



COUNTY OF AMHERST

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For Immediate Release

Board of Supervisors Finalizes Plan for ARPA Funds

At their January 19, 2021 meeting, the Amherst County Board of Supervisors decided how to use the funds sent to the county through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) after the federal government released additional guidance. The Board chose to fund the following projects.

- \$2.5M to finish the county's build-out of fiber optic cable
- \$1M of water and sewer infrastructure
- \$44K to build trails around county lakes
- \$40K to provide a vehicle and computer for an additional building inspector to address the continued construction growth in the county
- \$110K for a Public Safety emergency mobile command center
- \$40K to fund the purchase of a training console for Public Safety allowing them to train locally rather than travel for training
- \$103k for a variety of improvements at Mill Creek Lake Park
- \$150K to continue the development of a dog park in Madison Heights
- \$50K to fund a grant program to assist non-profit youth sports organizations to be administered by the EDA
- A \$500 bonus for all full-time and \$250 bonus for part-time employees
- \$478K for a Fire Engine with squad like capability for Pedlar Squad 34

The Federal Government provided the ARPA funds and detailed instructions and limitations on how the funds could be used. County staff provided the Board with their list of recommendations, and the Board selected which projects would be funded. For more information on the American Rescue Act Plan and how the funds can be used visit, <u>https://www.naco.org/resources/featured/naco-recovery-fund-faqs</u>.

Additional information may be obtained from Joy Niehaus at <u>jlniehaus@countyofamherst.com</u> or (434)-946-9400.

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