# 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 <u>ARPA@cambridgema.gov</u>. Please use the subject line: "Cambridge American Rescue Plan Community Project Idea".

## A. Project Idea Information

Name & Contact Information of Submitter

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):

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## 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.

Ple	Please select the statutory category under which the proposed project best fits:	
<b>□</b> ′	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 communities <sup>1</sup> 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?	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "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.

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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.
Ra	ckground 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.