

City of Wichita, Kansas  
**Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery  
Funds**

2021 Report

Period Ending July 31, 2021

**City of Wichita, Kansas**  
**2021 Recovery Plan**

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### **Executive Summary**

The City of Wichita was engaged in planning activities for the period through July 31, 2021. No ARPA funds were spent or obligated. The first tranche of funding was received on June 4, 2021. Preliminary planning regarding uses of funding occurred at City Council retreats on April 8, 2021, May 25, 2021, and June 1, 2021. Resident engagement efforts began in June, which included meeting with residents at District Advisory Board Meetings and online during the Social Media Town Hall event on June 22, 2021.

### **Uses of Funds**

The City of Wichita is still in the planning phase for allocating funding. Preliminarily, these categories reflect what was being considered during the period through July 31, 2021. A brief description follows each sub-category.

#### Category 2: Negative Economic Impacts

##### 2.7 Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)

Description: Residents and stakeholders have provided preliminary feedback about the preferred scope and outcomes associated with job training assistance. The City of Wichita will be in contact with other SLFRF recipients about how to potentially allocate funding. Additional stakeholder engagement is expected in fall 2021.

##### 2.9 Small Business Economic Assistance (General)

Description: Small Business and entrepreneurial support

Residents and stakeholders have provided preliminary feedback about the preferred scope and outcomes associated with small business economic assistance. The City of Wichita will be in contact with other SLFRF recipients about how to potentially allocate funding. Additional stakeholder engagement is expected in fall 2021.

##### 2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Description: The COVID-19 pandemic had a dramatic impact on the volume of air travel. As a result, orders for aircraft were cancelled or deferred. This had an impact on Wichita's regional economy, as orders placed with both large manufacturers and small suppliers decreased. Assistance is being considered in order to support this sector as it moves toward using more smart technology and advanced manufacturing techniques. Residents and stakeholders have provided preliminary feedback about the preferred scope and outcomes associated with aid to other impacted industries. The City of Wichita will be in contact with other SLFRF recipients about how to potentially allocate funding. Additional stakeholder engagement is expected in fall 2021.

## 2.14 Rehiring Public Sector Staff

Description: Due to revenue and operational uncertainties, the City of Wichita hiring from March 2020-March 2021 was limited to critical positions, such as police and fire recruits. Due to the ARPA award, the City of Wichita intends to hire for positions that were held vacant, such as animal control officers, security screeners, street maintenance equipment operators, and park and tree maintenance workers. A total of 161 positions have been approved to be filled. Of these positions, 62% are in jobs that are with labor union representation (mostly SEIU). All new permanent full-time hires will start at an hourly rate of \$15 or higher. Recruiting efforts began in mid-2021; to date, no SLFRF funding has been used to pay these employees.

### Category 3: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

#### 3.10 Housing Support: Affordable Housing

Description: Though average rents in Wichita are lower than many communities, there is a lack of affordable quality housing. The Places for People Plan, which addresses urban infill in the established core area, was approved by the City Council on June 4, 2019. On May 25, 2021, a Land Bank was established, which is the first in Wichita's history. CDBG funding has been allocated for the operation of the Land Bank. However, problems persist with the development of infill housing in many neighborhoods since the costs of site preparation and construction exceed appraisal values. One concept that is being considered is to direct ARPA funding toward closing the affordability gap for infill housing.

#### 3.16 Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions

Description: The City of Wichita intends to pursue a violence interrupter initiative using a public health model. SLFRF funding will be used to develop the program, hire, train, and staff the program, and evaluate outcomes. The program plan is still under development.

### Category 6: Revenue Replacement

#### 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Description: The City of Wichita calculation for lost revenue in 2020 compared to 2019 is \$26,298,379. Due to the lagging nature of local government revenue recovery, additional lost revenue replacement funding is anticipated for 2021-2024.

The City of Wichita plans on using funding from the revenue replacement category for capital projects, reinstating service reductions from 2020, and funding the implementation of a study in order to optimize deployment of Fire Department staff and apparatus. Plans for this spending are under development; no funds from the SLFRF have been used through July 31, 2021.

### Category 7: Administrative and Other

#### 7.1 Administrative Expenses

The City of Wichita plans on using SLFRF funding for grant administration and reporting requirements through 2026.

## 7.2 Evaluation and data analysis

Description: Funding in this category will be used to evaluate community programming such as the violence interrupter initiative, affordable housing, workforce development, and/or small business support. Evaluation plans will be developed in concert with project plans.

## 7.3 Transfers to other units of government

Description: The City of Wichita collaborates with Sedgwick County on the provision of shared services. Should one of the areas that the City of Wichita chooses to fund be a shared service with Sedgwick County, there is a possibility that the City of Wichita would transfer funding to that government to administer the program.

### **Promoting equitable outcomes**

The City of Wichita is still in the planning phase for allocating funding. Once funding is allocated, the City of Wichita will report on outcomes that are expected to promote equity in the community.

### **Community Engagement**

The Social Media Town Hall has guided decision making during the budget process for the past ten years. Ordinarily, it is used to get feedback about reducing operating budget programs or adding services. Due to the amount of feedback received in 2020 and the unprecedented opportunity of ARPA funding to help the community recover in a more equitable and sustainable matter, the 2021 Social Media Town Hall was used to gauge resident support for four community investment concepts: Affordable Housing, Small Business and Entrepreneurial Development, Smart Manufacturing and Digital Transformation, and Workforce Development and Training. The Social Media Town Hall was held on June 22, 2021 and used Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor. Videos with introductions to the topics by subject matter experts provided a starting point for conversation. In total, there were 193 participants who provided feedback as a part of the virtual event. The most supported topic was Affordable Housing, followed by Small Business and Entrepreneurial Support, Workforce Development, and Manufacturing.

There is a District Advisory Board for each of the six Wichita City Council Districts. District Advisory Boards are appointed by the City Council Member for the District. The District Advisory Boards meet monthly to consider City of Wichita business that impacts the district as well as the community at-large. The ARPA community investments concepts were presented at all District Advisory Board meetings in June, as well as the District I monthly breakfast. The most supported topic was Workforce Development, followed by Affordable Housing, Small Business and Entrepreneurial Support, and Manufacturing

In addition to the community investment topics, the City of Wichita intends to use ARPA funding to support the operating budget and capital improvement plan. When those investment topics were presented to advisory boards, such as the Park Board of Commissioners, Public Library Board, Golf Advisory Committee, and Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board, ARPA funding, eligibility, and spending options were presented. The public hearings on the budget on July 20, August 5, August 17, and August 24 provided additional opportunities for residents to comment

on ARPA spending, both to support the operating budget and capital improvement program as well as community investment concepts.

Following the adoption of the operating budget and capital improvement program in late August, the City of Wichita intends to coordinate with Sedgwick County regarding a community approach to addressing community recovery needs. This is expected to occur in September, and will inform future engagement efforts.

### **Labor Practices**

The City of Wichita is still in the planning phase for allocating funding for infrastructure projects.

### **Use of Evidence**

The City of Wichita is still in the planning phase for allocating funding, which could be used for evidence-based interventions. Should evidence-based interventions be approved, an evaluation will be planned and conducted.

**Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category**

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health	\$0	NA
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	\$0	NA
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	\$0	NA
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing	\$0	NA
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	\$0	NA
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	\$0	NA
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)	\$0	NA
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency	\$0	NA
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	\$0	NA
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	\$0	NA
1.10	Mental Health Services	\$0	NA
1.11	Substance Use Services	\$0	NA
1.12	Other Public Health Services	\$0	NA
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts	\$0	NA
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	\$0	NA
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid	\$0	NA
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers	\$0	NA
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	\$0	NA
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention	\$0	NA
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	\$0	NA
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	\$0	NA
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*	\$0	NA
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	\$0	NA
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	\$0	NA
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	\$0	NA
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	\$0	NA
2.13	Other Economic Support	\$0	NA

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff	\$0	NA
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	\$0	NA
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning	\$0	NA
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	\$0	NA
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services	\$0	NA
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services	\$0	NA
3.5	Education Assistance: Other	\$0	NA
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	\$0	NA
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting	\$0	NA
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	\$0	NA
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other	\$0	NA
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	\$0	NA
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons	\$0	NA
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	\$0	NA
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	\$0	NA
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators	\$0	NA
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	\$0	NA
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions	\$0	NA
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay	\$0	NA
4.1	Public Sector Employees	\$0	NA
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers	\$0	NA
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure	\$0	NA
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	\$0	NA
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	\$0	NA
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater	\$0	NA
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	\$0	NA
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	\$0	NA
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	\$0	NA
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation	\$0	NA
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation	\$0	NA
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source	\$0	NA
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment	\$0	NA

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	\$0	NA
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation	\$0	NA
5.13	Drinking water: Source	\$0	NA
5.14	Drinking water: Storage	\$0	NA
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	\$0	NA
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	\$0	NA
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	\$0	NA
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement	\$0	NA
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$0	NA
7	Administrative and Other	\$0	NA
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$0	NA
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	\$0	NA
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government	\$0	NA
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)	\$0	NA

#### Project Inventory

The City of Wichita has not undertaken any projects as of July 31, 2021.

#### Performance Report

The City of Wichita has not undertaken any projects as of July 31, 2021.