

# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds  
Recovery Plan  
Quarterly Report for the Period Ending December 31, 2022

Mayor Sylvester Turner  
City of Houston



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# Letter from Mayor Sylvester Turner

January 31, 2023

Dear Houstonians,

In a January 11<sup>th</sup> report to Houston City Council, Houston Police Chief Troy Finner shared preliminary crime data from 2022, highlighting reductions in violent crime across all council districts.

Thanks to the State and Local Fiscal Relief Funds provided by the Biden-Harris Administration, our One Safe Houston Initiative is making a difference in driving down crime rates.

Preliminary data shows a decrease in the murder rate by nine percent, robberies down by nine (9) percent, aggravated assaults down by eight (8) percent and rapes down by eighteen (18) percent compared to 2021.

These results come from using a holistic approach to keeping our community safe. I want to thank the men and women of the Houston Police Department for their work in making the resources provided by ARPA funds translate into public safety results.

I would like to specifically highlight the gun buyback program. After collecting over 700 firearms at our first buyback in August, we used lessons learned to make our next program on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, the single largest one-day gun buyback in US history—collecting 1,208 firearms. This included 386 revolvers, 279 semi-automatic handguns, 243 shotguns, 227 rifles and 91 semi-automatic rifles.

As I said at the event, one gun turned in can help save a life by preventing a crime, accidental shooting, or suicide.

Another program that has led to increased public safety is investment in expanding our Urban Park Rangers. Due to COVID-19, parks experienced an uptick in visitors which has unfortunately increased crime related activities within our parks. Using funds to hire more Urban Park Rangers to monitor and enforce park rules and regulations has deterred criminal activities.

The combination of creating a gun buyback program and the expansion of existing programs like our Urban Park Rangers has made a difference in making our neighborhoods safer and empowering residents to partner with both the Houston Police and Parks Departments.

But for the funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, these programs would not be possible. My sincere thanks to everyone who has helped in these efforts.

Sincerely,



Sylvester Turner  
Mayor



# Executive Summary

## ***As Mayor Turner’s One Safe Houston Initiative continues to show results, key programs like Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams, 5G Enablers, Urban Park Rangers, and Gun Buybacks are making a difference.***

It cannot be overstated that the State and Local Fiscal Relief Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act have been critical to addressing the secondary impacts of the pandemic. The Biden Administration has provided the resources allowing local governments to take action, especially in the area of public safety.

The flexible funding in ARPA has not only prevented major budgetary cuts and layoffs but helped fund evidence-based solutions that holistically address public safety.

After laying out a strategy, the final quarter of 2022 was focused on the implementation of the One Safe Houston Initiative with expansions for existing programs like HPD Overtime and Urban Park Rangers. However, the quarter also showed new programs like Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT), 5G Enabler investments, as well as a tremendously successful second gun buyback event—all aimed at improving public safety.

The following programs have shown significant spending in the final quarter of 2022, which are only one piece of the One Safe Houston Initiative.

### **Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT)**

Every city has unique challenges. For example, the City of Houston continues to be the largest city in America without a Medicaid Expansion safety net. That lack of an expansion has left hundreds of thousands of Houstonians without Medicaid coverage. The public safety investments in Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT) help bridge the gap in providing crisis care to those suffering from a mental

illness.

Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT) provide an intervention option outside of a law enforcement response. Working with the Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (Harris Center), the City of Houston is providing ARPA funding for these response teams for interventions that do not pose a risk to public safety.

The crisis teams focus on “rapid response,” immediate interventions, not referrals for future treatments. This methodology removes law enforcement from dealing with lower-level mental health calls and connects individuals to services and professionals who can adequately assist them.

Budgeted at \$11.871 million over 3 years, MCOT spent \$1.582 million last quarter in building up teams to better serve Houstonians facing a mental health crisis.

### **Police Radios: 5G Enablers**

The Houston Police Department’s Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) provides assistance to criminal investigations by helping locate fugitive suspects, kidnapping victims, and meeting other case development needs through the use of pen register data and other related specialty equipment such as cell site simulator (CSS) gear.

Pen register data is customer cellular data and location information obtained via a probable cause-based court order via the Harris County District Attorney’s office and a district judge.



## Executive Summary Continued

The CIU's current set of approved-CSS gear needed to be upgraded to 5G capabilities because the current CSS gear cannot locate a 5G device in most circumstances.

This affects CIU's capability to locate felony fugitives and assist in emergency tracking events such as kidnappings.

Because of that, purchase of the CSS gear was seen as a public safety emergency by HPD.

CSS gear is a critical tool used by CIU to assist investigations. Without the upgraded 5G enablers, CIU live tracking will become less effective because it will only be able to provide generalized location information to investigators instead of exact locations, placing both law enforcement and any victims in peril.

The purchase of upgraded 5G enablers will provide services to victims of gun violence by providing a critical tool to solve gun-related crime.

### Urban Park Rangers

The Houston Parks Department has been staffing up the Urban Park Rangers program. Their objective is to keep neighborhood parks safe by partnering with local law enforcement. Due to COVID-19, parks experienced an increase in visitors which unfortunately increased crime related activities within our parks.

Using funds to hire more Urban Park Rangers to monitor and enforce park rules and regulations has deterred criminal activities.

The \$1.9 million investment from One Safe Houston spent \$129,870.13 during the last quarter and seeks to fund 15 additional ranger positions over the next 3 years.

### Gun Buyback Programs

In the last quarter, One Safe Houston invested \$349,906.57 in one of the most successful gun

buyback programs in U.S. History.

Earlier in July, the City of Houston partnered with Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis's Office to hold the first event at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church in the heart of Third Ward.

That event yielded over 700 guns taken off the streets, surpassing expectations.

HPD hosted the 2nd gun buyback operation on Saturday, October 8th with 1,208 guns collected – almost double the previous amount.

The total number of weapons collected included:

- 386 revolvers
- 279 semi-automatic handguns
- 243 shotguns
- 227 rifles
- 91 semi-automatic rifles

This event was believed to be the single largest one-day gun buyback in US History. With lessons learned from the previous program, a much more efficient system was set up with multiple lanes for faster service in an unused METRO Westchase facility normally used for bus service.

In fact, after cutting off the line at noon, HPD personnel were largely clear of the site by 2 pm, a marked difference from the previous event.

### Patrol Enhancement: Overtime for HPD

The second largest pot of funding in One Safe Houston involves overtime for HPD officers. With the help of ARPA dollars, our One Safe Houston Initiative has already invested almost \$14.4 million for Overtime for HPD – funding an additional 125 officers per day.

The officers have been deployed primarily based on data driven, evidence-based analysis of when and where the most violent crimes are occurring



# Use of Funds

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Many of the projects the City of Houston has approved for use of SLFRF addresses multiple needs of the community and are categorized as follows:

- *The Provision of Government Services*
- *COVID-19 Pandemic Response*
- *Public Safety through One Safe Houston*
- *Economic Resiliency and Recovery*

## **The Provision of Government Services**

It is a priority of the City of Houston to continue providing high-quality government services to all its residents. As it was felt across the nation, the City of Houston is still catching up on lost revenue from the pandemic. With that, the City of Houston, to maintain its level of government services, chose to use the majority of its SLFRF allocation for lost revenue. A smaller portion of the allocation is being used for administrative costs related to the management, oversight, and compliance.

## **COVID-19 Pandemic Response**

The pandemic is not over, and the City of Houston is dedicated to ensuring its employees have necessary PPE and cleaning supplies, while also providing community vaccinations.

## **Public Safety Through One Safe Houston**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Houston, like others, saw a major uptick in crime. In response, the City implemented the One Safe Houston Initiative. This initiative has multiple approaches to reducing crime with a

specific focus on violent crime. More information on the overall One Safe Houston Initiative can be found:

[www.houstontx.gov/onesafehouston](http://www.houstontx.gov/onesafehouston).

## **Economic Resiliency and Recovery**

The City continues to look to the future by reevaluating and addressing economic resiliency and recovery. This portion of the funding has been dedicated to those populations that are disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and ensures that the necessary resources remain in place for their long-term success.

Each one of these categories are interconnected and work together to ensure that the City of Houston comes out stronger at the conclusion of this pandemic. As the City of Houston continues to evaluate opportunities for use of its SLFRF allocation, the City's foundational goal is to maintain equity in all that it does. By way of example by the Complete Communities initiative by Mayor Sylvester Turner, no project is approved by the administration without there being a proven plan of how the project addresses those needs in the most equitable way.

The needs of Houstonians, especially the most vulnerable, can change in any one moment, and the City of Houston maintains its commitment to self-evaluation of planned expenses so that the funds can always be reallocated to the areas with the greatest need.



Mayor Sylvester Turner  
CITY OF HOUSTON



Commissioner Rodney Ellis  
HARRIS COUNTY PCT 1

PRESENT

# GUN BUYBACK



Turn in your firearms to receive gift cards. \* No questions asked!



**No privately manufactured guns accepted**

Transport your firearms unloaded and in the trunk of your vehicle.



\*Gift card quantities are limited and subject to availability.

**\$50**

Non-functioning  
firearm

**\$100**

Shotgun  
Rifle, Hunting

**\$150**

Revolver  
Handgun, semi-auto

**\$200**

Rifle, semi-auto

**SATURDAY**

**OCTOBER 8, 2022**

**TIME**

**8:00am - noon**

**LOCATION**

**METRO WESTCHASE PARK AND RIDE  
11050 HARWIN DRIVE  
HOUSTON, TX 77072**

**QUESTIONS?**

contact: (832) 393-6772 or  
[coh\\_policing\\_reform@houstontx.gov](mailto:coh_policing_reform@houstontx.gov)



Mayor Sylvester Turner



Rodney Ellis  
COMMISSIONER  
PRECINCT ONE



<https://www.houstontx.gov/onesafehouston>



# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SUMMARY

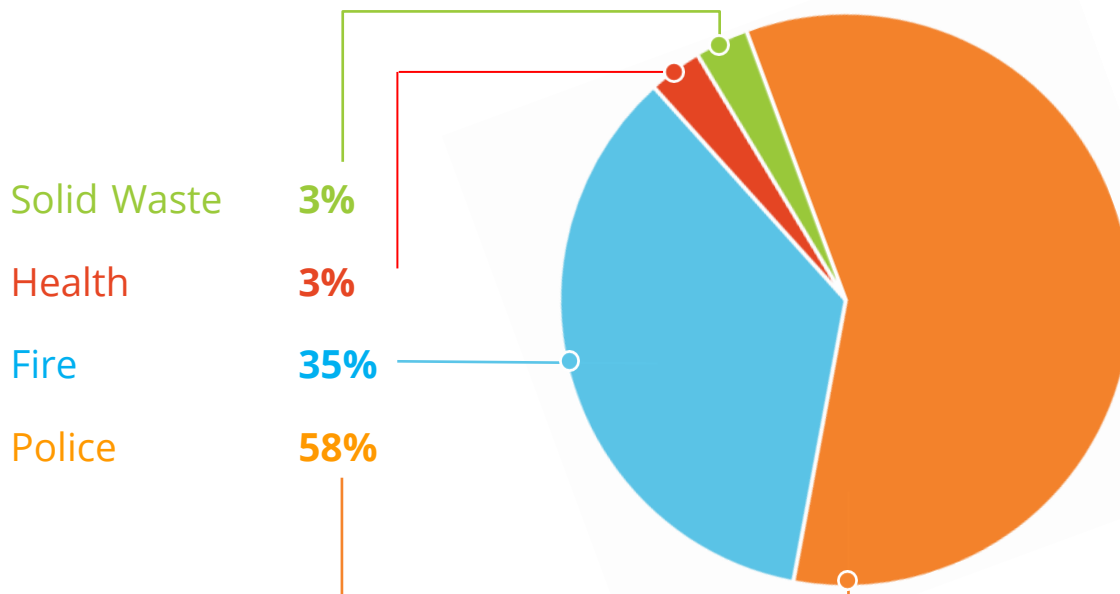


## MAINTAINING GOVERNMENT SERVICES



After the release of the Final Rule by the U.S. Department of Treasury, the City of Houston recalculated its Revenue Replacement projection. The budgeted amount for FY 2021 totals **\$139.436 million** and the amount for FY 2022 has been budgeted for **\$162.575 million**, making the new total of budgeted Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (LFRF) from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the provision of government services to maintain and sustain critical services **\$302.011 million**. The total expenditures through this quarterly expenditure report ending on December 31, 2022, totals **\$302.011 million**.

The critical services allocation thus far are as follows:



# ARPA

# Expenditures through Reporting Period

While the City of Houston has approved estimated ARPA SLFRF costs for over \$409,374,491.28 in priority projects, this funding is for multi-year programing, meaning funds will be expended over a period time. Furthermore, many of these projects are going through the required federal procurement process and have not been expensed.

The following section details City of Houston ARPA SLFRF projects that have incurred expenditures. The City has spent \$327,908,244.47 through this third reporting period ending December 31, 2022.

Dept.	Project ID	Expenditure Category	Project Name	Estimated Approved Costs	Expenditures through Dec. 31, 2022
COH	HOU - #011	6.1	Revenue Replacement	\$302,010,716.00	\$302,010,716.00
COH	HOU - #012	7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$7,564,670.00	\$774,366.99
COH	HOU - #031	1.5	Disinfectant Spray	\$50,000.00	\$34,668.50
HPD	HOU - #001	1.12	Crisis Call Diversion (CCD)	\$816,420.00	\$140,543.98
HPD	HOU - #002	1.12	Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)	\$11,871,469.00	\$1,582,313.20
HPD	HOU - #003	1.12	Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT)	\$6,152,664.00	\$5,493.00
HPD	HOU - #004	1.12	Clinician-Officer Remote Evaluation (CORE)	\$2,543,625.00	\$314,707.38
HPD	HOU - #005	1.12	Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)	\$3,615,822.00	\$1,018,391.36
HPD	HOU - #015	1.12	Victim Service Advocates	\$1,335,843.18	\$456,336.75
HPD	HOU - #018	1.1	Police Security at Testing Facilities	\$722,110.00	\$721,796.82
HPD	HOU - #025	3.1	Violence Reduction and Crime Prevention – Patrol Enhancement	\$14,433,739.21	\$14,433,739.21
HPD	HOU - #026	1.11	Gun Buyback Initiative	\$982,224.00	\$349,906.57
HHD	HOU - #009	1.1	Vaccine Incentive Program	\$3,125,000.00	\$3,089,757.26
HFD	HOU - #014	1.14	ETHAN Personnel	\$4,950,280.00	\$851,532.32
PRD	HOU - #022	1.11	Enhance City Park Security	\$1,915,200.00	\$129,870.13
HITS	HOU - #029	3.9	Public Safety Radios	\$10,000,000.00	\$1,994,105.00



**ARPA**

## *Expenditures Through Reporting Period Continued*

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### **Provision of Government Services**

#### ***Revenue Replacement***

Department:	City of Houston (COH)
Project:	Revenue Replacement (Fiscal Year 2022)
ID Number:	HOU - #011
Estimated Approved Costs:	\$302,010,716.00
Expenditure Category:	Revenue Replacement 6.1 Provision of Govt. Services
Expenditures through Period:	\$302,010,716.00

After the release of the Final Rule by the U.S. Department of Treasury, the City of Houston recalculated its Revenue Replacement projection, which lowered the original budgeted amount of \$198.624 million by \$59.2 million for FY2022. The new total of Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (LFRF) from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the provision of government services to maintain and sustain critical services is \$139.436 million for FY 22 and \$162,575,000.00 for FY23.

#### ***Administrative Expenses***

Department:	City of Houston (COH)
Project:	Administrative Expenses
ID Number:	HOU - #012
Estimated Approved Costs:	\$7,564,670.00
Expenditure Category:	Administrative 7.1 Administrative Expenses
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$774,366.99

This project's estimated approved costs are \$7,564,670. These funds will be used on ARPA-dedicated employee payroll costs and consultation fees.



# ARPA

*Expenditures Through Reporting Period Continued*



***Disinfectant Spray***

Department:	City of Houston (COH)
Project:	Disinfectant Spray
ID Number:	HOU - #031
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$50,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment
Status:	Completed more than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$34,668.50



**ARPA**

## Expenditures Through Reporting Period Continued

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### Houston Police Department

#### *Crisis Call Diversion (CCD)*

Department: Houston Police Department (HPD)  
Project: Crisis Call Diversion (CCD)  
ID Number: HOU - #001  
Estimated Approved Cost: \$816,420.00  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services  
Status: Less than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$140,543.98

#### *Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)*

Department: Houston Police Department (HPD)  
Project: Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)  
ID Number: HOU - #002  
Estimated Approved Cost: \$11,871,469  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services  
Status: Less than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$1,582,313.20

#### *Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT)*

Department: Houston Police Department  
Project: Crisis Intervention Response Team  
ID Number: HOU - #003  
Estimated Approved Cost: \$6,152,664.00  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services  
Status: Less than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$5,493.00



**ARPA**

## *Expenditures Through Reporting Period Continued*

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### ***Clinician-Officer Remote Evaluation (CORE)***

Department: Houston Police Department  
Project: Clinician-Officer Remote Evaluation  
ID Number: HOU - #004  
Estimated Approved Cost: \$2,543,625.00  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services  
Status: Less than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$314,707.38

### ***Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)***

Department: Houston Police Department (HPD)  
Project: Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)  
ID Number: HOU - #005  
Estimated Approved Costs: \$3,615,822.00  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services  
Status: Completed less than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$1,018,391.36

### ***Victim Service Advocates (VSA)***

Department: Houston Police Department (HPD)  
Project: Victim Service Advocates (VSA)  
ID Number: HOU - #015  
Estimated Approved Costs: \$1,335,843.18  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services  
Status: Completed less than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$456,336.75



**ARPA**

## *Expenditures Through Reporting Period Continued*

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### ***Police Security at COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Facilities***

Department: Houston Police Department  
Project: Officer Overtime for Vaccination and Testing Site Security  
ID Number: HOU - #018  
Estimated Approved Cost: \$722,110.00  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination  
Status: Completed more than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$721,796.82

### ***Patrol Enhancement – Violence and Crime Reduction***

Department: Houston Police Department  
Project: Patrol Enhancement – Violence and Crime Reduction  
ID Number: HOU - #025  
Estimated Approved Cost: \$14,433,739.21  
Expenditure Category: Public Health Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.1 Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers  
Status: Completed more than 50%\*  
Expenditures through Period: \$14,433,739.21

### ***Gun Buyback***

Department: Houston Police Department  
Project: Gun Buyback  
ID Number: HOU - #026  
Estimated Approved Cost: \$982,224.00  
Expenditure Category: Public Health 1.11 Community Violence Intervention  
Status: Completed less than 50%  
Expenditures through Period: \$349,906.57



**ARPA**

## *Expenditures Through Reporting Period Continued*

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### **Houston Health Department**

#### ***Vaccination Incentive***

Department:	Houston Health Department (HHD)
Project:	Vaccination Incentive Cards
ID Number:	HOU - #009
Estimated Approved Costs:	\$3.125 million
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.1 Vaccination
Status:	Completed over 50% or more
Expenditures through Period:	\$3,089,757.26

This project's estimated approved costs are \$3.125 million. These funds were allocated for the following items:

- \$3,001,950 in 40,026 Visa Gift Cards (\$100 – 20,013 and \$50 – 20,013)
- \$89,757.26 in Service and Freight fees

### ***Houston Fire Department***

#### ***ETHAN Personnel***

Department:	Houston Fire Department (HFD)
Project:	Emergency Telehealth and Navigation Program (ETHAN)
ID Number:	HOU - #014
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$4,950,280.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.14 Other Public Health Service
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$851,532.32



# ARPA



## *Expenditures Through Reporting Period Continued*

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### *Houston Parks and Recreation Department*

#### *Enhance City Park Security*

Department:	Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD)
Project:	Enhance City Park Security
ID Number:	HOU - #022
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,915,200.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.1 Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers
Expenditures through Period:	\$129,870.13

### *Houston Information Technology Department*

#### *Public Safety Radios*

Department:	Information Technology Services (HITS)
Project:	Public Safety Radios
ID Number:	HOU - #029
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$10,000,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.4 Effective Service Delivery
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$1,994,105.00



**ARPA**

# *Promoting Equitable Outcomes*

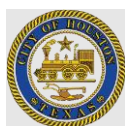
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The City of Houston believes that all people must be supported to address the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those persons and communities that have been underserved and under resourced for decades. Therefore, each ARPA SLRF project champions equity in its desired outcomes by focusing on the most at-risk communities, primarily ones identified in Mayor Turner’s Complete Communities initiative.

The Complete Communities mission is to build one complete city, from recovery to resilience, by giving voice and resources to residents enabling them to thrive. Each of the ten communities are assigned a liaison who attends monthly stakeholder meetings to collaborate on projects and report on department progress on initiative priorities. This initiative’s design aligns with the Biden-Harris administration’s lens on equity, especially as it seeks to revive communities that were disproportionately impacted by Covid-19.

Additionally, the City of Houston has included a “Promoting Equitable Outcomes” explanatory section for each one of its priority projects listed in the “Project Inventory” section of this report. These sections seek to measure the impact and recovery of the hardest hit communities. Moreover, the projects listed throughout this report address increased access to services for residents and businesses located in Complete Communities.

More information on this strategy can be found at:  
[www.houstontx.gov/completemunities](http://www.houstontx.gov/completemunities).



# ARPA

# Community Engagement

ARPA community Engagement has taken place through three major approaches:

- *Community Meetings with Neighborhoods*
- *Capital Improvement Project and Census Redistricting Meetings*
- *Online Survey*

## **Community Meetings with Neighborhoods**

City Council Members were given the option to include ARPA presentations at their regular town halls. Additionally, the Government Relations team has given presentations to the Super Neighborhood Alliance, the City of Houston's Commission on Women, and City Council.

## **Capital Improvement Plan and Redistricting Meetings**

The City of Houston hosted in-person town hall meetings in each of the Councilmember Districts to discuss the Capital Improvement Plan and redistricting. The ARPA website and survey were included in each redistricting meeting so residents could learn more.

## **Online Survey**

The City of Houston launched an online survey in both English and Spanish. This survey was promoted in every

Government Relations newsletter and most City Council member newsletters. Notable results included: An overwhelming majority of respondents felt it very important the City maintain pre-pandemic level of service. Respondents also made it clear they want to see an increase in mental health resources for nonviolent police intervention and support for victims of domestic violence.

Although not listed above, the Mayor's Police Reform Taskforce from 2020 was instrumental in outlining the different projects that are now part of the One Safe Houston Initiative and are funded through ARPA SLFRF.

The City also has a webpage dedicated to ARPA SLFRF and regularly updates the website with relevant supporting documentation and news.

[www.houstontx.gov/arpa](http://www.houstontx.gov/arpa)

While these are the major ways that the City of Houston receives feedback on its ARPA SLFRF activities, the Government Relations team takes calls and emails from the public seeking clarification on the ARPA SLFRF project proposal and application process as well as provides presentations whenever community groups ask for them.



# ARPA

# *Labor Practices*

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The City of Houston does not intend to use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for infrastructure projects. However, the City has adopted prevailing wage rates for its public works infrastructure projects consisting of the latest prevailing wage rates determined and issued by the U.S. Department of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act.

In addition, where required for projects funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City makes every effort within its disposal to meet the regulatory requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968 by developing strategies specifically targeting low- and very-low-income residents and local businesses for economic opportunities, including job training, employment, and contracting opportunities.



**ARPA**

## Use of Evidence

The City of Houston has based all of its interventions on evidence that these types of projects are working as they are intended to. The City of Houston’s Recovery Plan has expended on several priority projects under the following expense categories:

Dept.	Project ID	Expenditure Category	Project Name
Police	HOU - #005	Public Health 1.1 Behavioral Health – Mental Services	Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)
Police	HOU - #015	Public Health 1.1 Behavioral Health – Mental Services	Victim Service Advocates (VSA)
Police	HOU – #018	Public Health 1.1 COVID-19 Mitigation & Prevention – COVID-19 Vaccination	Security for Testing and Vaccination Sites
Police	HOU – #025	Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.1 General Provisions – Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers	Patrol Enhancement – Violence and Crime
Health	HOU - #009	Public Health 1.1 COVID-19 Mitigation & Prevention – COVID-19 Vaccination	Vaccine Incentive Program
Fire	HOU – #014	Public Health 1.14 Other – Other Public Health Services	ETHAN Personnel
PRD	HOU - #022	Public Health 1.11 Community Violence Interventions	Enhance City Park Security



**ARPA**

## *Use of Evidence Continued*

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### *Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) and Victim Service Advocates (VSA)*

DART is a multidisciplinary crisis response team purposed to assist victims of domestic violence by engaging the victim immediately following a reported incident of domestic violence in an effort to ensure their safety and provide trauma informed care, with the ability to coordinate and provide emergency services, such as medical care, food, temporary shelter and connections to long-term solutions, counseling, legal help, and compensation; all, of which, precede follow-up and outreach services provided by the Victim Services Division.

The Victim Advocacy Unit initiates follow up on cases involving crime victims via phone, in person, and through virtual platforms. This follow-up consists of meeting the needs of the victim by offering the appropriate referrals and assistance specific to each victim. The pandemic also made it less likely for victims to seek help because of fear of contracting COVID-19, assumptions that the pandemic would have shut down programs, or the belief that others might need assistance more than they do.

More information can be found: [https://www.houstontx.gov/police/victim\\_services/](https://www.houstontx.gov/police/victim_services/)

### *ETHAN Personnel*

This community-based mobile integrated healthcare project, along with local and regional partnerships, agencies, and collaborations ensure individuals who call 911 with non-emergency complaints would be triaged by telehealth emergency medical physicians who are immediately available and skilled at making rapid triage decisions. ETHAN allows EMS providers the ability to connect patients with physicians for specialized care while eliminating an expensive ambulance ride and hospital visit.

Before ARPA funding, for more than 4 years, with an ever-increasing population in the City of Houston and greater than 300,000 calls for service, the Houston Fire Departments ETHAN program has successfully serviced more than 22,000 City of Houston residents and visitors. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the calls increased exponentially, and the ETHAN program has been vital in addressing the needs of residents and visitors. The percent of patients cared for away from an emergency department would be greater but for ETHAN being in operation evenings and weekends when clinics are closed.



# ARPA

### *Enhancing Park Security*

Park visitation in the City of Houston rose just like parks across the country. Public parks serve an important societal function as recreational spaces for diverse communities of people. The city has also experienced an increase in violent crime as the COVID-19 pandemic continued. The Houston Parks and Recreation Department has experienced an estimated 50% increase in visitors, which has unfortunately increased crime related activities such as illegal dumping, shootings, drugs, stolen vehicles, and other crimes within our parks. Neighborhood parks have seen the most of this increase of crime. By supplementing the Park Rangers with additional staff, parks can better respond to dispatch calls, which doubled from being around 120-205 calls before the pandemic to now between 275-405.

As projects develop, more information as to their structure and implementation will be available. For all other projects, see the project inventory section of the report.



**ARPA**

# Project Inventory

This section provides an overview of projects that have been approved by Mayor Turner.

Dept.	Project ID	Expenditure Category	Project Name	Estimated Approved Costs
COH	HOU - #011	6.1	Revenue Replacement	\$302,010,716.00
COH	HOU - #012	7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$7,564,670.00
COH	HOU - #031	1.5	Disinfectant Spray	\$50,000.00
HPD	HOU - #001	1.12	Crisis Call Diversion (CCD)	\$816,420.00
HPD	HOU - #002	1.12	Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)	\$11,871,469.00
HPD	HOU - #032	1.12	MCOT – Two additional Teams	\$1,433,793.00
HPD	HOU - #003	1.12	Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT)	\$6,152,664.00
HPD	HOU - #004	1.12	Clinician-Officer Remote Evaluation (CORE)	\$2,543,625.00
HPD	HOU - #005	1.12	Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)	\$3,615,822.00
HPD	HOU - #015	1.12	Victim Service Advocates	\$1,335,843.18
HPD	HOU - #016	1.12	Emergency Sheltering	\$926,250.00
HPD	HOU - #017	1.12	Forensic Nurses	\$730,712.00
HPD	HOU - #018	1.1	Police Security at Testing Facilities	\$722,110.00
HPD	HOU - #025	3.1	Violence Reduction and Crime Prevention – Patrol Enhancement	\$14,433,739.21
HPD	HOU - #026	1.11	Gun Buyback Initiative	\$982,224.00
HPD	HOU - #033	3.4	Technology Enhancement – 5G Enablers	\$974,533.00
HPD	HOU - #034	3.1	Cadet Retention	\$7,270,000.00
SWMD	HOU - #006	1.14	Homeless Encampment Abatement	\$7,178,306.72
SWMD	HOU - #007	1.14	Anti-Litter	\$1,333,333.00
SWMD	HOU - #008	1.14	Bulk Waste	\$1,466,667.00
HHD	HOU - #009	1.1	Vaccine Incentive Program	\$3,125,000.00
HHD	HOU - #023	1.11	Community Violence Intervention	\$2,500,000.00
HHD	HOU - #024	1.11	Credible Messengers	\$500,000.00
HHD	HOU - #027	2.37	Community Re-Entry Program	\$1,000,000.00
HFD	HOU - #014	1.14	ETHAN Personnel	\$4,950,280.00
HPL	HOU - #019	2.25	Digital Literacy Equity Project	\$3,875,130.00
ARA	HOU - #020	2.36	BARC – Spay and Neuter Program	\$1,000,000.00
OHT&DV	HOU - #021	1.11	Multicultural Domestic Violence Preventative Outreach Strategy	\$3,000,000.00
PRD	HOU - #022	1.11	Enhance City Park Security	\$1,915,200.00
HFSC	HOU - #028	2.36	Case Backlog Funding	\$3,000,000.00
HITS	HOU - #029	3.4	Public Safety Radios	\$10,000,000.00
MOPD	HOU - #030	2.37	Case Management Augmentation	\$1,095,984.17



# ARPA



## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Provision of Government Services***

#### ***Revenue Replacement***

Department:	City of Houston
Project:	Revenue Replacement (FY22 and FY23)
ID Number:	HOU - #011
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$302,010,716.00
Expenditure Category:	Revenue Replacement 6.1 Provision of Govt. Services
Expenditures through Period:	\$302,010,716.00

#### **Project Overview**

The City of Houston allocated ARPA CSLFRF funding for “Revenue Replacement” in the initial months of Fiscal Year 2022 and has since revised its projection to \$139,435,716.00 after the Treasury’s release of the Final Rule. The FY 2023 revenue replacement is for \$160,075,000.00. The total approved estimated costs is \$302,010,716.00 and the expenditures have been \$302,010,716.00 through December 31, 2022.

This allocation is to provide for the provision of government services due to the COVID-19 public health emergency revenue losses, to maintain and sustain critical services. ARPA has enabled the City to maintain the indispensable services most valued by our residents during this challenging time. The critical services allocation for FY2022 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) includes personnel related to the City’s Police, Fire, Health, and Solid Waste Departments, as these departments play a vital and ongoing role in response to the pandemic.

The first transfer from the City’s CSLFRF to the City’s General Fund was in August 2021 for amounts incurred for the month of July and each month thereafter until the full allocation is used. This allows for reconciliations, support documentation gathering, and monthly reports to be finalized prior to the transfer for the “Provision of Government Services” in the City’s financial/ general ledger system. This project’s estimated approved costs are \$258,488,077.47 for fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023. This calculation is based on the Treasury’s Final Rule.



# ARPA

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Administrative Expenses***

Department:	City of Houston (COH)
Project:	Administrative Expenses
ID Number:	HOU - #012
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$7,564,670.00
Expenditure Category:	Administrative 7.1 Administrative Expenses
Status:	Completed Less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$774,366.99

#### Project Overview

The City of Houston has allocated funds to cover expenses related to the administration of the ARPA SLFRF dollars including ARPA-dedicated employee payroll costs and consultation fees. Administration of the grant includes but is not limited to reporting, expenditure tracking, management of priority projects, and verifying eligibility of proposed projects.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Disinfectant Spray***

Department:	City of Houston (COH)
Project:	Disinfectant Spray
ID Number:	HOU - #031
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$50,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment
Status:	Completed more than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$34,668.50

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The City has maintained an inventory of personal protective equipment in support of efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19. This inventory of PPE is stored in multiple City facilities and is available for distribution to any department upon submittal of an approved form to the Office of Emergency Management. Although recent draws on the inventory have reduced significantly over the past few months, there is still a significant demand for a few key items such as masks and disinfectant spray. OEM has been successful in replenishing the PE inventory for masks, but TDEM has not provided any relief on the disinfectant spray.

This project will replenish the necessary cans of disinfectant spray to reduce the City's COVID-19 positivity rate and keep employees safe.

#### Project Demographic Distribution

This project is serving all departments in the City of Houston that require additional disinfectant spray. While this this program will be serving disproportionately impacted communities, to what extent cannot be measured.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### Houston Police Department

#### Crisis Call Diversion (CCD)

Department:	Houston Police Department (HPD)
Project:	Crisis Call Diversion (CCD)
ID Number:	HOU - #001
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$816,420.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Completed Less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$140,543.98

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Crisis Call Diversion (CCD) program is a collaboration between the Houston Police Department, Houston Fire Department, Houston Emergency Center and the Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD, with the express purpose of decreasing the volume of non-emergency mental health-related calls for service for both HPD patrol and HFD emergency medical services and reducing the use of these personnel for non-emergency responses.

Expansion of the existing program to 24-hour coverage will add four more full-time care coordinators and necessary equipment. While the provision of behavioral health services is worthy of investment on its own merits, the program increases the capacity of law enforcement officers to focus on public safety rather than behavioral health issues.

The contract for this project in combination with the Mobile Crisis Outreach Team program was approved by City Council on April 13, 2022 for \$13,480,656.00.

For more information on the Crisis Call Diversion program, please see [www.houstoncit.org/ccd/](http://www.houstoncit.org/ccd/) as well as the 2021 Mental Health Division Annual Report at <https://www.houstoncit.org/annual-report/>

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.



# ARPA

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### Use of Evidence

This program was launched in 2015 after years of studying the nexus between first responders and mental health service calls. In 2017, HPD responded to 37,032 calls for service coded as CIT. Out of those 37,032 CFS, 41% resulted in an “information” only disposition. Research has indicated that a substantial number of these crisis calls may have been handled more effectively by quickly connecting callers who have non-emergent mental health-related issues directly to mental health professionals rather than automatically dispatching police officers and/or EMS personnel. CCD Counselors have helped first responders and the Houston community in such a way that in 2017, CCD counselors handled 7,264 Calls-For-Service (CFS).

As it is known that this program effectively provides 911 callers with the correct resources, the evaluation is focused on volume, location, and types of calls, not need. This project is evaluated on a quarterly basis. All funds are being used toward this intervention.

### Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information and Performance Report

As this program launches, information on the types of calls that are being taken and the result of those calls will be recorded and reported in the annual performance report.



**ARPA**

## Project Inventory Continued

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### **Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)**

Department:	Houston Police Department (HPD)
Project:	Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)
ID Number:	HOU - #002
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$11,871,469
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Completed Less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$1,582,313.20

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) is an interdisciplinary mobile team composed of psychiatrists, registered nurses, licensed master’s level clinicians, bachelor level clinicians, and psychiatric technicians specializing in crisis intervention. Community-based in Harris County, MCOT provides services to children and adults who are experiencing a mental health crisis.

The crisis teams will focus on “rapid response,” immediate interventions, not referrals for future treatments. This methodology removes law enforcement from dealing with lower-level mental health calls and connects individuals suffering from a mental illness to services and professionals that can help them most without involving the criminal justice system. MCOT can be deployed by the CCD or called in by officers in the field, allowing for officers to introduce a behavioral health medical intervention. This “hand off” delivers a more appropriate level of care.

The contract for this project in combination with the Crisis Call Diversion program was approved by City Council on April 13, 2022 for \$13,480,656.00.

For more information on Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams, please see the Crisis Services Continuum from the Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD:

<https://theharriscenter.org/Services/Our-Services/Crisis-Services-Continuum>

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence, Project Distribution, Programmatic Information, and Performance

This intervention will be reevaluating on a quarterly basis on its effectiveness with



# ARPA

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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removing law enforcement in times of mental health crisis. All funds are being used toward this intervention. As this program launches, information on the types of calls that are being taken and the result of those calls will be recorded and reported on in the annual performance report.



**ARPA**

## Project Inventory Continued

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### **MCOT – 2 Additional Teams**

Department:	Houston Police Department (HPD)
Project:	MCOT - 2 Additional Teams
ID Number:	HOU - #032
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,433,793.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Not yet started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) is an interdisciplinary mobile team composed of psychiatrists, registered nurses, licensed master’s level clinicians, bachelor level clinicians, and psychiatric technicians specializing in crisis intervention. Community-based in Harris County, MCOT provides services to children and adults who are experiencing a mental health crisis. The City of Houston added two additional MCOT Teams in order to meet the demands of its target population.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence, Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information, and Performance Report

See HOU - #002 above.



# ARPA



## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT)***

Department:	Houston Police Department
Project:	Crisis Intervention Response Team
ID Number:	HOU - #003
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$6,152,664
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Completed Less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$5,493.00

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT) is specialized program responding to mental health crisis calls in the community. The program pairs a licensed, masters- level mental health clinician with a law enforcement partner. The mobile team responds to 911 dispatch calls and referrals from the Houston Police Department Mental Health Division, Harris County Sheriff's Office Mental Health Unit, and The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD.

The goal of CIRT is to assess and treat individuals experiencing a mental health crisis to avoid unnecessary incarceration and to utilize the least restrictive means of stabilizing consumers, which includes linkage to outpatient services where indicated promptly and accurately. HPD currently has 12 CIRT units deployed. In order to expand to 24-hour coverage, the program is adding six more teams. The contract for this project was approved by City Council on April 13, 2022 for \$2,388,105.00.

For more information on CIRT teams, please visit the Mental Health Division website for the Houston Police Department at <https://www.houstoncit.org/cirt>

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence

Houston's Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT) started as a six-month pilot program in March 2008. The pilot was extremely successful, and the program was made permanent later that year.

#### Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information, and Performance Report

As this program launches, information on the types of calls that are being taken and the result of those calls will be recorded and reported on in the annual performance report.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Clinician-Officer Remote Evaluation (CORE)***

Department:	Houston Police Department
Project:	Clinician-Officer Remote Evaluation
ID Number:	HOU - #004
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$2,543,625.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$314,707.38

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Clinician-Officer Remote Evaluation (CORE) program is a telehealth strategy for responding to mental health crisis calls using a tablet and a HIPAA-approved technology platform to connect a law enforcement first responder with a mental health clinician in the community at the time of the 911 dispatch. The licensed, professional clinicians and a team leader assist the officer at a scene to make a quick, accurate mental health assessment of persons who are in mental health crisis. The clinicians can also access the person’s hospitalization history and connect the person with needed resources.

In implementing CORE within HPD, 80 officers per shift will have access to the system at three shifts daily, equal to 240 officers. The program calls for funding seven clinicians to conduct interventions via the tele-med platform. The contract for this project was approved by City Council on April 13, 2022, for \$2,543,625.00.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence, Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information, and Performance

This intervention will be reevaluating on a quarterly basis its effectiveness with removing law enforcement in times of mental health crisis. All funds are being used toward this intervention. As this program launches, information on the types of calls that are being taken and the result of those calls will be recorded and reported on in the annual performance report.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART)***

Department:	Houston Police Department (HPD)
Project:	Domestic Abuse Response Team
ID Number:	HOU - #005
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$3,615,822.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Completed Less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$1,018,391.36

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) program provides for specially trained, two-person mobile teams consisting of one HPD officer and one victim advocate. The teams respond to “high risk” domestic violence crime scenes at the request of the primary responding police unit for the purpose of making on-scene danger assessments. The team then reaches out to the victims to engage and connect them with needed emergency services.

The program also funds officer overtime to deliver warrants, helping address a huge gap in the system, thus dedicating law enforcement resources to apprehend abusers.

The program is currently staffed 5 days a week, 7pm – 3am, with 3 DART units (one DART unit being that of one officer and one victim advocate) and 2 supervisory units. HPD can continue to provide these enhanced responses to the ever-growing issues surrounding domestic violence. Without funding, the DART Program will end once grant funding is exhausted.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence, Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information, and Performance

The data will be reported on in the annual performance report.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Victim Service Advocates (VSA)***

Department:	Houston Police Department (HPD)
Project:	Victim Advocates
ID Number:	HOU - #015
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,335,843.18
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$456,336.75

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Victim Services Division contains a Victim Advocacy Unit that initiates follow up on cases involving crime victims via phone, in person and through virtual platforms. This follow-up consists of meeting the needs of the victim by offering the appropriate referrals and assistance specific to each victim. The Advocacy Unit also has an On-Call Team, which consists of on-call supervisors, advocates, and officers who respond to media worthy incidents in order to assist the victims and their families directly affected by the incident.

The pandemic environment has also made it less likely for victims to seek help because of fear of contracting COVID-19, assumptions that the pandemic would have shut down programs, or the belief that others might need assistance more than they do. Continued funding of Victim Advocates ensures victims have the support and guidance to connect to available services timely and efficiently.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information and Performance

See DART as this program works in conjunction with that initiative.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Emergency Sheltering***

Department:	Houston Police Department (HPD)
Project:	Emergency Sheltering
ID Number:	HOU - #016
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$926,250
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Not started yet
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Domestic Abuse Response Team’s objective is to provide essential services to victims of domestic violence, link domestic abuse victims to emergency shelter or alternative housing; provide nutrition and wellness, health and medical services, including medical care, follow-up treatment and essential medications, advocacy and therapy.

The City previously used CARES Act funds to fund emergency shelters or domestic violence victims. HPD will utilize ARPA funding for emergency sheltering expenses for victims of domestic violence. Under the DART initiative, after the forensic medical exam is completed, survivors are offered emergency housing and other supportive services at no charge to ensure survivors’ continued safety and long-term stabilization.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information, and Performance

As this program launches, information on the types of victims served will be recorded and reported on in the annual performance report. See DART as this program works in conjunction with that initiative.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### **Forensic Nurses**

Department:	Houston Police Department (HPD)
Project:	Forensic Nurses
ID Number:	HOU - #017
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$730,712.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.12 Mental Health Services
Status:	Not started yet
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

Domestic violence severely impacts an individual's physical and mental health. DART contracts with forensic nurses to offer on-scene medical forensic examinations at no charge to the survivor. These exams provide critical history about the survivor that can be helpful for community-based advocates and counselors who are supporting the victim's recovery and contribute to the preparation of an evidence-based criminal charge to be presented for criminal prosecution.

Additionally, this initiative will provide relief by the partnership between forensic nurses and law enforcement to serve as a bridge between medicine and the legal system. These exams can take place in hospitals and medical centers administering medical treatments. The COVID-19 public health crisis has brought elevated risk to healthcare providers including in cases of medical forensic exams in hospital settings.

It is vital to have forensic nurses available on-scene of domestic violence incidents to offer access to medical services to victims, many of whom are members of vulnerable populations affected by the pandemic. Forensic nurses provide services by promoting access to health as well as social services to victims of domestic abuse.

The intended outcome of this program is for DART to bring much needed medical support to these victims and relieve hospitals and medical clinics, as well as uncover evidence so police investigators can do their jobs more effectively.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

As this program will be City-wide, all needed populations will be served. All first responders are aware that this program is available whenever needed.

#### Use of Evidence Project Demographic Distribution, Programmatic Information, and Performance

See DART as this program works in conjunction with that initiative.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Police Security at COVID-19 Testing Facilities***

Department:	Houston Police Department
Project:	Officer Overtime for Vaccination and Testing Site Security
ID Number:	HOU - #018
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$722,110.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination
Status:	Completed More than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$721,796.82

#### Project Overview

During the COVID-19 spike in December 2021, COVID-19 testing sites were overrun with demand. The increased demand required police officer presence and security at City of Houston Health Department COVID-19 testing sites. As of this report, the City is allocating \$722,110 to cover HPD overtime associated with vaccination site security due to the Omicron variant surge.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

This program was launched in the areas with the highest traffic at COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites. These locations were often in Complete Communities and other areas of need.

#### Use of Evidence, Project Demographic Distribution, and Performance

As this project served through officer hours at vaccination sites and not direct services to the public, data on the demographics of the clients was not recorded.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued



### ***Patrol Enhancement – Violence and Crime Reduction***

Department:	Houston Police Department
Project:	Patrol Enhancement – Violence and Crime Reduction
ID Number:	HOU - #025
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$14,433,739.21
Expenditure Category:	Public Health Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.1 Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers
Status:	Completed More than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$14,433,739.21

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The City of Houston continues to contend with dual public health crises. The One Safe Houston Initiative is a comprehensive violence reduction initiative that links research-based strategies to improve public safety and reduce the harms caused by violent crime. HPD officers work specific details to deter the engagement of violent crime in hot spot neighborhoods. ARPA will fund overtime where the funding is directly focused on advancing community policing strategies in those communities experiencing an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic.

#### Payroll for Public Health and Safety Employees

The number of police officers that have been deployed for overtime is sensitive information. The funding has increased the number of overtime hours police officers are putting in high-crime areas.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

While information on where these officers are deployed is sensitive, they are being deployed in crime hot spots throughout the City.



# ARPA



## Project Inventory Continued

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### **Gun Buyback**

Department:	Houston Police Department
Project:	Gun Buyback
ID Number:	HOU - #026
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$982,224.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.11 Community Violence Intervention
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$349,906.57

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Gun Buyback program gives Houstonians a safe and alternative way to surrender unwanted firearms in exchange for compensation. This provides an opportunity to mitigate potential harmful actions in our community. Buyback programs are widely supported as a means to reduce firearms within a city.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Increases in gun crimes have plagued the entire city. This program will stage events in different areas to increase participation and visibility to get the best participation from all communities across the city. The first event is being held in the Third Ward, situated in close proximity to the University of Houston and Texas Southern University, one of the nation's largest historically black universities. The program will be advertised in a variety of media outlets including, but not limited to, social media, radio, newspapers, and podcasts.

Updates on this program and all One Safe Houston components can be found at [www.houstontx.gov/onesafehouston](http://www.houstontx.gov/onesafehouston).

#### Use of Evidence, Programmatic Information and Performance Report

As this program launches, information on the types of weapons retrieved will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### Technology Enhancement – 5G Enablers

Department:	Houston Police Department
Project:	Technology Enhancement – 5G Enablers
ID Number:	HOU - #033
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$974,533.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health – Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery 3.4
Status:	Not Yet Started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The Houston Police Department’s Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) provides assistance to criminal investigations by helping locate fugitive suspects, kidnapping victims, and meeting other case development needs through the use of pen register data and other related specialty equipment such as cell site simulator (CSS) gear. Pen register data is customer cellular data and location information obtained via a probable cause-based court order via the Harris County District Attorney’s office and a district judge. The CIU’s current set of approved-CSS gear needs to be upgraded to 5G capabilities because the current CSS gear cannot locate a 5G device in most circumstances. This affects CIU’s capability to locate felony fugitives and assist in emergency tracking events such as kidnappings.

CSS gear is a critical tool used by CIU to assist investigations. Without the upgraded 5G enablers, CIU live tracking will become less effective because it will only be able to provide generalized location information to investigators instead of exact locations, placing both law enforcement and any victims in peril.

The purchase of upgraded 5G enablers will provide services to victims of gun violence by providing a critical tool to solve gun-related crime.



**ARPA**

## Project Inventory Continued

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### **Cadet Retention**

Department:	Houston Police Department
Project:	Cadet Retention
ID Number:	HOU - #034
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$7,270,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.1 Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers
Status:	Not yet started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The increase in violent crime after the COVID19 Pandemic has presented an economic harm to the citizens of Houston. The City of Houston recognizes that in order to reduce violent crime, our city needs the human resources and ability to target this surge of violent crime. Hiring additional police cadets to then become police officers would greatly assist in our fight against crime.

Since COVID, HPD has experienced challenge with recruiting enough cadets to keep up with attrition as well as growing the number of officers. HPD will establish a \$10,000 Cadet Retention Incentive to be distributed to attract and retain incoming police cadets. The hiring incentive will not only attract incoming cadets but it will be structured to encourage retention once the cadets become officers.

The Cadet Retention Initiative will provide \$10k additional compensation to cadets. The compensation will be distributed in three phases. After reaching certain milestones, incoming cadets will receive the following retention incentives:

1. Sign-Up Incentive: \$2,500 (Paid within 30 days of beginning the Police Academy)
2. Mid-way Incentive: \$2,500 (Paid after completing 3 months)
3. Completion Incentive: \$5,000 (Paid after completion of Police Academy and TCOLE requirements)

Total Cost is \$7,270,000 and includes 727 anticipated cadets.



# ARPA

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

This initiative to hire and retain more officers promotes equity in all demographic and geographic areas of the City of Houston by ensuring that all communities have sufficient numbers of police patrolling and serving the citizens of Houston.

### Use of Evidence, Programmatic Information and Performance Report

As this program launches, information on the number of cadets that receive this benefit and are retained in the program will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



**ARPA**

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Houston Solid Waste Management Department***

#### ***Homeless Encampment***

Department:	Solid Waste Department (SWMD)
Project:	Homeless Encampment Abatement
ID Number:	HOU - #006
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$7,178,306.72
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.14 Other Public Health Services
Status:	Not yet started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### **Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact**

Homeless encampments and services are often in congregate settings, not generally respective of recommended social distancing guidelines, and could facilitate the spread of infection. Because many people who are experiencing homelessness often have underlying medical conditions, they may also be at higher risk for severe disease.

This program initiative will fund weekly cleanups at encampments throughout the city to include needed major remediation activities directed by the City Public Health Authority and Health Department. More than 100 homeless encampment sites have been identified in the City of Houston.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes, Use of Evidence, and Performance**

This project is being deployed in the areas with most need in the community and will be evaluated on its effectiveness once it is launched. As this program launches, information on the number of encampments are abated and cleaned will be collected and reported on.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Anti-Litter***

Department:	Solid Waste Department (SWMD)
Project:	Anti-Litter
ID Number:	HOU - #007
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,333,333.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.14 Other Public Health Services
Status:	Not yet started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

Every day, thousands, if not millions, of disposable masks, gloves and sanitizer bottles are used and improperly discarded and disposed. The goal of the anti-litter campaign is to combat, reduce, and extinguish the behaviors.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes Use of Evidence, and Programmatic Information and Performance

This project will be launched in areas with most need and persistent litter. As this program launches, information on the amount of litter collected and the number of calls to certain locations will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### **Bulk Waste**

Department:	Solid Waste Department (SWMD)
Project:	Bulk Waste
ID Number:	HOU - #008
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,466,667.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.14 Other Public Health Services
Status:	Not yet started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

In the continuing efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, waste streams have increased for City-provided services. With higher set-out rates, the department has experienced an influx of heavy household debris, landscape debris and illegal dumping. Houston’s experience is also being reported by other solid waste agencies statewide and nationwide (Solid Waste Association of North America and Municipal Waste Management Association). The department further expects an even larger uptick in bulk waste collection given the current crisis, as a result of the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus.

This program initiative will fund additional bulk waste crews to collect bulky material. Funding should be established for up to 22 crews to work up to six days per week. Crews will be placed in high- volume areas of debris generation or clear illegal dumpsites in abused areas of the city.

If the City is unable to provide timely bulk waste service, it creates other public health hazards such as disease vector generation and flooding due to blocked ditches/storm drains. As Houston enters the peak of hurricane season, flood mitigation is a priority given the city’s five-year history of significant flood events and the challenges that the City must overcome if homes flood and people are temporarily housed in congregate shelter settings during the pandemic.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes Use of Evidence, and Programmatic Information and Performance As this program launches, information on the amount of bulk waste collected and the number of calls to certain locations will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



# ARPA

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Houston Health Department***

#### ***Vaccination Incentive***

Department:	Houston Health Department
Project:	Vaccination Incentive Cards
ID Number:	HOU - #009
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$3.125 million
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination
Status:	Completed over 50% or more
Expenditures through Period:	\$3,089,757.26

#### **Project Overview**

The incentive-based program focused on groups in zip codes with persistently low vaccination rates in accordance with Houston's COVID Community Vulnerability Index (CCVI) report.

The Houston Health Department (HHD) selected the location where the incentives were provided in hopes that people who are reluctant to be vaccinated might opt to be vaccinated. Patients starting or completing the vaccine series were eligible for the incentive, targeting communities with low vaccination rates and within the vulnerable priority zip codes.

Increasing vaccine uptake will decrease the transmission of the COVID-19 disease and decrease hospitalization admission burden on the public hospital systems. Houston Health Department will focus on the current coverage goal of 70% or more. The project launched on 08/26/2021 and is ongoing.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes, Use of Evidence, and Programmatic Information and Performance**

See the City's annual report of August 31, 2021 for detailed information on this program. If there is an increase in COVID-19 cases that warrants the reinstatement of the vaccination incentive program, more data will be collected and reported on in the annual performance report.



# ARPA



## Project Inventory Continued

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### **Community Violence Intervention Program**

Department:	Houston Health Department
Project:	Community Violence Intervention Program
ID Number:	HOU - #023
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$2,500,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.11 Community Violence Intervention
Status:	Not Yet Started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

There have been notable spikes of gun violence during the pandemic. This program will address crime challenges in the City and especially in communities where COVID-19 infection rates are high, COVID-19 vaccination rates are low, and the spike in gun violent crimes is apparent. HHD will implement a researched-based Violence Intervention Program that aims to stop the spread of violence in communities by using the methods and strategies associated with public health and disease control.

This program follows a three-pronged health approach to violence prevention: detection and interruption of planned violent activity, behavior change of high-risk individuals, and changing community norms. This program will work in partnership with community-based programs to directly serve those in need by strengthening their skills in mediation, conflict resolution, effective communication, and decision making and cognitive restructuring.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes, Use of Evidence, and Programmatic Information and Performance

As based on the White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative, this project will be launched in the areas with highest crime. The project will be evaluating its effectiveness once it launches. As this program launches, information on the types of clients served and their locations will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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### ***Credible Messengers***

Department:	Houston Health Department
Project:	Credible Messengers
ID Number:	HOU - #024
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$500,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.11 Community Violence Interventions
Status:	Not Yet Started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview – Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

At-risk youth in marginalized neighborhoods who are who are enticed by gangs may fall into violent behavior patterns. This program will provide support services to this population on the violence continuum receiving referrals from both the community and the Cure Violence program. This program will provide the long-term, sustainable intervention and services to support those impacted or at highest risk for criminal justice and gang involvement or violence.

This program pairs mentors and guides for youth and young adults who are at the highest risk for re-offending or engaging in gang activity for sustained support and intervention. Additionally, this program utilizes specially trained adults with relevant life experiences.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes, Use of Evidence, and Programmatic Information and Performance

As based on the White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative, this project will be launched in the areas with highest crime. The project will be evaluating its effectiveness once it launches. As this program launches, information on the types of clients served and their locations will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



**ARPA**

## Project Inventory Continued

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### **Community Re-Entry Program**

Department:	Houston Health Department
Project:	Community Re-Entry Program
ID Number:	HOU - #027
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,000,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Negative Economic Impacts 2.37 Other
Status:	Not Yet Started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

This program’s services will support individuals who are released from incarceration. These services include need-based assessments, evidence-based programming, case management and referrals to partners offering basic needs including financial literacy, food, housing, access to care, transportation and behavioral health.

As of 2020, individuals released faced unprecedented challenges presented by COVID-19 including obtaining necessities such as food and shelter, accessing healthcare and behavioral healthcare, and entering a job market with historically high unemployment.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

This program will assist those recently released to successfully reintegrate back into the community, reduce recidivism, and address current crime challenges in communities where COVID-19 infection rates are high, COVID-19 vaccination rates are low, and the spike in violent crimes is apparent.

This funding will allow the program and its partners to serve recently released individuals with innovative, evidence informed strategies and techniques designed to specifically address the recent wave of violence in targeted communities through increased outreach in communities where recently released individuals settle, increased workforce development, job opportunities, and retention, increased adequate and safe housing resources, and increased mental and behavioral health resources.

#### Use of Evidence, Programmatic Information and Performance Report

Prior to the pandemic, this program was able to support an average of 500 recently released individuals and showed great success in establishing them with a support network and necessary services. This program will be evaluated once it launches.



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## Project Inventory Continued

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### Houston Fire Department

#### ETHAN Personnel

Department:	Houston Fire Department (HFD)
Project:	Emergency Telehealth and Navigation Program (ETHAN)
ID Number:	HOU - #014
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$4,950,280.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.14 Other Public Health Service
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$851,532.32

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

For more than 4 years, with an ever-increasing population of 2.3 million and greater than 300,000 calls for service, the Houston Fire Department’s (HFD) Emergency Telehealth and Navigation Program (ETHAN) has successfully serviced more than 22,000 City of Houston residents and visitors. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the calls have increased exponentially, and the ETHAN program has been vital in addressing the needs of residents and visitors. ETHAN has garnered local and national recognition as one of the most innovative large-scale telehealth solutions in modern EMS. The percentage of patients cared for away from an emergency department would be greater but for ETHAN being in operation evenings and weekends when clinics are closed.

The ETHAN program connects emergency medical service (EMS) personnel with patients calling 911 and diverts non-medical-emergency callers to non-hospital care with no-cost cab transportation. This program allows HFD ambulances to be available for true medical emergencies and reduces congestion in local hospital emergency departments.

ARPA SLFRF funding will provide the necessary resources for the continuation of ETHAN and will fund medical personnel.

#### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

This community-based mobile integrated healthcare program promotes equity in all demographic and geographic areas of the City of Houston:



# ARPA

## Project Inventory Continued

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1. Communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 (low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, unemployed veterans and people with disabilities)
2. Negative economic impacted populations and 3) Groups historically and marginalized by health disparities.

The ETHAN project ensures individuals who call 911 with non-emergency complaints will be triaged by telehealth emergency medical physicians who are immediately available and skilled at making rapid triage decisions. Patients who are assessed by an ETHAN physician and confirmed to be non-emergent can be scheduled to local Federally Qualified Clinic (FQHC), home care, primary care physician along with arranged transportation by a taxi cab, self-transport or can home care with no-transport.

The ETHAN program continues to train its First Responders that this is a viable option for non-emergency calls and complaints, so that all residents may receive the benefits needed.

### Use of Evidence

Since its inception, generally 15% of all ETHAN patients were dispositioned or managed away from the emergency department and 9 of every 10 patients avoided using the HFD ambulance for transportation.

ETHAN project has demonstrated significant success in increasing EMS efficiency and quality of care through reduced ambulance transports, reduced on-scene time and management of patients both on-scene and to non-traditional destinations.

### Programmatic Data

This project will be measuring and reporting the number of ETHAN Emergency Medicine Physician telehealth visits conducted and the number of patients managed to alternate transportation and/or referred destinations. ETHAN reduces the EMS and patient contact/exposure time by 53% and is a novel Public Health mitigation and prevention tool. As this project closed at the end of June, facts and figures are still being measured to understand the impact of the ETHAN program. These details will be included in the in the annual performance report.



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## Project Inventory Continued

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### Houston Public Library

#### Digital Literacy Equity Project

Department:	Houston Public Library (HPL)
Project:	Digital Literacy Equity Project
ID Number:	HOU - #019
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$3,875,130.00
Expenditure Category:	Negative Economic Impacts 2.25 Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services
Services Status:	Not yet started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

Developing capacity of Digital Literacy instruction and skill development is critical for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. To prepare the workforce for the current and future job markets, the City of Houston Public Library (HPL) provides digital literacy skill education in areas that lack access to broadband.

The Mayor’s Office for Adult Literacy will partner with local adult and family literacy providers that meet specified criteria to develop community computer labs geographically located throughout the city to facilitate access to digital and computer literacy within under-resourced communities.

This project also provides Digital Literacy and Digital Equity Navigators which are trained professionals that teach digital literacy to adults and provide sufficient technology support to ensure that the technology in these computer labs is effective.

The project will also expand the “Community Tech Kit Initiative” through the City’s Library and Office of Complete Communities. The expansion will help learners obtain a laptop, a computer, and a hotspot for adult learners residing in targeted communities.

#### Addressing Educational Disparities

As this program launches, information on the number of students served will be available.



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## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### Promoting Equitable Outcomes, Use of Evidence, and Programmatic Information

As this program launches, information on the types of clients served and their locations will be collected and reported in the annual performance report. This project will start in areas with the most need.



**ARPA**

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Administration & Regulatory Affairs***

#### ***BARC – Spay and Neuter Program***

Department:	Administration & Regulatory Affairs (ARA)
Project:	BARC – Spay and Neuter Program
ID Number:	HOU - #020
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,000,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Negative Economic Impacts 2.36 Aid to Other Impacted Industries
Status:	Not yet started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### **Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact**

During the pandemic, the stray animal population in Houston erupted as non-profit foster and rescue organizations could no longer hold fundraising events to support feeding and medically sustaining the stray animals, they formerly took in from city streets. In the three years since the pandemic began, rescue organizations and the BARC animal shelter have reached and exceeded the capacity to care for these animals. The unabated stray population threatens the health and safety of both people and animals in Houston’s most vulnerable communities.

The single best way to begin the control of the stray animal population is a robust low-cost and no-cost spay and neuter program. The approved BARC program will provide targeted spay and neuter initiatives which include microchipping, rabies vaccines, and city registrations. This program will help to decrease the number of stray animals that foster and rescue partners would need to take in.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes and Use of Evidence**

This program will be launching in areas with the most need in the community. Information will be widespread in areas of low income and those areas with a high stray population.

#### **Programmatic Information and Performance Report**

As this program launches, information on the number of animals spayed and neutered and their location will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.





## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Mayor's Office of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence***

#### ***Multicultural Domestic Violence Prevention Outreach Strategy***

Department:	Mayor's Office of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence (OHT&DV)
Project:	Multicultural Domestic Violence Preventative Outreach Strategy
ID Number:	HOU - #021
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$3,000,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health 1.11Community Violence Interventions
Status:	Not Yet Started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### **Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact**

The Multicultural Domestic Violence Preventative Outreach Strategy will engage culturally diverse survivors of and those vulnerable to domestic violence who have been and continue to be disproportionately affected by both domestic violence and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Houston Police Department and local service providers experienced a significant uptick in calls for service and hotline calls during the pandemic, especially when it comes to immigrant, refugee, and communities of color. This outreach effort serves to provide access to information and materials that are culturally specific and sensitive to those belonging to Houston's ethnic and racial minorities.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes and Use of Evidence**

This program will be launched in the areas with the most need and are identified as the greatest risk of domestic violence. The program will be evaluated on a quarterly basis.

#### **Programmatic Information and Performance Report**

As this program launches, information on the types of clients served and their locations will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



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## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Houston Parks and Recreation Department***

#### ***Enhance City Park Security***

Department:	Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD)
Project:	Enhance City Park Security
ID Number:	HOU - #022
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,915,200.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.1 Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers
Status:	Less than 50% completed
Expenditures through Period:	\$129,870.13

#### **Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact**

As park visitation has gone up during the COVID-19 pandemic, so have crimes such as illegal dumping, gang activity, shootings, drug use and selling, stolen vehicles, and others. Smaller neighborhood parks have seen most of this increase in the City of Houston by at least 30%.

Through the One Safe Houston Initiative announced by Mayor Turner in February of 2022, there was a call to expand the Urban Park Rangers Dispatch operation. These employees are the first line of defense at the parks in preventing these crimes from occurring and escalating to instances where police officers need to be involved.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

These additional park rangers will be dispatched in high crime areas in the City's most underserved communities.

#### **Use of Evidence, Programmatic Information and Performance Report**

As this program launches, information on the number of hours worked in parks across Houston as well as the location will be collected and reported in the annual performance report.



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## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Houston Forensic Science Center***

#### ***Case Backlog Funding***

Department:	Houston Forensic Science Center (HFSC)
Project:	Case Backlog Funding
ID Number:	HOU - #028
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$3,000,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Negative Economic Impacts 2.36 Aid to Impacted Industries
Status:	Not Yet Started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### **Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact**

As crime rates rise, the strain on crime scene investigation units is growing. While there is funding being invested in the front end of preventing crime, these funds are aimed at solving the crime once it happens to get perpetrators off the streets and seek closure for victims. This program will provide funding to the Houston Forensic Science Center for toxicology case outsourcing, overtime for crime scene investigation and firearm investigation staff, and funding for training of new analysts.

A key component of this project is to expand the number of available staff in order to have a long-term solution to the case backlog due to COVID-19 employee absenteeism and increase in crime.

#### **Aid to Impacted Industries**

Forensic science centers across the state started experiencing higher rates of employee attrition once the pandemic started. From increased case loads to staffing shortages due to illness, the Houston Forensic Science Center's backlog grew as absenteeism grew.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes and Use of Evidence**

This project hopes to recruit employees from the areas of most need in the community as well as solves crime in the areas with the highest crime rates. Once this project launches, it will be evaluated for its effectiveness at reducing the case backlog.



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## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### Programmatic Information and Performance Report

As this program launches, information on the number of cases being investigated as well as the number of hours for training additional analysts will be collected and reported in the annual performance report in the annual performance report.



**ARPA**

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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### ***Houston Information Technology Department***

#### ***Public Safety Radios***

Department:	Information Technology Services (HITS)
Project:	Public Safety Radios
ID Number:	HOU - #029
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$10,000,000.00
Expenditure Category:	Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity 3.4 Effective Service Delivery
Status:	Completed less than 50%
Expenditures through Period:	\$1,994,105.00

#### **Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact**

In service of approximately 2.3 million Houstonians, the Houston Police Department (HPD) responds to more than 1.1 million calls for service and processes more than 450,000 offense reports each year. HITS is working with multiple other City departments to align resources to purchase, program, install, and deploy a new fleet of radios to HPD that meet the specifications given.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes and Use of Evidence**

These radios will be deployed in all areas of the City, serving all constituents.



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## Project Inventory Continued

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### Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

#### Case Management Augmentation

Department:	Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD)
Project:	Case Management Augmentation
ID Number:	HOU - #030
Estimated Approved Cost:	\$1,095,984.17
Expenditure Category:	Negative Economic Impacts 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other
Status:	Not Yet Started
Expenditures through Period:	\$0

#### Project Overview –Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted people with disabilities; destabilizing access to direct service providers, straining already limited financial resources for a population struggling to survive on a fixed income, and exacerbating the need for affordable and accessible housing. Additionally, people with disabilities, who already faced significant barriers to education, employment, and full community integration pre-pandemic, saw those gaps widen because of the pandemic. The federal government has recently released guidance on recognizing long Covid as a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, so Houston is just beginning to feel the impacts of a population that has recently acquired disabilities and will be seeking support from governmental and nongovernmental organizations to adapt to their new normal.

Throughout the COVID-19 emergency, MOPD staff have fielded thousands of calls from people with disabilities, direct service providers, family members, and professionals seeking relief and referral services throughout the Greater Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land census statistical area. This demand has strained MOPD's limited staff capacity and has highlighted the need for additional technological solutions to better open, track, and close out case management requests. MOPD is seeking ARPA funds to support our community liaison program in a major way by hiring additional community liaisons as well as acquiring an online client relationship management system. This client management system will allow the MOPD staff to provide on the spot reliable information and resources to clients, the ability for the liaisons to track clients, and



# ARPA

## *Project Inventory Continued*

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print/share reports as needed.

### Promoting Equitable Outcomes

This program is the frontline to recovery services for people with disabilities in the southeast Texas region. MOPD is the only local government agency of its kind providing case management and referral services to people with disabilities. Since the beginning of the pandemic MOPD has fielded thousands of calls from Houstonians and Texans in general asking for help in every aspect of life, from getting food delivered to their homes as their chronic illnesses prevented them from going to grocery stores at the height of the pandemic, to families asking for housing and rent assistance as the vouchers they received early on in the pandemic have since expired. Our constituents have multi-faceted concerns and issues that they already had before the pandemic and those have since gotten exacerbated by Covid-19. Tracking these and logging them requires a sturdy support team.

### Use of evidence Project Demographic Distribution, and Performance

As this program launches, information on the types of clients served, services needed, and their locations will be collected and reported.



# ARPA