



ARPA Funding Projects Review

Randy Scholz, County Administrator

Executive Committee – January 21, 2025

County Board – February 11, 2025

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Introduction

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is a \$1.9 trillion Economic Stimulus Package that was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has four allowable areas of usage:

- *“(A) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;*
- *“(B) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;*
- *“(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID–19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency; or*
- *“(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.*

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Utilized ARPA Allowable Areas

In staying in compliance with ARPA allowable areas, Chippewa County utilized:

- *“(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county due to the COVID–19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the metropolitan city, non-entitlement unit of local government, or county prior to the emergency*
 - \$10,349,102.94 for multiple projects (Road improvements, parks improvements, Firearms Range Lead & EP Remediation, Contaminate mitigation in residential wells, Sheriff radios, etc.)
- *(D) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.*
 - \$2,209,956.06 for Broadband to 24/7 Telecom, Bloomer Telephone Company & Ntera
- *Interest Earnings*
 - \$798,644.96 for multiple projects (Longevity bonuses, Sheriff radios and road improvements)

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History

- **7/20/2021** – Chippewa County Board approved Res 19-21, which identifies the guidelines and procedures for allocating ARPA funds ([Agenda Link](#))
- **1/24/2022-2/24/2022** – Department Heads met with policy committees to review their initial ARPA project funds requested.
- **1/27/2022** – Listening Session with Town, City & Village Leaders of Chippewa County
- **2/8/2022** – Chippewa County Board approved Res 04-22 revising the guidelines and procedures for allocating ARPA funds ([Agenda Link](#))
- **7/12/2022** – County Administrator presented the initial ARPA plan with supporting resolutions to County Board for approval ([Agenda Link](#))
- **3/12/2024** – Chippewa County Board approved multiple resolutions to finalize the utilization of these ARPA funds and the final revised ARPA plan ([Agenda Link](#))

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Total ARPA Funding & Interest Earnings

Total Funding Available	
\$ 6,279,529.50	Funds received from US Treasury May 19, 2021
6,279,529.50	Funds received from US Treasury June 9, 2022
\$12,559,059.00	Total ARPA Funding Received from US Treasury
798,644.96	Interest Revenues with invested funds
\$13,357,703.96	Total ARPA Funding and Interest Earnings Utilized for Projects

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Broadband Expansion

Res #	Company	Township	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Miles of Fiber Deployed	Number of Locations Served
20-21	24/7 Telecom Inc	Wheaton & Howard	\$ 339,549.00	\$339,549.00	99	275
21-21	Ntera LLC	Goetz, Delmar, Edson & Sigel	531,657.06	531,657.06	92	248
22-21	Bloomer Telephone Co	Eagle Point & Tilden	838,750.00	838,750.00	86	305
06-22	Bloomer Telephone Co	Hallie	33,586.00	33,586.00	9	63
04-23	Bloomer Telephone Co	Tilden, Eagle Point & Lafayette	295,232.00	295,232.00	14	112
05-23	Ntera LLC	Cleveland & Ruby	171,182.00	171,182.00	33	121
Totals			\$2,209,956.06	\$2,209,956.06	333	1,124

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Employee Longevity Bonuses

Funding from ARPA interest earnings was used to provide longevity reward payments to employees with tenure who didn't receive prior longevity bonuses/payments for their years of service with the implementation of the Longevity Bonus policy approved on September 13, 2022 within the HR Policy. These bonuses were for General Municipal and Wisconsin Professional Policy Association employees.

After funding these additional bonuses, all employees with 5 & 10 years of service now match the Longevity Bonus Policy. These employees received \$500 for the missed 5 year anniversary and \$1,000 for the remaining missed 5 year anniversary milestones.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
50-22, 62-22 & 11-24	\$419,056.00	\$386,565.75	\$32,490.25

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CVIC (Chippewa Valley Innovation Center) Remodeled Conference Room for ADA Compliance

The funding was used to equip a new main floor conference room with audio and visual capabilities, wheelchair accessibility and ADA compliance.

The contractor that did the remodel was Miron Construction Company which was completed by November 7, 2023

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
49-22	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00



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Contracted Services with Sikich LLP

Chippewa County used Sikich LLP to help provide guidance on the regulations with the ARPA funding by the US Treasury. Initially we had Sikich review all of our projects for guidance that they met the ARPA regulations as indicated in the 437 page document for the Federal Register.

Funding Utilized

\$7,842.50



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Mobile & Portable Radios Replacement for Sheriff's Department



This project allowed for the purchase of updated portable radios for the jail. Originally the project was for the purchase of mobile and portable radios for the Sheriff's Office to upgrade from analog to digital frequencies in both patrol and jail. However, we received a grant for \$100,000 from Senator Van Orden's office to help with the purchase of portable digital radios so more radios are updated.



\$95,000.00 ARPA Interest Earnings utilized for funding.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
10-24	\$190,000.00	\$190,000.00	\$0.00

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Contaminate Mitigation in Residential Wells

In response to high nitrate levels exceeding the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' health standard of 10 ppm in Chippewa County's groundwater, the ARPA funding concentrated in two main areas:

1. Conservation Practices: LCFM implemented a cover crop program to reduce nitrogen runoff and improve soil health. Cover crops help scavenge excess nitrogen, while research into nitrogen application practices aims to further decrease nitrogen usage in the future.

2. Safe Drinking Water: To address the lack of safe drinking water, water refill stations were established in the nitrate-affected areas, focusing on municipal wells that meet drinking water safety standards.

As a result, over 1,000 acres were contracted for cover crops for a minimum of four years, and four water refill stations were set up in Wheaton, Anson, Lafayette, and Auburn.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
34-22	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$0.00
6-23	\$250,000.00	\$151,444.30	\$98,555.70

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Contaminate Mitigation in Residential Wells (Cont.)

Water Refill Stations



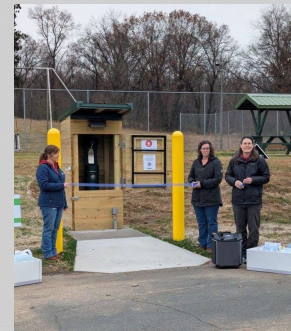
Anson



Auburn



Lafayette



Wheaton

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Road Improvements with Initial ARPA Funding (Cont.)

Resolution 33-22

County Highway	Project Limits	Project Type	Original ARPA Mileage	Final ARPA Mileage	Original ARPA Available	Carryover ARPA Available	ACTUAL Project Cost	ACTUAL (Overrun) / Underrun
2022								
CTH D	County Line - CTH V South	Recondition	4.5 Miles	4.5 Miles	\$1,049,000		\$898,757	\$150,243
	Various Locations (D, S, W, AA)	Culverts for ARPA Projects			\$367,000		\$330,589	\$36,411
CTH C	STH 40 - CTH F	Culverts for '22 BIL Project			\$60,000		\$72,721	(\$12,721)
	Various Locations	Chip-Seal			\$79,000		\$0	\$79,000
	2022 Material Cost Adjustment	Various			\$345,000		\$0	\$345,000
2022 Sub Total			4.5 Miles	4.5 Miles	\$1,900,000		\$1,302,067	\$597,933
2023								
CTH S	STH 27 - CTH EE	Recondition	2.5 Miles	2.5 Miles	\$580,000		\$484,403	\$95,597
CTH W	STH 27 - CTH G	Recondition	7.0 Miles	7.0 Miles	\$1,410,000		\$1,210,810	\$199,190
CTH AA	CTH F - STH 40	Recondition	2.0 Miles	2.0 Miles	\$430,000		\$356,308	\$73,692
	Various Locations (A, EE, DD, Q)	ARPA Culverts			\$368,000		\$312,362	\$55,638
CTH Q	Blosser - STH 64	Chip-Seal			\$62,000	\$79,000	\$133,328	\$7,672
	2023 Material Cost Adjustment	Various			\$500,000		\$0	\$500,000
CTH X	Broadway St. to Clark Co. Line	Resurface (C. of Stanley)		0.7 Miles				
CTH H	8th St to 1764' North	Resurface (C. of Stanley)		0.3 Miles			\$195,206	(\$195,206)
CTH H	Broadway St. (at bank)	Resurface (C. of Stanley)		Spot				
CTH H	Broadway St. (N of bridge)	Resurface (C. of Stanley)		Spot				
CTH D	STH 29 to 1400' North	Resurface (V. of Boyd)		0.3 Miles			\$42,260	(\$42,260)
CTH TT	Cobban to STH 27	Recondition		2.7 Miles		\$518,933	\$676,623	(\$157,690)
CTH TT	Cobban to STH 27	ARPA Culverts						
2023 Sub Total			11.5 Miles	15.5 Miles	\$3,350,000	\$597,933	\$3,411,300	\$536,633
2024								
CTH A	Dunn Co. Line - 170th Ave	Recondition	3.7 Miles	4.7 Miles	\$910,000		\$934,949	(\$24,949)
CTH EE	CTH S - 170th Ave	Recondition	3.0 Miles	3.0 Miles	\$740,000		\$550,947	\$189,053
CTH DD	CTH A - 186th Ave	Recondition	1.9 Miles	1.9 Miles	\$410,000		\$352,750	\$57,250
CTH Q/AA	CTH SS - 83rd St.	Recondition	2.7 Miles	2.7 Miles	\$640,000		\$456,218	\$183,782
CTH F	90th St. to County Line	Recondition		4.0 Miles		\$528,961	\$717,538	(\$188,577)
	Various Locations	Chip-Seal			\$50,000	\$7,672	\$274,230	(\$216,558)
2024 Sub Total			11.3 Miles	16.3 Miles	\$2,750,000	\$536,633	\$3,286,632	(\$50)
ARPA Original Grand Total			27.3 Miles	36.3 Miles	\$8,000,000		\$8,000,000	

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized
33-22	\$8,000,000.00	\$8,000,000.00

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Road Improvements with Initial ARPA Funding (Cont.)

Resolution 33-22



2022 – CTH W Culverts



2023 – CTH Q Chip Seal

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Road Improvements with Initial ARPA Funding (Cont.)

Resolution 33-22



2023 – CTH TT Paving



2023 – CTH X in Stanley Paving

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Road Improvements with Initial ARPA Funding (Cont.)

Resolution 33-22



2024 – CTH AA Paving



2024 – CTH DD Paving

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Road Improvements with Initial ARPA Funding (Cont.)

Resolution 33-22



2024 – CTH F Paving

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Road Improvements with Addl ARPA Funding

Resolution 12-24

County Highway	Project Limits	Project Type	Original ARPA Mileage	Final ARPA Mileage	Original ARPA Available	Carryover ARPA Available	ACTUAL Project Cost	ACTUAL (Overrun) / Underrun
2024	Additional ARPA							
CTH OO	172nd St - CTH K	Recondition		3.7 Miles			\$1,007,710	
CTH HH	CTH N - CTH S	Recondition		1.0 Miles			\$83,450	
	Various Locations	Chip-Seal					\$108,078	
Additional ARPA Sub Total				4.7 Miles		\$1,199,238	\$1,199,238	

Res #	Remaining Funding Utilized
12-24	\$1,199,238.27

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Road Improvements with Addl ARPA Funding (Cont)

Resolution 12-24



2024 – CTH HH Paving



2024 – CTH OO Paving

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Public Firearms Range & Training Facility

- On June 28, 2022, the County Board approved Resolution 30-22 to permanently close the Public Firearms Range & Training Facility effective July 1, 2022 and to approve a settlement offer between Chippewa County and Rooney Farms, LLC and Steven Jake Rooney.
- In order to permanently close the facility, EPA/WI-DNR regulations and the settlement agreement required us to complete a lead remediation, remove the old buildings, bullet catchers and level the berms. The only building that remains is the Training Building.
- As part of the settlement agreement we received \$75,000 from Rooney Farms, LLC to help offset costs of this project. The total project costs were \$380,706.03 less the \$75,000 for net ARPA funding of \$305,706.03.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
31-22	\$1,000,000.00	\$305,706.03	\$694,293.97

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Public Firearms Range & Training Facility (Cont.)



Before



After

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New Bathroom/Showers – Otter Lake Park

The bathroom at Otter Lake Park/Campground, previously equipped with pit toilets, has been replaced with a new facility in the same location. The updated bathroom features two showers and multiple flushing toilets. Additionally, a new septic system and drain field were installed to accommodate these upgrades.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
32-22	\$325,000.00	\$325,000.00	\$0.00
26-23	\$52,000.00	\$44,194.68	\$7,805.32

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New Bathroom/showers – Otter Lake Park (Cont.)



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New Bathroom/Well – Pine Point Park

The old north bathroom with pit toilets at Pine Point Park/Campground was demolished. In its place, a new "pre-fab" bathroom was installed, featuring low-volume water flush toilets and a holding tank. Additionally, a new well was drilled at the site.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
32-22	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00
26-23	\$39,300.00	\$38,181.00	\$1,119.00

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New Bathroom/Well – Pine Point Park (Cont.)



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Replaced Picnic Tables at Parks

A variety of picnic tables and benches were purchased and installed across the parks:

- 53 lightweight folding campsite picnic tables with powder-coated steel frames and high-density polyethylene tops and benches.
- 13 heavy-duty picnic tables, mainly for pavilions and beaches, featuring powder-coated steel frames with a thermal plastic coating.
- 2 covered picnic tables with powder-coated steel frames and polyester-coated aluminum tops and benches, installed at the Otter Lake boat landing and Round Lake Beach.
- 6 powder-coated steel benches from Excel Steel Fab, featuring the County's logo created using plasma and water-jet technology.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
32-22	\$50,000.00	\$49,575.37	\$424.63

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Replaced Picnic Tables at Parks (Cont.)



Covered Picnic Table



Heavy Duty Beach & Pavilion Picnic Table



Light Weight Campsite Picnic Table



Coated Steel Benches with County Logo

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Automatic Firewood Dispensers

Pine Point, Otter Lake & Morris Erickson

Firewood dispensers were installed at all three parks/campgrounds, allowing patrons to purchase firewood at any time.

- At Otter Lake, a "cash only" dispenser was set up due to the park's remote location and lack of cellular signal.
- In contrast, Pine Point and Morris Erickson Parks, with reliable cell signals, have dispensers that accept credit card payments.

Res #	CB Approved Funding	Funding Utilized	Amount Transferred to Hwy with Res 12-24
32-22	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00

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Automatic Firewood Dispensers, (Cont.)

Pine Point, Otter Lake & Morris Erickson



Otter Lake Firewood Dispenser
(Cash Only)



Morris-Erickson Park & Pine Point Park
Firewood Dispense (Credit Card)

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Questions, Comments, or Concerns



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