

Strategic Process

On August 11, 2022, the Center for Economic Recovery (the Center) evaluated proposals for the first docket of initiatives proposed for funding by the Bibb Administration. All initiatives were thoroughly evaluated by the Center with input and approval from Mayor Bibb and engagement with City Council. The Center used the Evaluation Guide to ensure all initiatives proposed for funding were equitable, sustainable and strategic. Mayor Bibb and Council President Blaine Griffin, along with Council leaders Kerry McCormack and Jasmine Santana, met on August 25, 2022 to reconcile the Center's recommendations with Council's priorities. 12 initiatives were presented by priority leads to City Council at an August 29, 2022 caucus meeting and then formally introduced to City Council as legislation on September 12, 2022. The initiatives introduced to City Council are complete with a plan for implementation and detailed budgets, where applicable.

Progress Update

On August 29, 2022 at a City Council caucus meeting, the Bibb Administration presented the 12 initiatives that Mayor Bibb approved for the first docket. The Center shared a high-level summary of the process, priority leads offered details, answered Council member questions, and received feedback for each initiative.

The first docket of initiatives was introduced formally as legislation at the September 12, 2022 Council meeting. Initiatives will be referred to relevant committee meetings on September 19, 2022.

Collaboration

Priority leads continue to collaborate across departments and alongside community stakeholders and partners. For example, Economic Development Director Tessa Jackson worked closely with the Office of Equal Opportunity as well as representatives who work with the Northern Ohio chapter of the National Minority Contractors Association to shape the Minority Business Credit Enhancement Fund initiative.

In a report to the Biden Administration, the Ohio Mayor's Alliance highlighted the Center for Economic Recovery's strategic process to allocate ARPA dollars. Read more about it [here](#).

AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS IS BELOW:

- 01** Leads (subject area experts) develop strategic framework for each 10 priorities.
- 02** Leads pitch proposals to Center.
- 03** Center assesses proposals with evaluation guide.
- 04** Center recommends proposals for 1st docket and ways to improve.
- 05** Leads strengthen proposals (make more equitable, identify leverage, confirm impact, etc.)
- 06** Center/leads check with Law, Ethics, external partners, Bricker & Ecker.
- 07** Reconciliation with Council.

Proposed Initiatives

This first docket of proposals accounts for \$102.5 million in spending, or 33 percent of the city's remaining \$310 million from ARPA. The projects touch six of the mayor's 10 priority areas and will directly impact an estimated 284,700 Cleveland residents. The administration also anticipates being able to attract approximately \$25 million in additional funding for these proposals from various partners.

THE PROPOSALS FOR DOCKET 1 INCLUDE:

Housing for All

- \$35 million for a housing gap fund to provide grants and equity stake in projects to incentivize renovation and construction of affordable, workforce housing projects, mixed-income, and market rate projects.
- \$10 million for a home repair fund to create a network of new grants, deferred loans, and low-interest loan funds for home repair to close gaps in existing programs.
- \$5 million for a developer acquisition and rehab loan pool to create a revolving loan pool to provide low-interest capital for small, mostly minority contractors and CDCs seeking to rehab structures in places where private banks don't typically provide funding.

Violence Prevention & Public Safety

- \$5 million for CIT/co-responder program to expand the successfully piloted crisis intervention team/co-responder program, add a mental health dispatcher, and hire a senior-level strategist to connect mental health and public safety efforts.
- \$2.75 million to expand ShotSpotter technology to cover 13 square miles (33 percent of City residents) disproportionately affected by gun violence.
- \$2.3 million to outfit the CPD frontline vehicles with in-car dash cameras, including purchase of dash cams, installation, cloud storage, software license accounts, and equipment refresh for five years.

Inclusive Economic Recovery

- \$7.5 million for an Opportunity CLE Fund, contributing to a \$50 million civic loan fund designed to promote inclusive and thriving neighborhoods by supporting real estate and business development projects in low-income communities in Cleveland.
- \$5 million for a minority business credit enhancement fund to create a revolving loan fund to provide flexible lines of credit to construction firms owned/led by historically underrepresented individuals in the construction industry, as well as to fund a technical assistance program.

Education for Everyone

- \$2.7 million to create a fund that will grow a pipeline of new early childcare educators and maintain the current labor force through sign-on and retention bonuses.
- \$1.88 million for an early childhood scholarship program to subsidize early childhood care while newly employed parents await enrollment in publicly funded programs.

Arts & Neighborhood Amenities

- \$3 million for a fund to stimulate investments for transformative arts projects with capital needs, with a focus in areas of high BIPOC populations that lack arts investment, developing areas with significant arts activity, and promoting increased walkability.

Modern City Hall

- \$16.35 million to for repairs and "greening" of City Hall, replacing the roof and insulation (which is causing interior damage), as well as fortifying City Hall's building envelope, exterior masonry, and windows--resulting in a greener building and energy savings.

COVID Relief

- \$300,000 to fund Dollars for Doses, an incentive program offering cash rewards to residents who get COVID vaccinations, aiming to boost rates in areas hit hardest by COVID and build up trust between residents and institutions.