

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

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Emily Lucas, Chief Financial Officer
Chris Dillon, Assistant County Manager

@wakegov



wakegov.com

Background

- March 11, 2021 – President Biden signs American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021
- The Bill Provides \$1.9 Trillion in Funding, Program Changes, and Tax Provisions to Aid the Nation's Response and Recovery from the Coronavirus Pandemic
- Most notably: Additional Direct Payments: \$1,400 Per Person

Who does the American Rescue Plan help?

American families

\$1,400 checks

\$424 billion

**State and local aid
(prevent layoffs and service cuts)**

\$350 billion

Unemployment insurance

\$246 billion

Veterans
\$17 billion

Restaurant and bars
\$25 billion

Renters and homeowners
\$40 billion

Other
\$45 billion

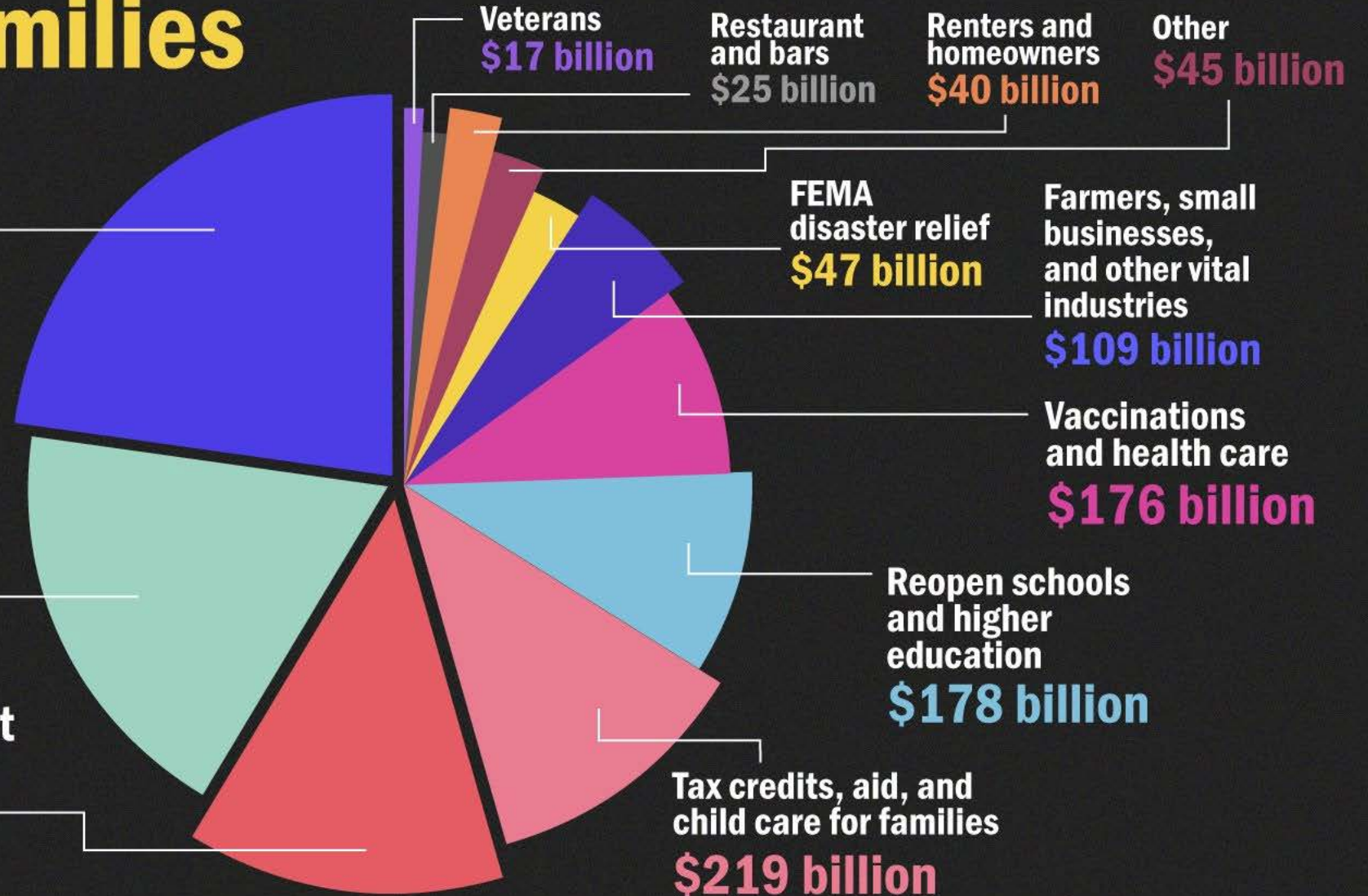
FEMA disaster relief
\$47 billion

Farmers, small businesses, and other vital industries
\$109 billion

Vaccinations and health care
\$176 billion

Reopen schools and higher education
\$178 billion

Tax credits, aid, and child care for families
\$219 billion



A stylized, light blue map of Wake County is centered in the background of the slide. The map shows the county's irregular shape with various indentations and protrusions.

Programmatic Funding

\$89 Billion in Small Business & Economic Revitalization

Fund Name	Purposes	Amount
Restaurant Revitalization Act	Grants to restaurant owners	\$28.7 billion
	Priority to minority and veteran owned establishments	
	\$5 set aside for small establishment support	
Economic Injury Disaster Loans Emergency Grants	Also establishes Community Navigator Pilot Program to increase access and participation in relief programs	\$15.0 billion
Economic Development Administration – Adjustment Assistance	25% of funding reserved for communities that suffered economic injury as a result of job losses related to travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation	\$3.0 billion
Shuttered Venues Program	Direct operational grants and PPP loans, technical assistance	\$1.3 billion
Arts & Humanities Relief	Direct grants to states and non-profit organizations	\$.4 billion
Transit Agency Funding	100% federal share to recipients of transit formula grants	\$30.5 billion
	Includes payroll reimbursement and costs for lost revenue	
Amtrak Allocation		\$1.7 billion
Airport Improvement Program	AIP formulas at 100% cost share	\$8.0 billion

\$84 Billion in Assistance to Individuals & Families

Program	Amount
HOME Investment Partnership Program	\$5.0 billion
Increased LIHEAP Funding	\$4.5 billion
Low-Income Water/Wastewater Emergency Assistance	\$.5 billion
Increased Emergency Rental Assistance Program Funding	\$21.6 billion
Housing Choice Vouchers	\$5.0 billion
Rural Housing Support	\$.1 billion
Older Americans Act (Nutrition, Home Support, Disease Prevention, etc.)	\$1.4 billion
Child Care Development Block Grant	\$39.0 billion
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Pandemic Emergency Fund	\$1.0 billion
Expansion of Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment Funds	\$3.9 billion
SNAP Administrative Funding and 15% SNAP Benefit Increase	\$1.1 billion
Increased WIC Allocations and Value Vouchers	\$.8 billion

Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit will be expanded in 2021, making it refundable and increasing the maximum rate by 50%, and expands EBT through Summer 2021.

\$178 Billion to Safely Re-Open Schools & Improve Learning

- Education Stabilization Fund: **\$130 Billion**
 - Funding will go towards activities such as addressing learning loss, repairing ventilation systems, purchasing technology, implementing social distancing guidelines, purchasing PPE, and hiring staff
- Funding to Make Up Lost Revenue for Institutions of Higher Education: **\$40 Billion**
- Head Start Emergency Funding: **\$1 Billion**
- Expanding Internet Connectivity to Students and Communities: **\$7.1 Billion**
 - Funds will reimburse schools and libraries to purchase equipment such as hotspots, internet service, and computers on behalf of students and patrons

\$122 Billion to Continue COVID-19 Response & Prepare for Future Emergencies

Program	Purpose	Amount
Vaccinations	Improve production and distribution of vaccines	\$20.0 billion
Stopping the Spread	Testing, contact tracing, and mitigation	\$51.0 billion
FEMA – Disaster Relief Fund	General funding for continued state/local response	\$50.0 billion
FEMA	Increased funding for emergency management & firefighters	\$.4 billion
FEMA	Increased funding for emergency food & shelter programs	\$.4 billion



State and Local Funding

State and Local Funding Parameters

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)
 - New funding for states, municipalities, counties, U.S. territories, and tribal governments
 - Distributed in two tranches, with 50% being delivered no later than May 11, and remainder delivered no later than one year later
- General Purposes for This Funding:
 - COVID-19 response and addressing its economic effects
 - Providing government services affected by a revenue reduction from the pandemic
 - Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure
 - Premium pay up to \$13 per hour in additional wages for workers performing essential work during the pandemic
- Cannot be used to reduce taxes
- Deadline to Spend CRF Dollars: December 31, 2024

Wake County to Receive \$217 Million

- Outside of any federal programmatic funds previously mentioned
- Does not include funds to educational purposes
 - WCPSS will receive direct allocations from the state/federal government
- Does not include funds to state government
 - **State to receive \$5.4 billion in CRF** (outside of programmatic and educational funds)
 - State may distribute some additional funds to local governments
- Municipalities will receive direct allocations (next slide)

\$177 Million in Direct Funding to Wake Municipalities

• Apex	\$17.35 mil	• Morrisville	\$8.44 mil
• Cary	\$17.32 mil	• Raleigh	\$79.58 mil
• Fuquay-Varina	\$8.87 mil	• Rolesville	\$2.49 mil
• Garner	\$9.19 mil	• Wake Forest	\$13.35 mil
• Holly Springs	\$11.07 mil	• Wendell	\$2.51 mil
• Knightdale	\$5.22 mil	• Zebulon	\$1.73 mil

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Prioritizing County Functions

County Priority is County Functions

Economic Recovery is Happening

- Most businesses and households are no longer in financial crisis
- Eased business restrictions
- Service industry has pivoted to safe dining and service options
- Hotel occupancy is beginning to rebound with sports and travel
- Retail industry supported through consumer shift spending patterns

Marathon Approach

- Understand where we still have immediate needs
- Understand County operational and capital needs
- Understand community needs and how ARPA will address them
- Allocate County funds as long-term investments



Phased Approach

Phase Now – Immediate (April/May)

Small Business Loans

Funds to NC Rural Center to re-infuse small business loan program (40% of those still in need are minority-owned businesses)

Broadband

RFP for a needs assessment on access to broadband in Wake County (understand equity concerns)

Hospitality Support

Funding to GRCVB and Centennial Authority to support tourism, sports, and leisure (venues still have capacity limits)

Food Security

Continue to address immediate food security needs (low-wage earners continue to struggle)

Public Health

Continue to ensure continued vaccination and pandemic mitigation efforts

Staffing Support

Funding to ensure adequate staffing to support management of CRF and other programmatic funds

Phase 1– Assessment (May – September)

- County operations and capital needs assessment
 - Needs to successfully conclude COVID-19 response operations
 - Plan and prepare for future events
 - Long-term needs (capital and operating) for adequate access to Public Health
 - Needs related to permanent shifts in continuity of County operations (technology, facilities, etc.)
 - Wake 2.0 – how we best serve the community in new ways
- Community needs assessment
 - Work with municipal partners to understand what is still needed
 - Survey the business community to see what needs are not being met
 - Understand collaborative efforts that best benefit individuals and families

Phases 2 & 3 – Respond & Review (October forward)

- Review and fund County operational and capital needs
- Review and fill funding gaps for community needs ***after*** understanding how federal/state funding will be allocated to other programs
- Assess how first tranches of CRF funding were utilized
- Understand needs beyond expiration of CRF
- Prepare for the future

Recap

- The American Rescue Plan Act is a once in a generation investment package
- All sectors of the economy are being funded through the plan
- County funds should be directed to County operations and statutorily mandated functions
- Recommended funding levels for “Phase Now” in May
- We continue to await guidance on possible uses of the funding