergency at hand: every person in Cambridge does not currently have a safe, affordable and dignified place to live. We must address this crisis; we must house every unhoused person – not later, but now.


Appendix A: Move in Service Providers

Below is a list of existing move-in related service providers with which the city could contract to meet clients self identified needs. In addition, private donations from crowd-sourced websites such as Everything is Free and Buy Nothing groups can be used to supplement particular items. However, emphasis should be placed on ensuring that every client's needs can be met in a sustainable and timely way through a set of well established contracts.

- Kitchen Supplies:
 - [The Pots and Pans Project](#) (starter kitchen kits for the newly housed)
 - [Habitat ReStore](#) (run by Habitat for Humanity)
 - Salvation Army
 - Goodwill
- Furniture (table, chairs, couch, bed, dresser):
 - [Habitat ReStore](#) (run by Habitat for Humanity)
 - Salvation Army
 - Goodwill
 - Furnishing Hope
 - New Life Furniture Bank
- Towels and Bed Linens:
 - Salvation Army
 - Goodwill
- Groceries:
 - [The Daily Table](#)
 - [Lovin Spoonfuls](#)
 - [Food for Free](#)
- Toiletries/ Cleaning Supplies:
 - [Cleenland](#) (bulk cleaning supplies and toiletries by weight, can bring your own containers or buy theirs)
 - [Good Filling](#) (same concept as Cleenland, but operates under a model where online orders are picked up at lockers with several locations in Cambridge)
- Moving:
 - [Home on the Go Moving](#) (founder used to run Solutions at Work's Moving Up program for unhoused families)
 - Mocano Moving (works with Metro Housing Boston for moves connected to Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT))
 - Gentle Giant
- Other:
 - [Solutions at Work](#) (workwear, children's items)
 - Dress for Success
 - Cradles to Crayons (children's good)

Appendix B: Budget

Full one and ten year budget estimates for CUSP can be found at

 House Every Unhoused Person - Budget.xlsx .

Appendix C: Personnel

The detailed list of personnel are as follows.

- **Twenty (20) Case Managers:** these case managers work with unhoused participants CUSP throughout the entire process, from the initial housing search to lease up to move-in to eventual long-term supportive services. The exact number of these case managers is contingent on the total number of CUSP participants, abiding by the criteria that there will always be at most twenty participants per single case manager.
- **Three (3) Finance Staff Members:** these personnel will be in charge of handling all of the monetary details of the program. They will be in charge of cutting checks for one-time incentives and monthly rental payments to landlords, managing requests to the repair reserve funds, and periodically ensuring the integrity of all payments distributed through CUSP.


The remaining personnel are detailed at greater length in the text of the proposal but are listed below.

- **One (1) Unit Acquisition Coordinator**
- **Two (2) Landlord Partnership Program Staff Members:** these staff will support the UAC in developing and operationalizing the day-to-day logistics of the LPP.
- **One (1) Landlord Incentives Manager**
- **Two (2) Small Landlord Incentives Program Staff Members:** these staff will support the LIM in developing and operationalizing the day-to-day logistics of the small landlords incentives program.
- **One (1) Move In Coordinator.**

Pay and benefits details can be found in Appendix B's budget shell.

Appendix D: One Page Version

A condensed, one-page version of this proposal can be found at

 House Every Unhoused Person - 1 pager .

References

1. There are many studies examining the efficacy of Housing First across different dimensions, a vast majority of which show a significant effect of Housing First approaches on being cost-effective and having a wide variety of other benefits. Two studies that review the literature are <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4679127/> and <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4679128/>, the former of which finds that "People receiving HF achieved superior housing outcomes and showed more rapid improvements in community functioning

and quality of life than those receiving treatment as usual” and the latter that “While our review casts doubt on whether HF programs can be expected to pay for themselves, the certainty of significant cost offsets, combined with their benefits for participants, means that they represent a more efficient allocation of resources than traditional services.”

2. The Cambridge emergency housing voucher (EHV) program page mentions a simple screening process for receiving a voucher, without completing a full CCAN assessment. As of October this has been rolled out for those fleeing domestic violence, homeless families with children, and households at risk of homelessness: <https://www.cambridgecoc.org/ehv>

3. Waivers to HUD program requirements granted during the COVID pandemic. A waiver for “Source Documentation for Income Determinations” requirement is listed on page 18. This gives the participating jurisdiction authority to document an applicant’s income after they have moved in, within 90 days, instead of requiring it prior to them moving in:

https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/Flexibilities_Waivers_Guidance_for_CARE_Act_CPD_Funds_062320.pdf.

4. An article exemplifying the unique difficulties of providing documentation for unhoused individuals is <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2017/05/15/without-id-homeless-trapped-in-vicious-cycle>.

5. A paper discussing the “No Wrong Door” approach in which citizens should be able to work with their preferred individuals and agencies within government when receiving a service.

<https://papers.governing.com/No-Wrong-Door-A-Holistic-Approach-to-Human-Services-73108.html>

6. Homeless households currently need to opt-in to receiving a screening for the EHV program, when talking to shelter staff, according to section 3.a.ii) on <https://www.cambridgecoc.org/ehv>. We suggest instead making the default screening people in instead.

7. A paper by the Child Poverty Action Group highlighting the potentially complex and intrusive nature of means testing programs.

<https://cpag.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/policypost/The%20problem%20with%20means-testing%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

8. Past implementation experience has shown that this sort of repair reserve fund has rarely been used, but is rather simply a form of risk aversion that further incentivizes landlords to participate in the program.

9. See the incentives for Los Angeles’s Homeless Incentives Program, <https://www.hacla.org/hip>

10. Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program (LEAP) page on the San Diego Housing Commission’s website. As mentioned on the page, this program has provided housing to 3,832 people and engaged over 1,300 landlords.

<https://www.sdhc.org/doing-business-with-us/landlords/landlord-engagement-and-assistance-program-leap/>

11. Most prominently, Houston’s Community COVID Housing Program has served over 6,000 community members experiencing homelessness over the last two years through a variety of interventions, some analogous to those proposed here. More details can be found at <https://www.homelesshouston.org/cchp>.

12. We define social housing as housing that is decommodified and permanently affordable at <30% of a household’s income, empowers its residents, and treats housing as a public good, not a speculative commodity

13. In line with medium-term strategies to create public housing, POR 2021 #280 which was presented at the Cambridge city council meeting on December 20, 2021 reads “That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate City departments to ensure multifamily properties on the market are reviewed as quickly as possible as potential affordable housing acquisitions.” This is on page 7 of the agenda from that meeting: <https://cambridgema.igmp.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=3558&Inline=True>

14. As part of Los Angeles’ Housing Incentives Program (HIP) unhoused individuals are provided with utility assistance and furniture essentials: <http://home.hacla.org/HIPincentives>

15. A Home Essentials for Newly Housed Residents was approved as a participatory budget item in 2021. These kits include linens, towels, pots, and cleaning supplies, among others. This item, linked below, is only budgeted at \$60,000. This is a good start and can be expanded to provide unhoused individuals with comprehensive services they need when moving in. <https://pb.cambridgema.gov/pb4kits>

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Nancy Mahan
Sr. Vice President
CASPAR/Bay Cove
339-927-4646

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The COVID pandemic and shadow epidemics of Substance Use Disorders & other Behavioral Health conditions have had deleterious impacts on all communities, and this is the case for unhoused and sheltered adults. We see more people living on the street and more people in need of basic safety net services. Sadly these impacts are worse for BIPOC and other marginalized adults who are burdened by colliding Social Determinants of Health

We request resources to help mitigate these impacts with four one-time investments of ARPA resources.

1. Purchase and installation of a storage shed for First Step to safely secure needed resources behind the shelter at 240 Albany Street
2. One time purchase of Harm Reduction Supplies for CASPAR/Bay Cove services and other partnering homeless services providers
3. One time upgrade of multiservice room at 240 Albany Street Shelter
4. One time investment in training staff involved in providing needed care homeless persons in evidenced practices (engagement strategies; trauma informed care principles & practices; harm reduction strategies; housing first; overdose prevention & intervention; crisis prevention, intervention, and de-escalation practices; identifying & addressing bias in services; peer recovery based services; suicide awareness and interventions for persons with SUD; an self- care & resilience for all stakeholders.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

While people across Cambridge, the Commonwealth, and the planet are doing their best to recover from the impacts of the pandemic – none of us are “out of the woods” and some individuals and families, some communities, and many poorer countries will continue to have a much more difficult experience. We know that COVID has been harmful to people who have been already marginalized in the world – communities of color, poorer communities, people who have faced poor access to healthcare, and those with complex health conditions. One group of

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, persons impacted by SDOH (poverty, racism, adverse childhood events, housing & fi

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

All served are homeless and most are unemployed or underemployed.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes. For example, we can measure number of persons/programs receiving harm reduction supplies. The number of persons that our staff have reversed overdosed for, the number of times we access health care for people, the number of staff completing training in evidenced based and emerging practices.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

Funding request
\$77,200.

Storage shed installation 9,000.
Levelling ground
Shed & installation
Shelving and locks for inside the shed

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts
Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding: Community Project Idea
Joyful Destinations

Project Idea Information

Michael Monestime
617-448-7186
Monestime.michael@gmail.com

Nina Berg
617-460-2057
Nina.e.berg@gmail.com

May the City contact you for more information: Yes

Project Idea Description

Covid-19 has isolated many Cambridge community members, both mentally and physically. Art and special events bring joy to our residents, can reunite our City, and inspire a spirit of connectedness and neighborly love. Starting in Summer 2022 and continuing through '23, the partners who brought you the best of the Central SQ BID and Cultural District, will bring the Cambridge community outside safely for Joyful Destinations, a series of new cultural events.

Joyful Destinations is a city-wide campaign aimed at creating more moments of cultural celebration through neighborhood special events, focusing on neighborhoods outside of Central, Harvard, Kendall and Inman, which all have association representation. There are many other neighborhoods that don't enjoy the same frequency of food events, public art, or community gatherings.

Joyful Destinations will extend the City of Cambridge's Public Art, bringing color and life to empty walls in North Cambridge, the Coast, and Porter Square. The campaign will activate empty surface lots and turn them into block parties, where all can attend. The campaign will honor the much-needed City Wide Dance Party and have special guest DJ Quest Love unite the City through music and dance. Lastly, the team will pilot a Carnival-style events with amusement rides as children approach back to school. There will be no cost associated with attendance, through approval of ARPA funding to underwrite these public celebrations.

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the Covid-19 health emergency?

Covid-19 has taught us that the safest gathering of residents can and should happen outside. From an art walk to a block party, outside is the safest place to be post-pandemic. Many families don't get to travel to the Cape for the summer, many families staycation is the only vacation they get. After two years of being inside the house staring at a small screen, we want to encourage our

families to come outside and enjoy the best of the City of Cambridge. This campaign is aimed at providing events that force no economic burden on our residents. The goal of the campaign is to make joyful destinations happen city-wide, where a resident can feel joyful and de-stressed by walking in the neighborhood and seeing public art that reflects their community.

Joyful Destinations also provide a less contentious way to engage issues facing our city, like bike lanes. Promoting events in the neighborhood that folks can bike to is one way to incorporate cycling into a joyful part of City infrastructure.

The main reason to support Joyful Destinations is to create a City where there is wonder and joy around every corner, helping all residents reduce stress, anxiety, and isolation—all major side effects of COVID. Creating joy should be a function of our municipality. Making those destinations available City-wide, and not just in areas where associations maintain control, is vital.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the community? If so, how?

Yes, Joyful Destinations is a diversity, equity, and inclusion lead initiative. This campaign will be enjoyed by all with a focus on community members who don't feel that Cambridge is a city for them. Joyful Destinations will work with neighborhood groups and non-profit organizations that represent historically underserved, marginalized and adversely affected groups. For example, Joyful Destinations will work with the Cambridge Community Center to paint a large-scale community mural on the Center, and then top it off with a "Gold Coast" Pride Celebration/block party. In North Cambridge, Joyful Destinations will work with the friends of Jerry's Pond and the residents of Rindge Towers to paint a mural on Ferro's Food Town. The imagery used will lift up and reflect faces who don't see representation of themselves in our City.

Events will be targeted to low-income families to bring summer joy and special events catered to those neighborhoods. We will work with Manu on hosting the first-ever (for Cambridge) Black Chef Food Festival, titled "Everybody Gotta Eat," where the cost of eating is underwritten by the support of this ARPA Grant, this event will happen in the Port and will be done in concert with many community partners.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative impact from the public health emergency?

The proposed initiative focuses specifically on neighborhoods that are underrepresented in the City of Cambridge, many of which include high proportions of public housing.

We hope to demonstrate that these types of events, produced with safety and compliance in mind, are vital to a great civic life for all members of the community. They'll show what's possible when we organize and deploy resources with a focus on residential areas, as opposed to commercial ones.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Outside of user-generated content posted to social media, surveys and attendance record keeping, Joyful Destinations is more felt than measured. The spirit of a city is hard to quantify, but we will document qualitative feedback that speaks to the impact of this initiative. In the process, this will contribute to the storytelling of the City.

If there are existing metrics used by CDD to measure the success of public celebrations, etc, we are happy to use them.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Steven Nutter
Green Cambridge
99 Bishop Allen Drive
Cambridge, MA 02145

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Canopy Crew is for teens and young adults to have career exploration opportunities in urban forestry while preserving and expanding our shared urban tree canopy in Cambridge. Participants are paid the Cambridge Living Wage. Ten youth are employed twice a year for a total of 20 weeks. 2022 is our inaugural year, building off the recommendations of the Urban Forest Master Plan, and developed in coordination with Cambridge DPW. Our first year has been funded from the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban Forest grant and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. In future years, three hundred trees will be planted. This funding request supports the 2023 and 2024 years. By then, we will have our own tree nursery on the top of the new IQHQ development at Alewife. With Green Cambridge staff and urban forestry professionals facilitating, participants will be given the opportunity to plant trees and learn about the technicalities of tree planting throughout the process. With our current climate projections, it is essential to educate emerging adults on environmental issues and provide hands-on learning and employment activities that put hands in the soil. Since 2009, the city of Cambridge has lost 16.4 acres of canopy coverage every year; that ' s the equivalent of more than 9 soccer fields!As of 2019, our canopy coverage was 26%, and projected to decline to 10% by 2050 if we do not preserve our existing trees while also planting thousands more each year.To make matters worse, by 2050 Cambridge will be much hotter than it is now with more flooding -- two things a robust canopy cover can help mitigate. For more information, see greencambridge.org/canopycrew

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Canopy Crew employs Cambridge youth and provides career exploration opportunities for them for future careers in urban forestry, ecology, environmental science, and STEAM careers. At the same time, we plant trees to rebuild our shared urban canopy that is critical to mitigating stormwater runoff: for example, a single mature tree can intercept more than 2,500 gallons of rainfall each year.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, using GIS analysis that combined Environmental Justice layers, urban heat island layers from the Museum of Science, and other information, our proposed planting sites all prioritize areas of the city where historically underserved communities live—not to mention employment for CRLS students who, as a share of the student body population, often from these communities.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Canopy Crew provides not just employment but career pathways to increase economic opportunity.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, we will measure number of people employed, number of trees planted, gallons of stormwater mitigated.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$221,000

This covers two years of running Canopy Crew, including paying youth (similar to MSYEP), 300 trees, outreach, project management, and indirect costs.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

De Novo Center for Justice and Healing
Contact 1: Amanda Becker, Esq, Director of Development
(617) 405-5458 or abecker@denovo.org
Contact 2: John Froio, Esq., Deputy Director
(617) 405-5456 or jfroio@denovo.org

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Homelessness Prevention Project will provide trauma-informed and culturally relevant free legal assistance to 80-100 low-income people living in Cambridge annually who are facing homelessness or displacement due to COVID-19. Specifically, funds will be used to retain two full-time housing attorneys and a full-time housing paralegal originally hired with state pandemic relief funds in late 2020 to help meet the exceptional unmet need for legal assistance among low-income tenants facing eviction due to COVID-19.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

The COVID-19 pandemic arrived in the midst of a severe years-long housing crisis in Massachusetts. Rental housing in the Greater Boston region consistently ranks among the most expensive in the nation, and by early 2022 the rental market reached an all-time high, deepening housing instability and vulnerability to eviction.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

The Homelessness Prevention Project serves low-income tenants living in Cambridge who

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

The Homelessness Prevention Project will provide trauma-informed and culturally relevant free legal assistance to 80-100 low-income tenants in Cambridge annually who are facing homelessness or displacement due to COVID-19. De Novo prioritizes cases referred from community partners including Cambridge Multi-Service Center, Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee (CEOC), Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services, and Transition House.

Clients benefit from a full range of high-quality legal assistance, from legal advice and mediation to

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

De Novo carefully tracks program data including client demographics, time invested, legal results, and clinical outcomes in our case management database. The Eviction Defense Project staff meet weekly to review the status of cases, analyze quantitative data, discuss client treatment plans and goals, and evaluate service effectiveness. Staff are active members of professional associations, stay up-to-date on research and shifts in practice, and regularly consult with partners to strategize on

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

De Novo requests a three-year grant of \$630,000 (\$210,000 each year) for its Homelessness Prevention Project to provide trauma-informed and culturally-relevant legal assistance to 80-100 low-income tenants living in Cambridge annually. Specifically, funds will be used to retain two full-time housing attorneys and a full-time paralegal originally hired in late 2020 to help meet the exceptional unmet need for legal assistance among low-income tenants impacted by COVID-19.

Like many service providers, the public health crisis continues to stretch our staff capacity.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Create Cambridge Coalition:

Maggie Moore Abdow, Coalition Representative, 617-576-9728, ext.208;
mma@centralsquaretheater.org

At the time of this submission, Coalition representation includes: Brattle Film Foundation, Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Community Art Center, Cambridge Community Center for the Arts, Cambridge Community Foundation, Cambridge Community Television, Central Square Theater, City Nights Reading Series, The Dance Complex, Global Arts Live, José Mateo Ballet Theatre, Midday Movement Series, Multicultural Arts Center, Revels

May the City contact you for more information?



Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The Create Cambridge Coalition requests ARPA funding to invest \$5 million to the arts, culture, and creative economy sector. Current Coalition representation listed above in Contact. Coalition participation is open and rolling. Advocacy and Inclusion is a core foundation of the Coalition, with dedicated continued efforts to expand participation from all arts & culture organizations/creative workers.

The arts and culture sector is a major driver of the Cambridge economy. Annually, the sector generates roughly \$175M, supports more than 6,000 jobs, and contributes more than \$13M in local and state government revenue in Cambridge. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted individual artists, many of whom are people of color from diverse backgrounds, cultural workers, and arts organizations. State-wide, the Massachusetts Cultural Council reports (March 2022) a pandemic era loss of \$791 million, with 90% loss from earned-income revenue.

Cambridge arts and culture organizations have suffered a loss of \$30,668,576 in revenue due to COVID-19. Of all the metropolitan cities, Cambridge is second only to the City of Boston in total lost revenue (Source: Mass Cultural Council COVID impact survey by city.)

The Cambridge sector is in a crisis and data clearly points to a multi-year recovery period. Critical and immediate Investment in the sector of \$5 million would be allocated to a TBD disbursement partner. The Coalition is in conversation with potential disbursement partners at the time of this submission. The Coalition benefited from similar partnerships, most recently the Cambridge Community Foundation Cultural Capital Fund. The Fund was instrumental during the early-pandemic with an initial investment from the City of Cambridge of \$500K via the Mayor's Disaster Relief Fund, which provided emergency and general operating support to over 40 organizations.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

**To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative
economic impacts**

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Even before COVID, the nonprofit arts/culture/creative economy sector has been historically underfunded in Cambridge compared to major metropolitan areas nationally. (2018 Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 Report). Additionally, the pandemic exacerbated a space/housing crisis. Cambridge has lost so many arts spaces, Green Street Studios, EMC, Studio 501, Improv Boston and more, over the last 3 years. This points to a critical need for the City to be proactive in reimagining and strengthening space and infrastructure that support the global majority. In designing these spaces and experiences we need to keep equity and inclusion front and center to make sure the arts sector reflects the demographics of the community and ensure that Cambridge is a city that celebrates its cultural diversity. To safeguard a vibrant and thriving arts and culture sector in Cambridge, we must expand current funding mechanisms and identify new opportunities for sustained investment and stability.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Investment in the Cambridge Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy will via a disbursement partner will provide arts/culture organizations and individuals to apply for project, capital, and general operating support. Each organization represented in the Create Cambridge Coalition serves the Cambridge community at large, with a unified vision to dismantle obstacles for global majority community members and artists alike to access and authentically participate in year-round experiences. Specific participant demographics are specific to the organizations/individuals.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Deep and broad investment in the Cambridge Arts/Culture sector will provide opportunities to support via direct granting to cultural/creative economy organizations employing artists and cultural economy workers. Reported from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (March 2022), cumulatively from the MCC’s six COVID economic impact surveys, issued between March 2020 and March 2022, 3,048 creative individuals reported 74,152 lost or canceled gigs/jobs and almost \$32 million (\$31,938,000) in lost personal income. This represents an average loss of 24 gigs/jobs and \$10,478 per person in the past two years. Support of the sector will assist in addressing how arts and culture can be integrated into the larger economic recovery by addressing: promotion of a living wage for all arts/culture work with specific workforce training and retraining investment of industries/populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19; as well as opportunity to integrate arts and cultural recovery into larger economic recovery of the entire creative and cultural workforce. Additionally, the investment will support projects that invest in the health of all Cambridge residents by finding opportunities to integrate creative expression into urgent public health issues where the arts can have an impact: collective trauma, racism, mental health, housing, social isolation, and chronic disease.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Specific assessment tools will be implemented per the disbursement partners's requirements but will include: qualitative and quantitative evaluation and reporting from every grantee. Assessment tools used to compile the data includes: quantitative and qualitative surveys; box office/participant registrant data; and anecdotal impact stories .

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested: \$5,000,000

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community- based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Jane Carbone
Director of Development
Homeowner's Rehab. Inc
jcarbone@homeownersrehab.org
617-799-5592

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

The funds requested in the eligible expenditures category are 2.10 Aid to non profit a, 3.10 Housing Support Affordable Housing . Public Health 1.4 Prevention on congregate settings (elderly housing) .

Harvard Place is a 22 unit affordable development for low income elderly and individuals owned by CASCAP Inc a non profit agency that provides housing and services to elderly and individuals with mental health challenges . The goal of this project would be to improve the indoor air quality by replacing the existing HVAC system and install equipment that can introduce fresh air into each unit to improve the indoor air quality .

In the last few decades, Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) has received increasing attention from the international scientific community, political institutions, and environmental governances for improving the comfort, health, and wellbeing of building occupants. Several studies on this topic have shown both qualitative and quantitative IAQ variations through the years, underlining an increase in pollutants and their levels. It has been estimated that people spend about 90% of their time in both private and public indoor environments. IAQ has a significant impact on health and quality of life in general. For many people, the health risks from exposure to indoor air pollution may be greater than those related to outdoor pollution. In particular, poor indoor air quality can be harmful to vulnerable groups such as children, young adults, the elderly, or those suffering chronic respiratory and/or cardiovascular diseases.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Mechanical ventilation systems significantly reduced dangerous particulate matter, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, and formaldehyde from indoor air, reducing the risk of respiratory and cardiovascular illness. Thousands of Americans are dying every year from preventable illnesses exacerbated by poor air quality. Installing mechanical ventilation , with economizers for improved air ventilation including monitoring will have a significant impact on improving the health and wellness of individuals that reside here and improve the health of this community.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Yes, the proposed initiative would serve the low income adults and elderly with mental he:

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Harvard Place is an low income affordable housing development whose residents are on on fixed incomes with limited resources . By improving the IAQ it will benefit and improve the health and wellness of residents. The scope also includes upgrading ventilation in the common areas where residents could congregate in a environment that would foster interaction vs isolation in their units .

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The goal would be to replace the equipment and install air quality monitors in each unit so that we can track the performance goals and levels of particulates if any occur and follow up on the data that is being reported to ensure the comfort of residents and address any issues that are identified.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$502,700.00

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Connie Chin

Global Arts Live, Chief Executive Officer

connie@globalartslive.org

617-876-4275

Submitted in collaborative partnership with

- Catherine Carr Kelly, Executive Director, Central Square Theater
- Peter DiMuro, Executive Artistic Director, the Dance Complex
- Jason Weeks, Executive Director, Cambridge Arts Council

May the city contact you for more information?

Yes

Project Idea Description (250 words or less and please specify how the proposed program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic)

A consortium of Cambridge's largest independent performing arts organizations will collaborate to produce an outdoor festival in summer 2023. The series will bring together residents of Cambridge and surrounding communities to enjoy music, theater, dance, and more, in an inclusive and safe environment, celebrating diverse art and perspectives. A programming committee will create at least 12 weeks of events including:

- **Cambridge Arts:** River Festival (1 weekend of events)
- **Global Arts Live:** world music featuring global and local artists (15 events)
- **The Dance Complex:** world dance performance and classes featuring Cambridge, New England, and national artists; engaging youth to elders sharing their heritage (15 events)
- **Central Square Theater:** *Our Town*, a community-engaged tri-lingual play (English/Haitian Creole/Cuban Spanish) produced in partnership with Cambridge artists, community members, youth organizations and nonprofit arts partners (15 events)
- **Cambridge Community Television:** record and broadcast programming, offer outdoor education classes
- Other partnerships under discussion: **East Cambridge Business Association, Cambridgeside Galleria.**

With the city and its residents battered by the health, social and economic impacts of COVID-19, an outdoor performing arts festival focused on diversity will help the community heal. Through offering free programming spanning a range of genres, the festival will foster joy and bring together community members while reducing barriers including financial constraints and health and safety concerns associated with traditional indoor venues.

The proposed project site is Lechmere Canal Park. The festival will draw visitors and residents to the Cambridgeside Galleria and help jumpstart the economic recovery of local businesses.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations?

- 1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?**

Through developing an outdoor performance series, we will create a space where communities feel safe to gather and connect again in a way that has not been possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The impacts of being able to gather and experience arts again will have positive effects on mental health after such long periods of isolation. Drawing audiences to the area will benefit local businesses by driving foot traffic as well as provide employment opportunities for artists who have been unable to work due to COVID-19 safety concerns and shutdowns. This venue will also fill needs that are not currently being met by Starlight Square, especially if that venue is not in operation by 2023. The partners in this project are not served by Starlight, as sound, equipment and size and location of the space (nearby housing) are not conducive to larger scale theater, music, and dance performances.

- 2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized or adversely affected groups in the community? If so, how?**

The proposed outdoor performance venue programming will be free-to-all admission to eliminate financial barriers to those hoping to come together and engage in the arts. We also will be partnering and collaborating with scores of local nonprofit organizations to ensure the largest possible participation and broadest outreach. Additionally, the open location of Canal Park is centrally located in historically underserved areas of Cambridge, effectively bringing the free performances to neighborhoods that are not offered an abundance of cultural activities. The performances will provide performance fees to a large number of local artists, who have been seriously adversely affected by COVID.

- 3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity and/or housing insecurity who experience a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?**

The [CDC has stated](#) "COVID-19 data shows that Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian and Alaska Native persons in the United States experience higher rates of COVID-19-related hospitalization and death compared with non-Hispanic White populations. These disparities persist even when accounting for other demographic and socioeconomic factors."

The neighborhood where the festival will take place is part of East Cambridge (Area 1), and borders on the MIT (Area 2), Wellington-Harrington (Area 3), and The Port (Area 4). According to the [City of Cambridge Neighborhood Statistical Profile 2019](#) report by the Community Development Department, these four areas are from 5.1% to 20.4% Black/African American, and from 7.0% to 13.1% of Hispanic Origin (both white and nonwhite Hispanic). From 6.3% to 11.3% speak Spanish at home. Poverty rates range from 12.9% to 22.5%, and poverty rates among Single Female Heads of Households range as high as 45.1% in Cambridgeport. The festival will particularly serve the Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino populations in Cambridge, through its diverse programming and outreach efforts.

COVID-19 data clearly shows it brings additional risk to populations over 60, with hospitalizations and death increasing with age. The outdoor festival will have multi-generational, family-friendly programming, encouraging and enabling grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts and children to come together in a much safer environment than a crowded indoor venue. Thus, it is especially important that programming take place outdoors so as to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 especially among demographics who have been disproportionately negatively affected. As we return to a post-COVID world, there are many who are still at high risk. This project creates an opportunity for those who will enjoy engaging with exciting performing arts of diverse cultures and heritages while not assuming additional risk.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

The consortium partners will collect data on audience attendance, launch an audience phone survey to measure impact, and compile anecdotal feedback from audiences and local businesses including the Cambridgeside Galleria and East Cambridge Association. While free, participants will be encouraged to reserve tickets/access in advance which will assist in collecting quantitative data. Following attendance, audiences will be emailed an Intrinsic Impact Survey with assessment questions about programming, space, and access. All projects will conduct a review of best practices with partner organizations and artists.

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested

\$1.3M will be expended on building an outdoor stage with necessary lighting and sound systems, dressing areas, and toilets; event operations including permits, security and trash control; artist fees; event-specific staff such as production and logistical support; staff time to plan and execute events; volunteer coordination; and outreach, marketing, and promotion.

If the full amount of requested funds is not available, the consortium will consider scaling back the concept if sufficient funds are granted.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Dr. Alice Kidder, Co-Director (617) 276-6227

Paris Swindle, Co-Director (857) 939-9229

Green Street Shelter
11-15 Green Street
Cambridge, MA 02130

May the City contact you for more information? Yes No

Project Idea Description

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

While the collection of data on the mental health impact of the Covid-19 pandemic remains ongoing, the Green Street Homeless Shelter has directly felt the impact that the pandemic has placed on our target population. Due to the unique stressors that the pandemic placed on mental health, populations that are traditionally undeserved by mental health services are particularly vulnerable in these times. Homeless individuals are frequently dealing with mental health issues as both a cause and consequence of their situation, and we have witnessed the acute need to provide mental health services to our residents if we are to restore them to self-supporting community members.

The Green Street Shelter has experience dealing with various mental health issues including depression, suicide, domestic violence, and the ability to transition to self-sufficiency, but lack the capacity to treat them. Green Street seeks to expand its mental health service counseling and clinical support to augment its spectrum of services in job training, job placement and case management.

Green Street also seeks to establish a Covid ward in the shelter to treat our residents who test positive for the virus by isolating them through the incubation period until which time they can be released back into the general population to help protect the residents who have not tested positive for the virus.

We request funding to establish our mental health service capacity by hiring seven additional staff members as well as acquiring the equipment and technology to facilitate delivery of these services and program support.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

- To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts*
- To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers*
- To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines*
- To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband*

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

By expanding our capacity to provide mental health services to our residents through counseling and clinical services, we can help mitigate the unique stressors placed on our residents by the onset of the pandemic. Mental health is a vital component to restoring our residents to full self-sufficiency. When combined with job training/job placement services and robust case management, mental health services are the vital third leg of our platform to provide the full spectrum of services our residents need to achieve self-sufficiency.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

Almost by default, a homeless shelter provides vital services to one of the most chronically

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

Due to the full spectrum of services offered by the Green Street Shelter, our residents are afforded the opportunities to address the myriad of challenges they face; such as social, economic, educational, housing and health. Green Street provides our residents services in securing permanent housing, job training/placement and case management. We seek to add mental health services to complete the full spectrum of services needed to achieve our goals. We measure our success by our outcomes, by how many residents we can help find their footing in life and become productive and self-supporting citizens.

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

We currently serve 50 residents, and we intend to measure our outcomes by the number of residents that we can empower to take control of all aspects of their lives within two years. For each resident who may not require mental health services we will recruit non-resident homeless individuals from Cambridge with the same goal of developing their self-sufficiency and livelihood. The questions we seek to answer are 1) Has the resident found and held a job? 2) Has the resident found and maintained permanent housing? 3) How many residents have we provided

5. Please provide the Funding Amount Requested.

\$200,000

- 1 Clinical Supervisor
- 2 Clinicians/Case Manager
- 1 Job Training Counselors

COVID STAFF

- 3 unit supervisors (these positions will be to supervise our housing units for Covid positive
-

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of Middlesex County's SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.



May 2, 2022

To: Ellen Semonoff, Assistant City Manager for Human Services
David Kale, Assistant City Manager for Fiscal Affairs and Public Investments

On behalf of the Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition (CNC) membership and the Cambridge nonprofit community, the CNC leadership is proud to submit the enclosed proposal to the City of Cambridge (City) to support the operational recovery and continued challenges facing the Cambridge nonprofit community.

The overwhelming data shows the devastating economic, programmatic and personnel impact on nonprofits from the Covid-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, even as we head out of the pandemic, major challenges remain with increased demand for services; challenges hiring staff at competitive wages or even getting volunteers and increased inflation and possible recession.

CNC's *"Guiding Principles for Distribution of ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds in Cambridge"* and additional information in our proposal, provide a roadmap on implementing an efficient and effective grant program that will support the Cambridge nonprofit community.

The CNC looks forward to working with the City in implementing an ARPA Nonprofit Grant Fund that will ensure our underserved individuals and communities can continue to be served by a strong nonprofit sector in Cambridge.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions on the proposal.

Sincerely,
Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition

Agassiz Baldwin Community
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
Brattle Film Foundation
Breakthrough Greater Boston
Bridges Homeward (fka CFCS)
Brookline/Cambridge Community Center for
the Arts, Inc. (BCCA / CCCA)
Cambridge Camping Association
Cambridge Carnival International, Inc.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
Cambridge Community Center
Cambridge Community Television
Cambridge Economic Opportunity
Committee
Cambridge Families of Color Coalition
Cambridge Local First
Cambridge Neighbors
Cambridge School Volunteers

Cambridge Volunteer Clearinghouse
Cambridge Women's Center (Women's
Educational Center, Inc.)
Central Square Theater
Charles River Conservancy
CitySprouts Inc
Community Action Agency of Somerville,
Inc.
Community Art Center, Inc.
Community Cooks
Community Dispute Settlement Center, Inc
East End House
Farrington Nature Linc
Food For Free
Global Arts Live
Green Cambridge
History Cambridge
Homeowner's Rehab Inc.
Innovators for Purpose
Institute for Health and Recovery
Just A Start
Life Science Cares
Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House
Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese
Speakers (MAPS)

Material Aid and Advocacy Program
Mount Auburn Cemetery
Multicultural Arts Center
On The Rise, Inc
Parents Forum
Revels, Inc.
Rian Immigrant Center
Science Club for Girls
Solutions at Work, Inc.
South Asian Workers' Center
Sustainable Business Network of
Massachusetts
The Dance Complex
The Friday Cafe at First Church in Cambridge
The Union Partnership for A Whole
Community
The Young People's Project
TiE Boston
Transition House
TSNE MissionWorks
Vinfen
Violeta Montessori School
YWCA Cambridge

Proposal to City of Cambridge on ARPA Funding Opportunities for Nonprofit Organizations: Cambridge Nonprofit Recovery Fund

Overview

The City's ARPA nonprofit grant program, referred to as the Cambridge Nonprofit Recovery Fund (Fund), is designed to support organizations, programs, and activities that benefit Cambridge residents in an effort to address the negative economic impact of the pandemic on the Cambridge nonprofit sector. The Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition (CNC) recommends funding the Cambridge Nonprofit Recovery Fund grant program at \$20 million in relief funding, specifically for community-based Cambridge serving nonprofits that have sustained negative economic and human resource operational impacts because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. CNC recognizes the need for support for new projects that serve Cambridge residents, however, in order to continue implementing those projects, nonprofits must be able to operate and keep their doors open. The ARPA funds specifically support funding nonprofits directly for rent, utilities, salaries of employees, retention incentives, loss of revenues and related challenges. The Fund will provide critical financial support to a wide range of Cambridge serving nonprofits to strengthen the capacity of the sector, improving its ability to continue providing critical services to the residents of Cambridge. It is important to note that many of the services provided by Cambridge nonprofits also target residents who have been historically marginalized and disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, or endeavor to tell their stories. These include but are not limited to: financial security supports, early childhood education, elder services, food access, mental health and behavioral health, environmental justice, youth development and arts and culture programs.

CNC's "Guiding Principles for Distribution of ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds in Cambridge" (See enclosed) of leveraging nonprofits expertise in designing a grant program; ensuring racial equity is at the center of a grant program to end disparities; support premium pay and support for human resource needs to operate community programs; a simplified grant process that directly supports nonprofits operational costs; and supports the exemption of ARPA funds from the Anti-Aid Amendment, support this proposal. The CNC looks forward to working with the City/Intermediary to ensure the Fund is implemented efficiently and effectively.

Eligible organizations may receive grants for general operating expenses, including, but not limited to mortgage or rent payments, payroll (retention bonuses and higher wages), utilities, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other equipment needed to comply with local, state, and Federal public health guidance, and the purchase of digital resources to maintain and market their programs and services. CNC suggests tiers of funding based on the budget size of a nonprofit organization (see link under Grant Award Amounts Section). We believe this is the most equitable method to ensure simplicity as well as equity in reaching as many organizations as possible to provide support.

Furthermore, recent predictions of recession, higher inflation, housing challenges, a more competitive workforce and wage pressures, all point to a clear need to increase support for operational funding, so the Cambridge nonprofit community can continue to provide critical services to the residents of Cambridge, and most fully realize the potential of previous and current investments by the City of Cambridge. **Therefore, CNC requests \$20 million to ensure the nonprofit sector can not only survive, but recover and continue to provide essential and vital services to Cambridge residents.**

Background:

The CNC data shows a rise in the need for services in the Cambridge community, as well as the added cost of adapting to COVID safety protocols and new ways of serving the Cambridge community, and has been made significantly worse by the great resignation and a radically changing labor market. Fifty-two percent of Cambridge nonprofits report vacant positions and 27% do not have the funding needed to fill those positions. Cambridge nonprofits cite salary competition and staff burnout as the major causes. Ensuring Cambridge nonprofits can retain their staff and hire new staff to support operations will be critical to ensuring these programs continue to serve Cambridge.

While some have recovered, many nonprofits are still struggling with major reductions in income with ***58% of Cambridge nonprofits reporting the same or less revenue than this time last year, during a more severe stage of the pandemic.*** At the same time increases in expenses have grown, and inflation continues to rise. The numbers are daunting in that 64% of Cambridge nonprofits report greater expenses than this time last year; while 68% have experienced an increase in demand for their services; and 82% anticipate that the demand for their services will increase next year. This is further exacerbated by the inability to fundraise in the same ways as before the pandemic to address those increased expenses.

Local Cambridge non-profit leaders are raising concerns on the challenges facing the community:

“Staffing has been incredibly challenging; we will need to raise salaries in order to keep valued staff at our organization. The cost of living has increased for many, as has their ability to find higher paying work in the private sector. If nonprofits are to continue doing good community work and filling in the gaps where other services lag, there will need to be some investment.”

"There are so many challenges. Staffing is an ongoing challenge which is exacerbated by being chronically underfunded so salaries aren't competitive, there is no parking in Cambridge for non-profit staff, childcare is a challenge for people looking for work, and the cost of living in this area is so high that it makes it very hard to pay people enough to come and work in this area. The mental health/social emotional needs of children have increased putting intense strain on the staff we do have. Our facilities were used so intensely last year they are all in need of repairs."

Moreover, according to the Independent Sector's Health of the U.S. Nonprofit Sector: Quarterly Review update for the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2021, historically, the nonprofit sector is the third-largest private employer in the U.S. economy and grows jobs four times faster than for-profit organizations. The sector's strong job growth held true following the 2008 recession, but it remains unclear whether the trend applies as the economy recovers from the pandemic. Since 2020, the sector has demonstrated a slow, unsteady recovery that varied across subsectors. At the end of 2021, the pace of job recovery for nonprofits appears to be slowing. **The sector may take up to 11 more months to operate at its 2019 employment levels, despite continuing to play a major role in helping communities recover and thrive after the pandemic.**

Recommendations for Grant Application Process and Metrics:

The CNC recommends that the City of Cambridge administer the \$20 million funding per the ARPA eligibility guidelines utilizing a formula-based approach based on a standard set of qualifications. Organizations may apply up to the maximum allowable amount in each funding category for where they are located on the funding table (See table linked to under Grant Award Amounts Section below). For example, if your organization has an annual operating budget of \$100,000, you are eligible to apply for a grant up to \$18,000.

In addition, to the recommendations below, the CNC strongly recommends there be a public listening session(s) announcing the grant opportunities. The session(s) would ensure the public understands the application process, ask questions on eligibility, allow for technical assistance and ensure an open and equitable process for organizations of varying capacities and mission focuses. CNC is happy to work with the City/Intermediary to conduct the session(s), and is committed to tracking applicant information on budget size, mission focus, target population demographics, and applicant leadership demographics to ensure broad engagement in the application process.

CNC recommends the following metrics to assess the success of the fund:

- Diversity demonstrated within applicant AND grantee pool regarding mission focus, target population demographics (if applicable), budget size, and leadership demographics
- % attest to improved operations as a result of the funding. Improvements may be linked to the expense category selected in application (ex. using the funds for payroll to stabilize staffing)
- % attest to operational improvements resulting in further advancement of mission

Fund Management

The CNC recognizes the City's concern about the capacity to manage a high number of individual federal ARPA grants. CNC stands ready to work with the City to identify an intermediary organization that aligns with the City's interests and values and to partner with the Intermediary once selected to educate the nonprofit community on the grant process and

timeline. If the decision is to utilize an Intermediary, CNC recommends a similar simple process to award the grants. Funding for the Intermediary will be in addition to the grant Fund for nonprofits. CNC suggests that 5% (1.359M) of the \$20 million be allocated to support the Intermediary, and CNC as its partner. The intermediary will be responsible for implementation, oversight, and reporting requirements of the grant awardees, to ensure applications meet ARPA regulations and have no duplication of services. CNC will provide community outreach and knowledge to the nonprofit community of the grant opportunities; provide technical assistance to grant applicants, and provide reports to the Intermediary on its activities. It will be critical for the City and Intermediary to work together throughout the application and reporting process to ensure all rules, regulations and policies are followed to ensure the funds are spent in accordance with ARPA guidance.

Basic Eligibility Requirements

- To be considered for this funding, each entity must meet each of the following eligibility criteria:
- Is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or, if not a 501(c)3, has a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
- Has a location in Cambridge that serves Cambridge residents
- Can expend the funds by the deadline of December 31, 2026, upon entering a grant agreement with the City of Cambridge or the identified intermediary.

Ineligible Entities:

- Hospitals, K-12 private schools, credit unions and higher education institutions.
- For-profit entities and individuals are not eligible.

Required Documentation

- Self-attestation within application to meet all eligibility requirements.
- The organization does not have a MA tax lien filed with the Secretary of State.
- Provide total organizational revenue for fiscal year 2019 to determine eligible grant award amount (organizational size determination).
- Attest to organizational impact due to COVID-19, including loss of revenue, increased expenses or expanded services to meet community needs.
- Provide current 501(c)(3) IRS designation letter or proof of good standing OR provide evidence of a submitted application for 501(c)(3) status awaiting approval will also be accepted if it is dated before December 31, 2019
- Sign grant contract with the City of Cambridge (if approved for an award)
- Provide the organization's federal taxpayer ID number (EIN).

Eligible Uses

- Costs associated with loss of earnings, decline in revenues, or impacts of canceled fundraising events, during periods of closure or limited operations due to COVID-19 public health orders.
- Costs associated with implementation of prevention or mitigation measures to contain the spread of the virus, such as physical changes to enable social distancing, enhanced cleaning efforts, barriers or partitions, or COVID-19 vaccination, testing or contact tracing programs.
- Reimbursement of expenses related to the organization's response to the COVID-19 public health emergency such as payroll and benefit costs; costs to retain employees; mortgage, retention bonuses, rent or utilities costs; and other related operating costs.

NOTE: Organizations that received other COVID-19 funding assistance such as, but not limited to, Federal CARES Act funding; Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans; Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL); or Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds ***are eligible to apply for ARPA funding so long as expenses are not duplicated.***

The CNC supports this provision and will work to educate the nonprofit community to ensure applications do not request duplicate funds.

Ineligible Uses

- Financial loss or expense that bears no relation to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Contributions to rainy day funds, financial reserves, or similar funds.
- Payment of interest or principal on outstanding debt instruments.
- Lobbying, support of candidates for public office, or other political activities.
- Individuals or for-profit organizations or businesses.
- Activities that improperly discriminate as to race, gender, marital status, sexual preference, age, disability, creed or ethnicity.
- Inherently religious activities, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization and/or those that promote or inhibit religious interest.
- Economic hardship incurred outside of the allowable time period.
- Expenses reimbursed or eligible for reimbursement through any other contract or agreement with the City, including but not limited to Community Service Grant, Community Development Block Grant, and CARES grants and ARPA grants.

Grant Award Amounts

As indicated above, CNC recommends using a tiered funding formula to calculate grant amounts, and that organizations may apply for up to the maximum allowable amount in each funding level. The grant amount table is linked [here](#).

Applicants may apply for funds to cover COVID-19 related economic loss or costs incurred during the period beginning **March 3, 2021, and ending December 31, 2024.**

Grant Period

- Organizations, as recipients of an SLFRF ARPA award, may use the funds to cover eligible costs that incurred during the period that begins on March 3, 2021, and ends on December 31, 2024, as long as the award funds for the obligations incurred by December 31, 2024, are **expended by December 31, 2026.**
- Costs for projects incurred prior to March 3, 2021, are not eligible, as provided for in Treasury's final rule.

How to Apply

- The ARPA Nonprofit Grants Program application will be available through the City's /Intermediary's website at TBD starting TBD. Applications must be submitted electronically; hard copies will not be accepted.

Application Review Process

- City/Intermediary staff will review grant applications for completeness and eligibility. Applicants may be asked to revise proposals or provide additional information.
- Complete and eligible applications will then be reviewed by the Director, Office of Contracts (Office)/Intermediary designate.
- The Office/Intermediary Designate will make recommendations for funding to the City Manager and the City Council.
- The Manager and City Council/Intermediary will consider the staff's recommendations and make final award determinations.
- Award allocations will be based on a formula utilizing information such as utilizing the total utilizing total number of applicants and 2019 organizational financial information.
- No cash match is required.

Application Timeline

Listening Session TBD – CNC would welcome the opportunity to conduct this session working closely with the City and/or Intermediary to educate the Cambridge nonprofit community on the grant process.

Grant Application Announcement: No later than June 30, 2022

Enclosed:

- CNC Guiding Principles for Distribution of ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds in Cambridge.
- Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI): Nonprofits and Foundations Need to Be Prepared for the Effects of Inflation on Services, Operations, and Endowments, February 2022. [Nonprofits and Foundations Need to Be Prepared for the Effects of Inflation on Services, Operations, and Endowments – Lilly Family School of Philanthropy \(iupui.edu\)](#).
- Urban Institute Study on Impact to Smaller nonprofits: [Study: Small nonprofits hit harder by COVID than larger ones - ABC News \(go.com\)](#)
- Massachusetts Non-Profit Network and Philanthropy Massachusetts: Ongoing Impacts of COVID-19 on Massachusetts Nonprofits Survey.
- [Health of the U.S. Nonprofit Sector — Independent Sector](#)
- White House Executive Order on Equity and Support for Underserved Communities: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-advancing-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-through-the-federal-government/>.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Please submit your proposed initiative idea by responding to the below questions and sending to ARPA@cambridgema.gov. Please use the subject line: “Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea”.

A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

Cambridge Branch NAACP

Kenneth E. Reeves, President

P.O. Box 380660

125 Mt. Auburn St.

Cambridge, MA 0213

Email: naacpcambridgema@gmail.com, kenerrolreeves@gmail.com

Phone: 857-991-7888, 617-828-5262

May the City contact you for more information?

Yes, absolutely.

Project Idea Description and Funding Amount Request

(250 words or less and please also specify how the proposed project or program idea would address negative community impacts from the pandemic):

Cambridge Branch NAACP Excellence Lab Proposal: Funding is requested for an experimental “excellence lab”, which will target Cambridge students K-8 to assess the knowledge gaps, skill deficiencies, and enrichment deficits that have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The thrust of this innovative proposal is to create a minority-led initiative to serve children and families who, due to periods of online-only education social isolation, have regressed in their absolute knowledge and have not had access to the enrichment programs and tutorial contexts created by more affluent families. The foundation of this effort is to promote equity and inclusion for these families and their students.

We will gather a minority-led team to assess students’ current basic skills and then through an experimental process of exploration, instruction and coaching, help students to be more competitive in the overall landscape of public school academic achievement. We will also mentor parents about ways to support/inspire their children at home.

The innovative aspect of this program is to use Cambridge and its major institutions as the teaching context for more informed learning. For example, students would participate in a series of activities to learn about what is/are:

- Harvard and MIT

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

- Kendall Square and the Biotech Environment (e.g. Novartis, Google, Broad Institute)
- Emerging industries in Cambridge (e.g. cannabis, online food ordering and delivery platforms)
- Public health infrastructure in Cambridge (e.g. Cambridge Public Health Commission, hospitals)
- Government of Cambridge
- Housing Mix in Cambridge
- Demographics of Cambridge
- How can students prepare to be successful in Cambridge?

This program seeks to invent the solution to differentiated class-based student achievement.

B. Project Idea Eligibility Assessment: What can funds be used for?

The City of Cambridge can use its allocation of funds towards projects and programs that are consistent with any of the below use categories as established by Congress.

Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:

X To respond to the Public Health Emergency or its negative economic impacts

To Support Essential Work by providing pay or grants to essential workers

To Support the Provision of Public Services impacted by revenue declines

To support necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband

C. Other Compliance/Policy Considerations

1. How does the proposed initiative address immediate or delayed public health, economic, or other community harms resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency?

This is the precise reason for this program.

2. Could the proposed initiative serve historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups in the Community? If so, how?

This is the precise group this program is designed to help.

3. How could the proposed initiative serve disproportionately impacted communities¹ and/or communities with high unemployment rates, limited economic opportunity, and/or housing insecurity who experienced a negative economic impact from the public health emergency?

This is a dream program for these communities.

4. Can performance metrics be developed for the proposed initiative to measure progress in meeting intended goals and community benefits? If so, please provide examples.

Yes, absolutely. Metrics and other means of assessments can be developed. For example, we would use the Harlem Children Zone methodology of defining the components of the course of study and then list what the student will know after completing the course of study.

Background Information about the Program

In March 2021 as part of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Congress appropriated \$350 billion in funding to the U.S. Treasury for distribution among every State, County, City, and other communities in the nation. This funding, known as State & Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding (SLFRF), is intended to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

The City of Cambridge has received \$88.1 million in American Rescue Fund/SLFRF funding, including \$64.9 million directly from U.S. Treasury and another \$23.2 million from the Commonwealth as part of

¹ “Disproportionally impacted communities” are demographic groups with exacerbated health inequities along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines including low-income and socially vulnerable communities. Per federal rules for using SLFRF, “in identifying these disproportionately-impacted communities, recipients (the City) should be able to support their determination that the pandemic resulted in disproportionate public health or economic outcomes to the specific populations, households, or geographic areas to be served.” Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 93, Pg. 26791.

City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Federal Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funding – Community Project Idea Submittal Form

Middlesex County’s SLFRF allocation. The City has until December 31, 2024 to obligate its allocation in full to eligible projects and programs and must spend its total allocation by December 31, 2026.

As the City considers projects and programs to be implemented using its allocation, the City wants to ensure that planned uses of the funding incorporate input and feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and other community stakeholders. As such, you are invited to submit initiative ideas for City consideration using the below form. The form is tailored so that submitted ideas are consistent with the minimum range of funding use options as established by ARPA and U.S. Treasury regulations.

The City intends to reference submitted ideas as it continues to decide upon and shape initiatives that both address community pandemic recovery needs, while being consistent with applicable federal rules for the use of the funding.
