

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 14, 2022

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **ARPA Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funding for City Council Districts**

As part of our \$355.4 million ARPA Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF), the City Council approved \$16 million to provide for City Council district-specific needs. The allocation includes \$1 million for each of the 14 City Council Members and \$2 million for the Mayor to determine the specific use.

Earlier this year, staff met with each of you to identify the types of activities that you were considering for your district. Staff reviewed each idea and on [May 13](#), you were provided a summarized list of eligible activities. On [July 15](#), we provided a summary of programs that have been finalized by City Council Members and since July, several of you have contacted us and discussed potential allocations. We are providing additional information that may be helpful as you consider allocating funds to address unmet needs in your specific districts.

Three documents are attached for your review.

- **Attachment A** is an updated summarized list of eligible programs and activities. This list includes recent projects and activities proposed.
- **Attachment B** is a map that shows the number of Home Improvement Preservation Program (HIPP) applications submitted in FY19, FY20, and FY21 by City Council district and qualified census tract. The HIPP program serves an average of 45 residents per year. Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization ARPA funded home repair program provides greater flexibility and serves residents in qualified census tracts, regardless of income, with up to \$100,000 for home repair. The ARPA funded home repair program is set to serve 60 residents in Historic Tenth Street, Joppa, and Five Mile. An upcoming amendment would expand this program citywide and allow ARPA funds from City Council discretionary funding. Council Members may consider allocating discretionary funding to expanded program to address this urgent need.
- **Attachment C** is a list of ARPA-supported social, human, and supportive services facilitated by the Office of Community Care. These programs and activities support community mental health, food accessibility, youth development, family violence prevention and intervention, essential necessities, and rental assistance. Note, the attachment includes the number of rental assistance applications in “submitted” status by zip code. The City of Dallas and subrecipients have served almost 10,000 unduplicated households through Emergency Rental Assistance between January 2021 and June 2022. There is an opportunity to serve additional residents. Unfortunately, we do not have this data by City Council district. However, City Council Members may consider allocating discretionary funding to this urgent need or another social, human, and supportive services program listed.

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If you have not done so already, please submit your programs or activities for use of discretionary funding as soon as possible so that staff can begin to develop programs accordingly. If you plan to designate funding to home repair or any of the programs facilitated by the Office of Community Care, please confirm funding no later than Friday, October 28, 2022. This date will allow time for staff to begin the competitive solicitation process and complete activities before the spending deadline. Federal rules require that program and services using ARPA/CLFRF funds go through a competitive solicitation process. The deadline to encumber these funds is September 30, 2024.

As a reminder, activities in qualified census tracts or to serve individuals/communities that were disproportionately affected by the pandemic provide more flexibility and generally include more eligible use categories. If there is an activity that you are interested in that is not listed, please let me know so that staff can determine its eligibility and work with you to facilitate the appropriate allocation process.

If you have additional questions, please contact me or Janette Weedon, Director of Budget & Management Services.


for Jack Ireland
Chief Financial Officer

[Attachment]

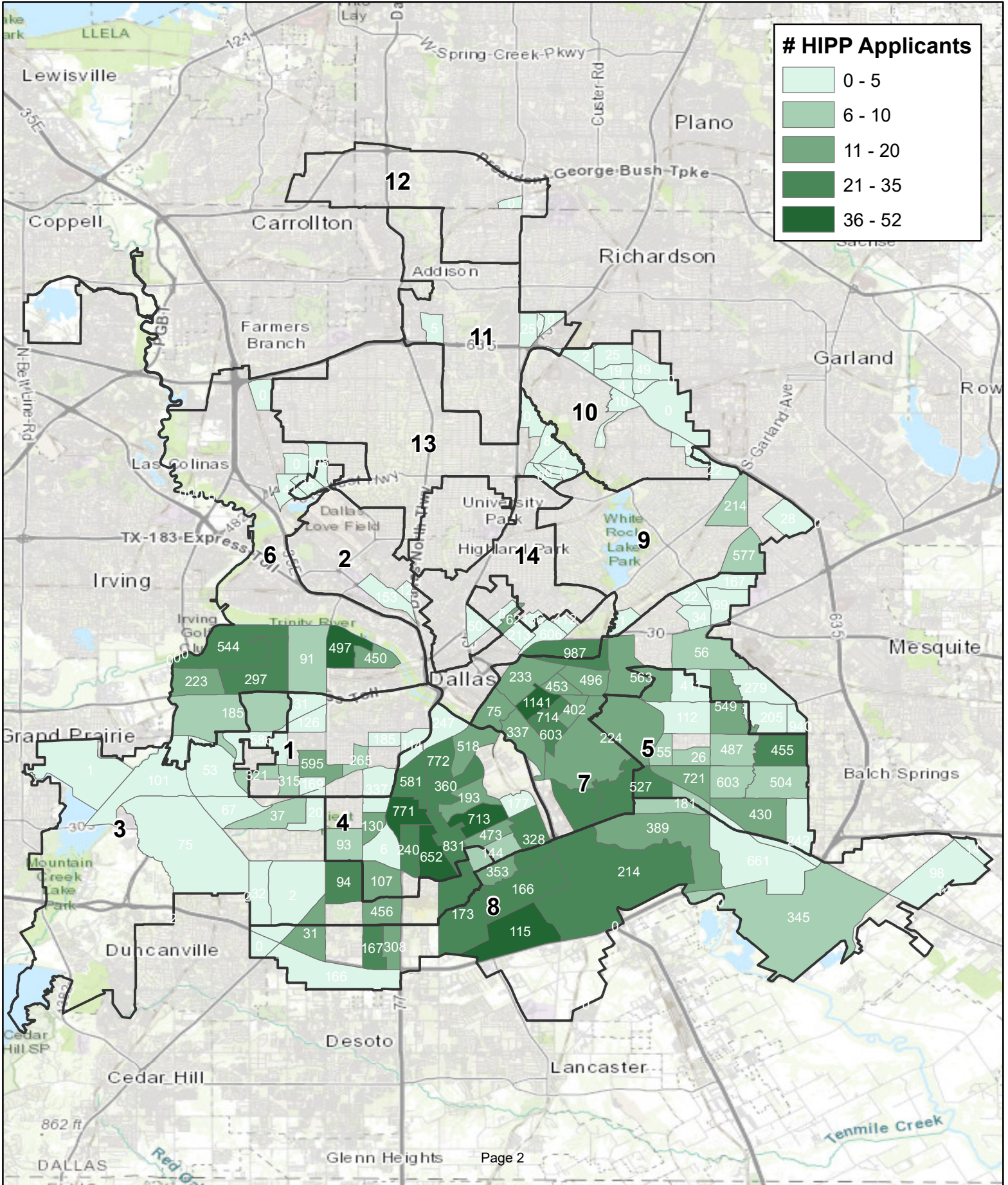
c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Deputy City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors

ARPA Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - Mayor and City Council Discretionary Allocations

Row #	Program or Activity	Eligible citywide	Eligible Impacted Business, Household or Community only	Eligible Qualified Census Tract only	Not eligible
1	Bike lane (striping or infrastructure improvements)			X	
2	Broadband infrastructure	X			
3	Building permit improvements				X
4	Childcare and childcare provider assistance		X	X	
5	City technology infrastructure systems (increase/improve access to government services)	X			
6	Code compliance (blight remediation, lighting, overgrown vegetation)			X	
7	COVID vaccination, testing, education	X			
8	Day labor		X		
9	Entrepreneurship/Innovation Center		X	X	
10	Food security (grocery store, community garden)			X	
11	Food security and essential services		X	X	
12	Front line workers at care facilities	X			
13	Home repair (weatherization, seniors, workforce development, smart thermometers, etc.)		X	X	
14	Infrastructure (ADA, alleys, pedestrian crossings, signals, sidewalks, curbs)			X	
15	Landmark/historic survey				X
16	Library community room - Renner Frankford Library				X
17	Mental health assistance		X	X	
18	Panhandling signage				X
19	Park land (Better Block green space)			X	
20	Park land acquisition				X
21	Senior assistance, senior facility assistance, mental health, isolation services		X	X	
22	Skate park construction				X
23	Small Business Assistance		X	X	
24	Small Business Assistance (facility and/or infrastructure improvements)			X	
25	Social service programs offered by Office of Community Care		X	X	
26	Traffic calming (speed humps, lights, signage)			X	
27	Trail connectivity			X	
28	Vickery Meadows community			X	
29	Water/sewer infrastructure	X			
30	Workforce development		X		
31	911/311/radio access (technology for underserved areas)	X			
32	Temporary Rental Assistance		X		
33	Community needs assessment (design and execution of programs responding to COVID-19 pandemic)			X	
34	Eviction Assistance and Prevention		X		
35	Substance Use (prevention, treatment, and outreach, including PSAs)	X			

Qualifying Census Tracts Unserved HIPP Applicants



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Office of Community Care - Project Options for District Partnerships

The Office of Community Care is administering ARPA-supported programming in the following areas: (1) Community Mental Health; (2) Making Food Accessible; (3) Youth Development; (4) Family Violence Prevention and Intervention; (5) Essential Necessities; and (6) Rental Assistance. Council districts may choose to allocate funds to support one or more programs focused on their specific area. The Office of Community Care will partner with the Office of Procurement and Budget Management Services to administer a competitive selection process for these areas specifically to solicit service delivery partners to focus on one or more council districts. Staff will solicit partners who have the capacity to certify client eligibility on an individual/household basis, including use of eligible proxies (such as SNAP participation, for example, as outlined in ARPA guidance) rather than relying solely on Qualifying Census Tracts to ensure that vulnerable populations in each district may be served.

For ARPA administration, there is a requirement that equity considerations be factored into funds administration. In 2020, the Office of Equity and Inclusion developed the Equity Impact Assessment Tool as a guide to help in identifying areas likely to be more highly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The tool can be viewed [here](#).

1. Community Mental Health

- **Needs:** The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn have negatively impacted the mental health of local communities and have created new and exacerbated existing barriers to accessing care and support. A recent Kaiser Family Foundation poll showed that 45% of adults in the United States have reported that their mental health has been negatively impacted from stress caused by the virus and pandemic.
- **Program Summary:** This program will administer Community Mental Health programming in four categories:
 - Access to Mental Health Services – This service category funds mental health and counseling services, including individual and group counseling, from trained professionals for low- and moderate-income Dallas residents.
 - Education, Outreach and Lay Person Training - This service category funds educational programming and activities, awareness campaigns, program outreach, and lay person trainings. Activities will educate community members about mental health issues, the possible impacts of COVID-19 on overall community mental health and provide direct links to services and resources to support individuals in need of mental health or behavioral health services.

2. Making Food Accessible

- **Needs:** The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn have exacerbated food insecurity in the city of Dallas, which has created increased demand at local food pantries and distribution sites among Dallas residents impacted financially by and during the pandemic. Many residents of Dallas are experiencing or have experienced job loss, reduced or lost pay, added expenses, and other issues that make it difficult to afford healthy and nutritious foods.
- **Program Summary:** This program will fund increased access to food for low- and moderate-income residents through contactless grocery pickup and distribution programs. This will include distribution events, pantries, delivery, or other programs. These programs will target low- and moderate income-residents.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
Office of Community Care - Project Options for District Partnerships

3. Youth Development

- **Needs:** There is a gap in the ecosystem of youth-oriented services that reaches youth and otherwise disconnected youth and young adults and connects them with available services. This gap has widened during the COVID-19 pandemic, with many youths becoming disengaged in school or facing changing workforce requirements.
- **Program Summary:** This program will provide Positive Youth Development and Academic Support programming for low- and moderate-income, school-aged children, youth, and teens in Dallas. Funds will support programs that impact school-aged children, youth, and teens by focusing on supporting them to achieve their fullest potential.

4. Family Violence

- **Needs:** Family violence prevention and intervention are critical needs that have become more urgent during the COVID-19 pandemic as family violence incidents have increased in Texas and in the city of Dallas.
- **Program Summary:** This program funds services that enables individuals and households to receive access to treatment, counseling, shelter, housing, and preventative services after experiencing violence in the household. This includes funding to support the direct provision of individual or group counseling services, funding housing and/or shelter operations, funding to support transportation or other supports to enable access, or funding to support telehealth service provision to communities impacted by COVID-19. Services can address family violence, child abuse, intimate partner violence, and sexual violence, and provide direct links to services and resources to support residents in need of available services.

5. Essential Necessities

- **Needs:** Many residents have been impacted by job loss or pay reductions during the height of the pandemic or by increasing costs in the wake of the pandemic.
- **Program:** Events and distribution activities will be held on various dates and locations to distribute basic necessity items to individuals, families, and seniors. Items will be distributed at a limited number of distribution events at City-owned properties and nonprofit provider partner sites. Staff will use the EIA tool in partnership with council office to identify distribution partners and/or locations in participating council districts. Examples of items include, but are not limited to diapers and wipes, baby formula and bottles, heating units to support homebound seniors, toilet paper, shampoo, soap and toiletries, distilled water, feminine hygiene products, senior hygiene products.

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Office of Community Care - Project Options for District Partnerships

6. Rental Assistance

- **Needs:** The pandemic had a substantial impact on employment and pay for many residents, particularly those who were already struggling. As employment opportunities have returned, however, costs have risen, similarly impacting lowest income populations. Rental assistance in many cases has been a lifeline for many residents, helping to stabilize housing, however the need exceeds available funding.

Though we are still working on processing submitted applications and many will still be funded, staff anticipates that we will not be able to fund all eligible submitted applications without receiving additional funds. The below application data represents a snapshot and is intended to demonstrate demand by zip code.

- **Program Summary:** The Office of Community Care is administering the Emergency Rental Assistance program in compliance with federal regulations. Locally, the City has seen tens of thousands of applications submitted over the last two years and is nearing full expenditure of available funds. Funds can be targeted to help expand the number of cases that can be processed. Staff will apply existing ERA program statement rules and will provide funds to one of our identified subrecipients for administration.
- **Current Application Data**
 - Approximately 3,500 rental assistance applications remain in the City’s application portal for review and processing
 - 47% unemployed for 90 or more days
 - 80% very low income (50% AMI or less)
 - Based on historic program data, an estimated 25-30% of submitted applications ultimately end up being approved and paid

Zip Code	Number of Rental Assistance Apps Pending Review
75237	1
75051	3
75116	4
75201	45
75202	27
75203	52
75204	100
75205	2
75206	51
75207	19
75208	57
75209	11
75210	34
75211	119

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
Office of Community Care - Project Options for District Partnerships

Zip Code	Number of Rental Assistance Apps Pending Review
75212	54
75214	53
75215	97
75216	162
75217	140
75218	31
75219	69
75220	67
75223	21
75224	89
75225	3
75226	16
75227	138
75228	214
75229	15
75230	36
75231	143
75232	62
75233	34
75234	5
75235	93
75236	73
75237	218
75240	83
75241	108
75243	340
75244	2
75246	7
75247	3
75248	50
75249	32
75251	25
75252	58
75253	24
75254	69
75287	271