

To: City Council

From: Debbie Laurie

Date: July 6, 2023

RE: Potential Municipal and School ARPA Projects

During the City Council workshop of June 26, 2023, City Councilors reviewed a small number of potential municipal and school projects to consider as part of the allocation of ARPA funding.

To date the following projects remain as potential projects to fund with ARPA funding:

- Grant Writer/Manager Position (\$150,000) – Year and ½ funding for a new grant writing/manager position to enhance the City's ability to obtain grant funding to support municipal expenditures, thereby reducing the impact to the taxpayer. Grant awards typically include an indirect funding allocation. The long term intent of the position, would be to ensure adequate grant funding is obtained to make the position self-sustaining.
- Public Restroom (estimated capital costs \$80,000 + TBD determined staffing and operating costs) –The Downtown Bangor Partnership supported public restrooms that employs appropriate technology to dissuade misuse. The Board did not support 24/7 access. They felt three locations within downtown (Pickering, Waterfront, Pierce Park) were needed. The opening of the transit center and the addition of the park ranger program addresses two of those three locations. Pierce Park is located between two facilities with public restrooms. There are limitations to access due to the operating hours of each area.
- Middle School Health Clinics (\$500,000) – Capital investment to construct spaces in both middle schools to be able to offer in-school health clinic access to all middle school students.

Over the course of several meetings there were a number of other projects discussed that had some level of support, but would not be recommended for funding with ARPA funds; lighting and trails on Valley Avenue, public safety building improvements, public health facility, public art, and revolving loan fund are most that were discussed on multiple occasions.

At this time, there is a pending congressional directing spending application for the public safety building improvements; as we move through the accreditation process and other public health initiatives we will continue to refine our space needs for public health; staff recommendation for enhance lighting along Valley Avenue is to appropriate unassigned fund balance, as certain potential uses were not included in the recently adopted FY 2024 budget; and our Community and Economic Development staff is reviewing the requirements for establishing a revolving loan fund.