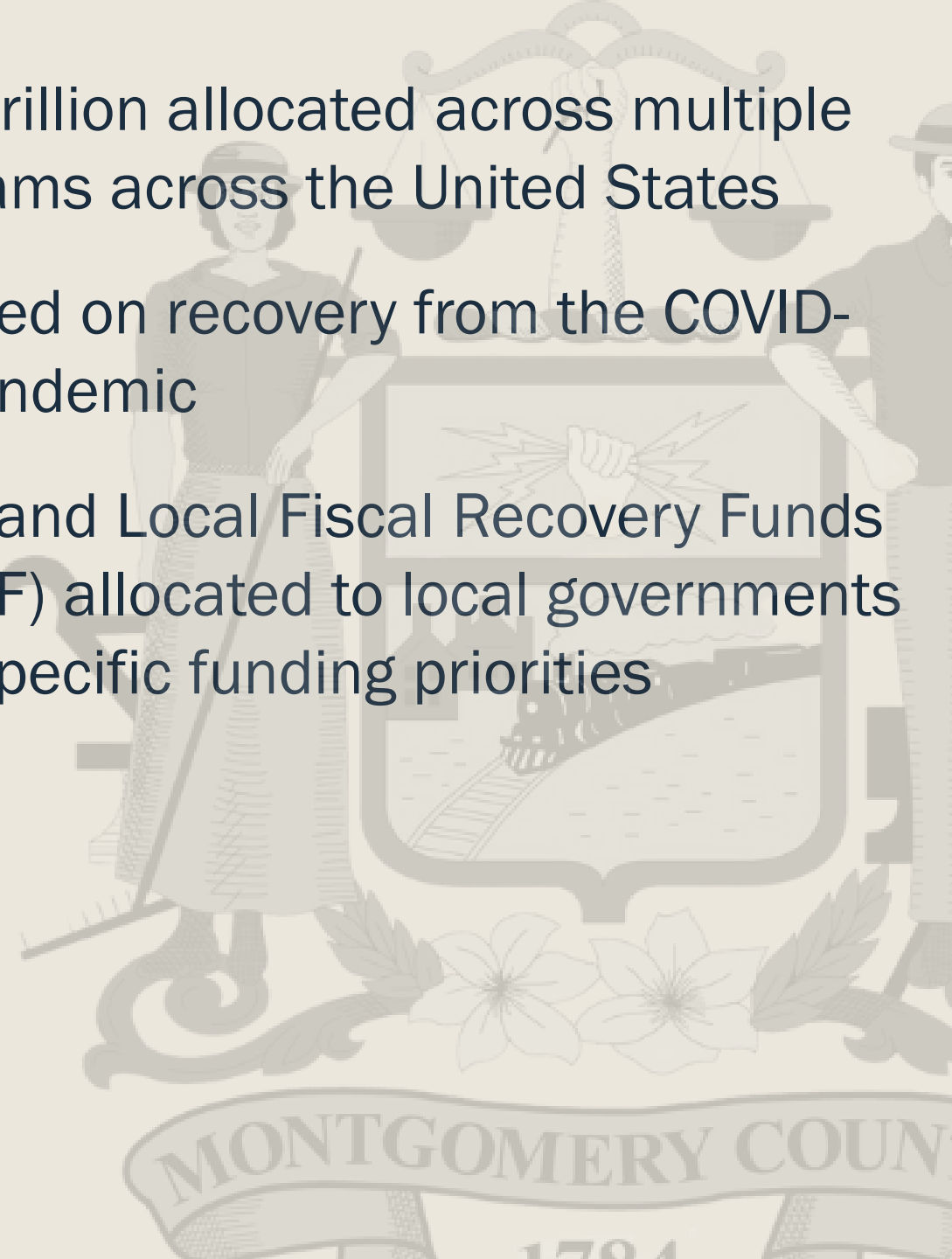COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY
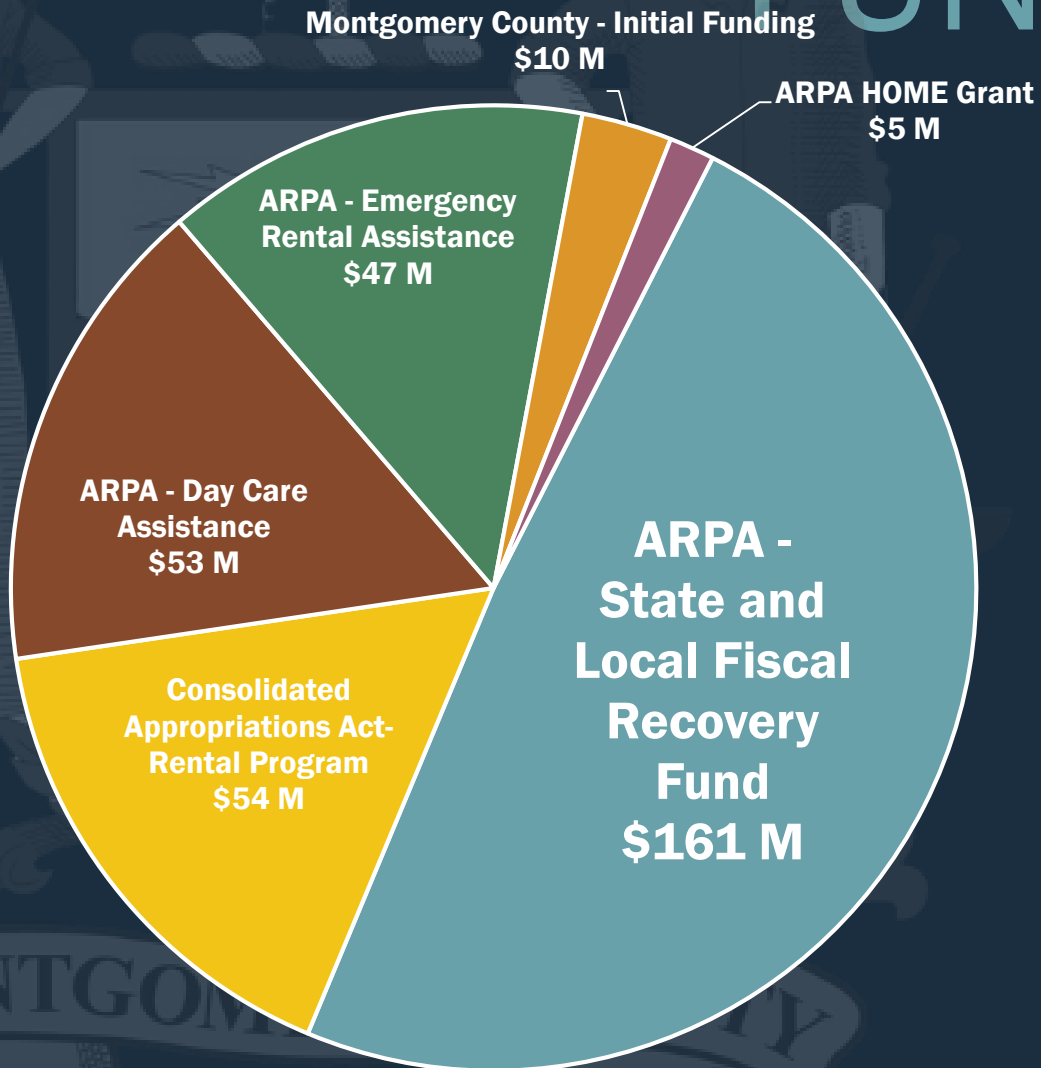# RECOVERY OFFICE
TOWN HALL NOVEMBER 30, 2021

WHAT IS ARPA?

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law March 11, 2021.

- $1.9 trillion allocated across multiple programs across the United States

- Focused on recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic

- State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) allocated to local governments with specific funding priorities

FUNDING SOURCES

Montgomery County - Initial Funding
$10 M

ARPA HOME Grant
$5 M

ARPA - Emergency Rental Assistance
$47 M

ARPA - Day Care Assistance
$53 M

Consolidated Appropriations Act- Rental Program
$54 M

ARPA - State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund
$161 M

$330 million in Montco funding

+ Federal infrastructure funds,

possible state childcare, federal budget funding coming

ARPA FUNDING PRIORITIES

Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Eligible Uses

- Support public health expenditures

- Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency

- Serving the hardest-hit communities and families

- Replace lost public sector revenue

- Provide premium pay for essential workers

- Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

PURPOSE

Montgomery County will receive at least $300 million new dollars across the next three years through various recovery funding programs. The County is positioned to institute bold initiatives that will advance equity, ensure economic recovery, invest in infrastructure and lay the groundwork for prosperity for decades.

Recovery Office is responsible for planning and executing projects that fulfill the purpose of the funding, have the intended impact, and can be completed successfully within the timeframe.

Building an implementable program of projects requires a professional, dedicated staff to ensure initiatives fulfill program goals, are well-planned, are executed and reported on transparently, and comply with legal and finance rules.
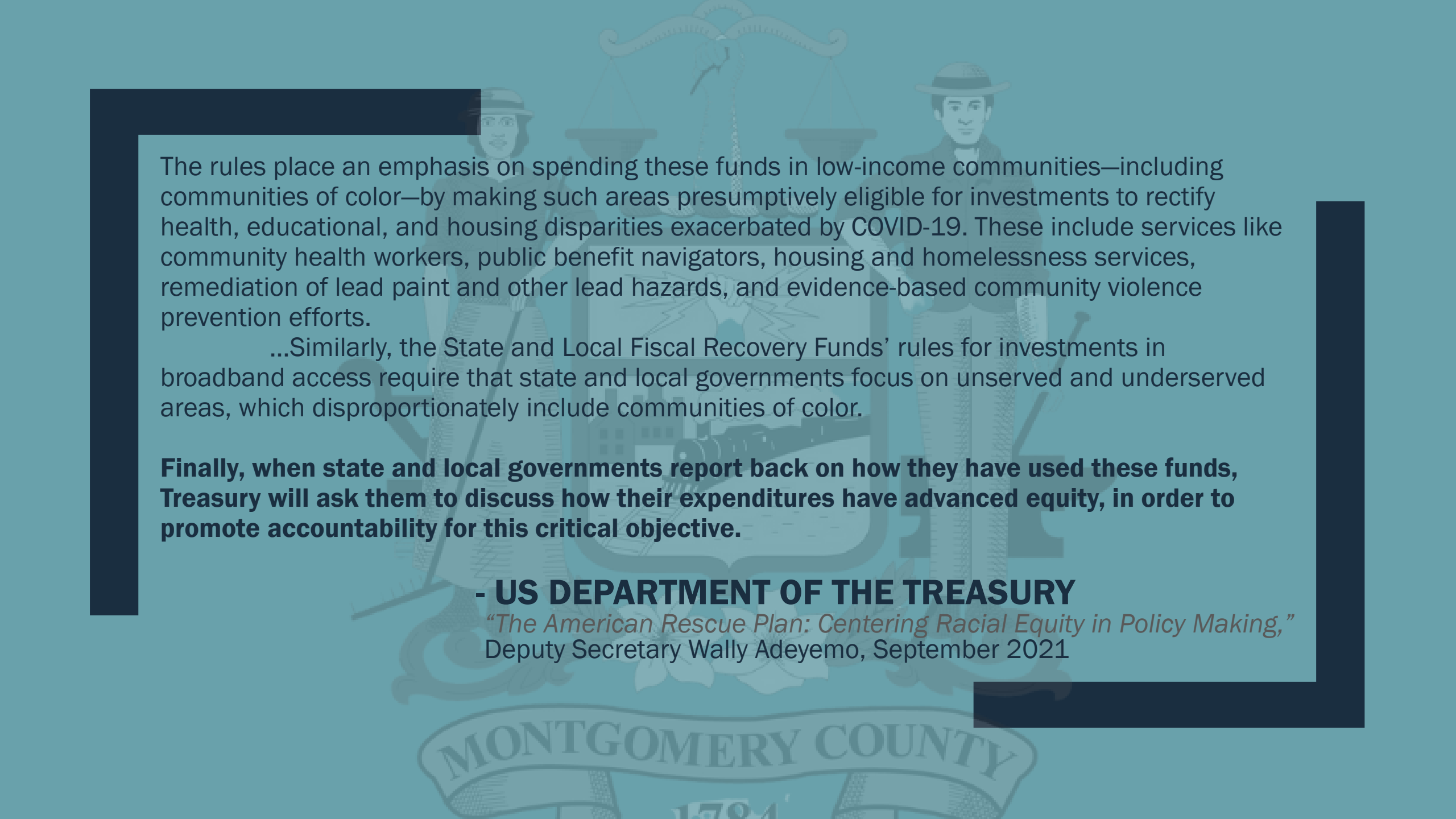
This work will be:

- **COLLABORATIVE**
- **EFFECTIVE**
- **EQUITABLE**
- **INCLUSIVE**
- **IMPACTFUL**
- **MEASURABLE**
- **OBJECTIVE**
- **RESPONSIBLE**
- **TRANSFORMATIVE**
- **TRANSPARENT**

PURPOSE

The Recovery Office can nimbly react to current and future funding with both incubated projects and the resources to make them happen.

Deliberate and regular engagement with a diverse group of internal and external stakeholders will create a consistent communication stream to convey efforts underway while identifying new pathways to augment recovery projects.

The rules place an emphasis on spending these funds in low-income communities—including communities of color—by making such areas presumptively eligible for investments to rectify health, educational, and housing disparities exacerbated by COVID-19. These include services like community health workers, public benefit navigators, housing and homelessness services, remediation of lead paint and other lead hazards, and evidence-based community violence prevention efforts.

...Similarly, the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds' rules for investments in broadband access require that state and local governments focus on unserved and underserved areas, which disproportionately include communities of color.

Finally, when state and local governments report back on how they have used these funds, Treasury will ask them to discuss how their expenditures have advanced equity, in order to promote accountability for this critical objective.

- US DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
"The American Rescue Plan: Centering Racial Equity in Policy Making,"
Deputy Secretary Wally Adeyemo, September 2021

MISSION

The Recovery Office connects our community to information, resources, and opportunities as well as equitably distributes funding throughout Montgomery County. Our goal is to support the health, social, and economic well-being of all residents, address racial and other disparities, and serve those hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Montgomery County Recovery Office creates and follows an inclusive, objective, collaborative, and transparent process to identify and select initiatives to fund and manages expenditures and initiatives responsibly.
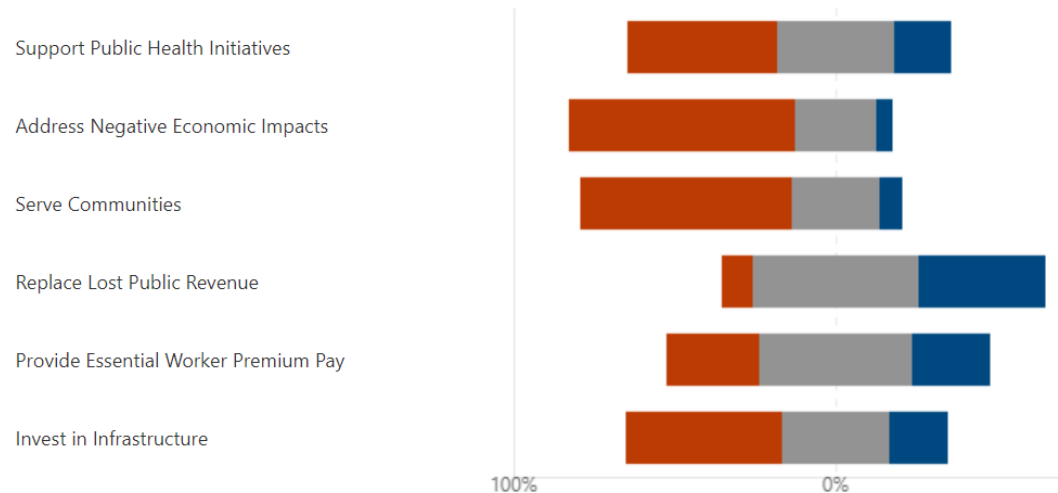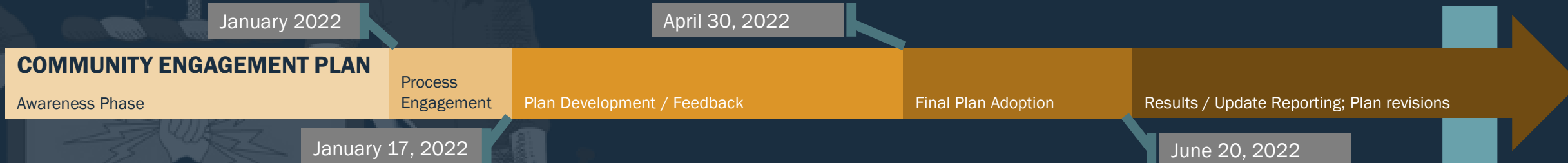
PUBLIC FEEDBACK

1. What should the County focus on?
More Details

■ High Priority   ■ Medium Priority   ■ Low Priority

- Support Public Health Initiatives
- Address Negative Economic Impacts
- Serve Communities
- Replace Lost Public Revenue
- Provide Essential Worker Premium Pay
- Invest in Infrastructure

- Address the needs of people without housing

- Investments to address systemic public health challenges that have contributed to the unequal impact of the pandemic on underserved communities

- Increase funding for job training for individuals with disabilities

- Provide grants to small businesses that suffer from lost revenue due to pandemic

- Address disparities in public health, behavioral and mental health among Korean speaking population

- Lack of transportation options adversely impacts many disadvantaged populations

- Translation services for grant applications, official announcements, volunteer opportunities

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

January 2022

April 30, 2022

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Awareness Phase | Process Engagement | Plan Development / Feedback | Final Plan Adoption | Results / Update Reporting; Plan revisions

January 17, 2022

June 20, 2022

Awareness Phase

- Connect with groups and community leaders that the County may not have regular contact with
- Listen
- Inform process and planning
- Primary goal is to increase awareness, prepare for idea collection

Process Engagement

- Assimilate what we heard into process document
- Assimilate US Treasury and government rules and guidance
- Produce final draft for distribution

Plan Development / Feedback

- Collect submissions
- Engage in cycle of draft, feedback, revision
- Feedback-informed decisions
- Partner with community organizations to ensure full distribution, awareness, and input

Final Plan Adoption

- Finalize plan
- County management approves plan, ensuring appropriate community input is incorporated

RECOVERY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

January 2022

April 30, 2022

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Awareness Phase | Process Engagement | Plan Feedback | Final Plan Adoption | Results / Update Reporting; Plan revisions

Jan 6, 2022
Third party technical assistance contract awarded

February 1– April 30, 2022
Submissions accepted through web portal

June 20, 2022
Final Recovery Plan Published

June 2022 – December 2026
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

2021

2022

2023

Dec 21
Draft submission process complete

Jan 17, 2022
Final Submission process distributed

SUBMISSION REVIEW

- Submissions formatted as "pre-proposals,"

- Interested groups or individuals required to review guideline information, answer questions, submit data and financial plans, and provide brief narrative descriptions.

- Recovery Office personnel will communicate to produce fully detailed project proposal documents for consideration.

May 15 through 31, 2022
Draft recovery plan published for feedback

RECOVERY PLAN

- Plan document establishes all projects funded by County State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)

- Provides plan for implementation by County staff and partners

SUBMISSION PROCESS

- Intake through web portal, third-party assistance for submissions

- Produces "apples to apples" project comparison documents

- Assessment tool metrics subject to feedback

KEY EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each project will be evaluated by the Recovery Office team through the same objective criteria. Project submission process, forms and submitted projects will be available on OpenGov.

All projects, regardless of source, will be evaluated using the same objective criteria.

- Meet funding source requirements

- Align with County priorities

- Focus on underserved communities

- Equity impact

- Measurable Impact

- Budget Value/ROI

- One-Time funding OR sustainable business plan

- Leverage other resources

PROJECT / PLAN PROCESS

County work to engage and solicit ideas and coordinated efforts with Municipal and School District partners will acknowledge the unique nature of such possibilities.

For example, the assessment of any municipal and / or school district project will necessarily involve understanding the role of County funds in augmenting, supplanting, or coordinating other allocations.

The County will through the Recovery Office work to collaborate cross-jurisdictionally to coordinate projects and planning, which may or may not mean consideration commitment of County SLFRF funds.

1. **PROJECT / INITIATIVE ASSESSMENT**
   - Level, "apples to apples" objective comparison
   - Includes key evaluation criteria and weighted analysis of priorities

2. **REVIEW / APPROVAL OF ALL PROJECTS / PROGRAMS**
   - All scoring / rationale posted publicly

3. **DOCUMENTATION OF PLAN**, incorporated into Community Engagement process

NEXT STEPS

LEARN MORE:

- Visit www.montcopa.org/recoveryoffice

- Register person or agency on feedback form at www.montcopa.org/recoveryoffice

- Request a presentation for a group or organization

- Follow @montcopa on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram

Submit email address / feedback on the County Recovery Office page to be kept up to date with developments.