

**Council Workshop – ARPA Agenda**

**Wednesday, December 21, 2022 @ 5:30 pm\*\***

**(\*\* Please note start time\*\*)**

- 1. Review and Recommendation of Penobscot County Applicant Partnerships**
- 2. Update, if Available, on Potential Broadband Partnership Opportunity**

Timeline for follow up on items from December 14, 2022 Workshop

- School based SUDS and Mental Health Strategies – January 2023
- Detox Beds – Update on Stakeholder Discussion as it relates to next steps – January 2023 – Government Operations Committee
- Community based SUDS and Mental Health Strategies – February 2023
- Efficiency Maine Partnership Program – February 2023

**To: City Council**  
**From: Debbie Laurie**  
**Date: December 21, 2022**  
**RE: County ARPA Partnership**

Penobscot County announced a number of sub-recipient awards on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. All of these projects were reviewed with the Penobscot County Commissioners, as well as members of the City Council in executive session. It was a priority for both the City Council and County Commissioners to leverage this historic funding opportunity by partnering on initiatives wherever possible.

Below is a summary of the organizations, the amount of the original ask, the amount awarded by Penobscot County, and the amount under discussion for City of Bangor partnership. It should be noted that there were other program requests included in the original application to the County that are not disclosed in this document, that were not funded by the County, and were not part of the partnership ask to the City.

### **Penquis - \$3,461,674**

Penquis' request included a number of projects within Penobscot County. The following projects were funded by Penobscot County;

- \$1.25 million – 46 units low-income rental project in Millinocket
- \$370,000 – Single family replacement homes (various locations in the County)
- \$557,000 – Purchase foreclosures of single-family homes for repurposing into work force housing

These projects address the current need of housing within the Penobscot County region.

From the Penobscot County application the following project was identified as a potential for City partnership:

- \$540,000 Milford Street Infrastructure – support 115 units of affordable housing

### **Fresh Start Recovery Homes - \$1,271,100**

Fresh Start's request included the pay down of current debt service, training house managers, and property acquisition (original ask included \$275k request to acquire 234 French Street – which did not come to fruition), among others. The following project was funded by Penobscot County:

- \$600,000 - Assist with paying down of current debt service  
Supporting an entity providing vital addiction recovery program assistance within Penobscot County

The original applications to Penobscot county were submitted in July of 2022. As noted above, there were changes from the initial application. Staff met with a representative of Fresh Start to ascertain what form assistance should take as of today. Below are the identified priorities:

- \$10,000 – to provide Maine Association of Recovery Residences (MARR) certification training to all house managers
- \$50,000 – to acquire a vehicle for required house maintenance
- \$336,100 – for energy efficiency building upgrades to existing Bangor houses

### **Maine Discovery Museum – \$1,634,274**

Maine Discovery Museum had several quotes to rectify their outdated HVAC system. Penobscot County provided the following funding for this purpose;

- \$500,000 - Replacement of outdated HVAC system / Post pandemic

The intent of discussions were to split the cost of the HVAC system between the two governments. Therefore, the request for the City's partnership is as follows;

- \$500,000 – Replacement of outdated HVAC system/ Post pandemic

### **Bangor Public Library - \$341,271**

Bangor Public Library's request was to fund some capital needs, as well as operating costs for a two-year period, to properly service individuals who seek shelter within the library.

- \$100,000 - Post pandemic increased security needs for capital improvements

There was no specific direction as part of the partnership discussion with the County, so the balance of the request for council consideration is \$241,271.

This process represents the starting point for further City Council actions. Award of these funds is not intended to limit the ability of recipients to benefit or participate in any additional City ARPA opportunities.