

Town of Coventry American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Michael DiBiase

Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council

June 28, 2021



American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

- \$130.2 billion fund appropriated for local governments
- Local governments in RI to receive \$536.9 million
- Town to Coventry to receive \$8.6 million in total
 - \$1.8 million (town's full municipal allocation) to be paid in the first week of July
 - \$3.4 million (one-half of town's county allocation) has been appropriated and will be paid
 30 days after state receives funding from U.S. Treasury
 - Remaining \$3.4 million of town's county allocation remains subject to appropriation
- Funds must be expended by December 31, 2024
- Coventry Public Schools will receive APRA funding of \$5.4 million, in addition to \$2.4 million allocated under prior federal COVID legislation



Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Permissible Uses

- To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.
- Premium pay to essential municipal workers, or grants to employers that employ essential workers
- To pay for government services to the extent of the reduction of municipal revenues
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure
- Funds may not be used for extraordinary payments to a pension fund
- Unlike prohibition applicable to the state, local recovery funds can be used to offset a reduction in taxes



Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Uses to Explore

- Revenue loss
 - Federal guidance based on average annual revenue growth over 3 years or 4.1%
- Water, sewer, broadband
- Public health expenses connected with COVID
- Small business assistance
- Assistance such as housing, food, other aid to impacted individuals

Remember these are one-time funds



Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Additional Resources

- Dorothy Pascale, Pandemic Recovery Office, RI Office of Management and Budget: <u>dorothy.pascale@audits.ri.gov</u>.
- Brian Daniels, Executive Director, RI League of Cities and Towns: bdaniels@rileague.org.
- Michael DiBiase, President and CEO, RI Public Expenditure Council: <u>m dibiase@ripec.com</u>.