

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION
Board of Commissioners Meeting

Issue Briefing

Topic: Presentation - American Rescue Plan (ARP) Expenditure Update

Prepared By: Brandon Ford, Assistant Township Manager

Date: July 11, 2025

I. Action To Be Considered by the Board:

Receive an update outlining the incurred and planned usage of the Township's ARP funds, including the ARP Non-Profit Vitality Grant Program.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

Reports on the use of funds must be presented to the Board of Commissioners.

III. Current Policy or Practice (If Applicable): N/A

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

On March 11, 2021, federal officials signed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act into law, establishing the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. This fund was created to help state, local, territorial, and tribal governments address the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic by providing \$350 billion in emergency financial assistance.

The Township of Lower Merion received a total of \$25.5 million in ARP funds. This unprecedented investment provided a unique opportunity to address both current and future capital needs, upgrade the local park system, strengthen stormwater infrastructure, and support the long-term vitality of local nonprofit organizations. Over 2022 and 2023, the Board authorized the allocation of the Township's ARP funds towards specific projects and purposes, including a new, one-time grant program to local non-profit organizations to finance projects and/or operations. This report provides an update on project expenditures allocation ARP funds by the Board.

V. Impact On Township Finance:

There is no new financial impact to the Township. All expenditures outlined in this report are ARP and/or Township Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds previously allocated and/or budgeted.

VI. Staff Recommendation: N/A