STATE OF KANSAS)
WYANDOTTE COUNTY)) SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY, KS)

SPECIAL MEETING, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in a Special Commission Meeting, Thursday, October 28, 2021, with eleven members present remotely. Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District (arrived at 5:05 p.m.); Markley, Commissioner Sixth District; Walters, Commissioner Seventh District; Philbrook, Commissioner Eighth District; and Alvey, Mayor/CEO presiding. The following officials were also in attendance: Doug Bach, County Administrator; Alan Howze, Emerick Cross, Melissa Sieben, and Bridgette Cobbins, Assistant County Administrator's; Brett Deichler, Interim Unified Government Clerk; Misty Brown, Chief Counsel; Ashley Hand, Director of Strategic Communications; Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer; and Alley Porter, Commission Liaison.

MAYOR ALVEY said before I call the meeting to order, I want to announce that due to COVID-19, we have individuals attending remotely. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise. During the meeting, please make sure that you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak so the public that is participating knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants in his current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General.

MAYOR ALVEY called the meeting to order.

MAYOR ALVEY said I would ask the Clerk to announce the meeting and call the roll.

ROLL CALL: Johnson, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, McKiernan, Ramirez, Alvey.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL SESSION of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to be conducted virtually on Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. for an ARPA discussion and update.

Due to COVID-19 the public will be able to observe or listen to the meeting live on YouTube or UGTV or through Zoom. The public may also view the special session from the lobby of the Municipal Office Building.

CONSENT TO MEETING of the governing body of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, accepting service of the foregoing notice, waiving all and any irregularities in such service and in such notice, and consent and agree that we, the governing body, shall meet at the time and place therein specified and for the purpose therein stated.

Mayor Alvey said we are here for an American Rescue Plan Act discussion and update. I'll turn it over to Mr. Bach.

Doug Bach, County Administrator, said tonight this is a follow-up from our last session when we came together. Ms. Hand led us through an exercise where we were able to talk about and kind of build toward our ideas and thoughts where we want to invest the American Rescue Plan dollars that are still remaining, which is the bulk of those. Tonight we want to get into that same follow-up to that discussion and narrow the view down a little bit more. It's our objective to come out of this discussion with really refining and needing to find exactly what areas where we want to invest that money. Then be able to identify the next steps that will be worked with the Commission and take it from that point and how staff can answer questions as we move forward from that point forward and additional input from the public.

With that, since we've been through this, I will turn it over to Ashley Hand, who has been working on this with Ms. VonAchen, and Ashley is going to take us through some additional steps to remind us where we were and where we're leading up to today.

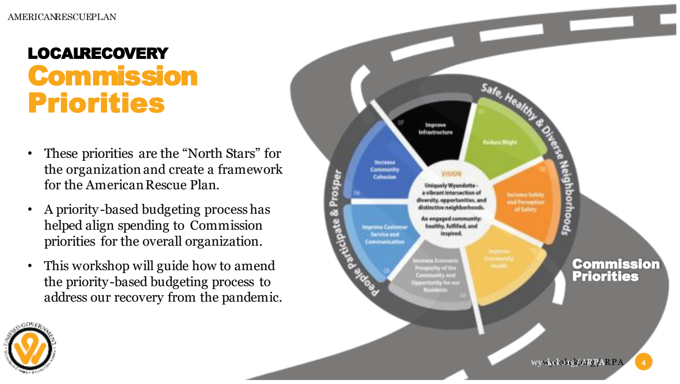
Ashley Hand, Director of Strategic Communications, said as Mr. Bach mentioned, this is a continuation to the conversation we had just a few weeks ago regarding what we envision for the future of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas post pandemic. We spent some time over the last session talking about your values and vision as well as goals, which we've refined for review today and I hope to continue to push toward the idea of preferred strategies for how you would like us to tackle this vision moving forward.

In order to kind of do that, many of you shared wanting a little bit more context to the conversation. Kathleen VonAchen is here to jump in if I get any of this summary inaccurately, so please bear with me.

We wanted to kind of walk you through. So we've walked through this process so far to start to define the values, visions, and goals. Really trying to understand how you want us to prioritize spending in general the ARPA dollars specifically for both immediate needs and future plans. As well, starting to understand the role that you would like—you envision, the Unified Government, within the community of capacity in terms of partnering, building other capacity within our organization, within our community as a whole as well as identifying other opportunities for funding.

I think it's important to note that we recognize there's a lot of other funds coming from the federal government in the near future and having this kind of cohesive understanding of how you would like to take your Commission priorities into the next era, this post pandemic Wyandotte County can really help us with the near-term prioritization. Then establishing that clear return on investment for time and again at the last session, how important it was to really understand the impact these dollars make. What types of impacts their making and tracking so that we can really understand how these investments work.

Ultimately, I think hearing a lot around collaboration and exploring innovative solutions, so something that we want to talk about in the strategy section this evening, some of the kind of leading edge ideas or new ideas that we could potentially introduce into our community as we plan for our recovery so that we might try something new, create a new norm.

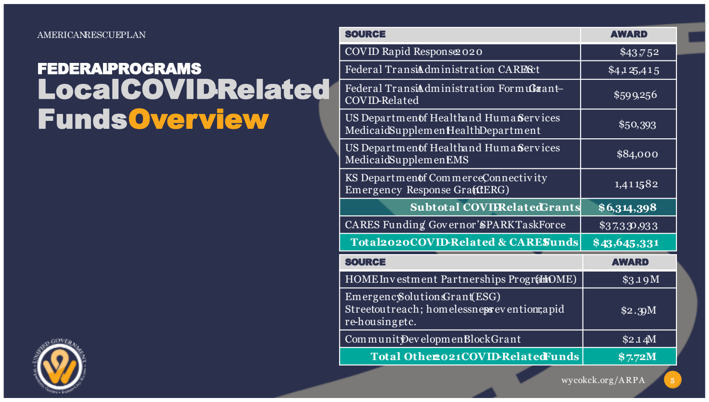


Of course taking a step back, we think it’s really important to note that the Commission priorities are still kind of the “North Stars” for this framework for the American Rescue Plan as it relates to our community. This is the set of Commission priorities that you’ve established and we do a lot of tracking in terms of our community survey to how we are addressing these various issues.

Most importantly, the Finance Department has been spearheading a priority-based budgeting approach which really helps align the spending to these Commission priorities which is really essential. There are a lot of needs across the community and take a variety of forms and your priorities help us with that and now this priority-based budgeting helps to align more dollars to where the greatest need is based on those priorities.

Finally, this workshop will help us kind of amend that budget process, that priority-based budgeting approach, to the recover itself and how we spend as we look forward to the end of this pandemic.

I think it’s important to note we’re still in the midst of a pandemic. There are still immediate needs and an ongoing pandemic response, which you have provided some initial funding for whether it’s our vaccine centers, etc., so those are things that are ongoing as we have to acknowledge that, unfortunately, COVID-19 is still here.



SOURCE	AWARD
COVID Rapid Response 2020	$43,752
Federal Transit Administration CARES Act	$4,125,415
Federal Transit Administration Formula Grant – COVID-Related	$599,256
US Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Supplement Health Department	$50,393
US Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Supplement EMS	$84,000
KS Department of Commerce, Connectivity Emergency Response Grant (CERG)	1,411,582
Subtotal COVID-Related Grants	**$6,314,398**
CARES Funding / Governor's SPARK TaskForce	$37,330,933
Total 2020 COVID-Related & CARES Funds	**$43,645,331**

SOURCE	AWARD
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)	$3.19M
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Street outreach; homelessness prevention; rapid re-housing, etc.	$2.39M
Community Development Block Grant	$2.14M
Total Other 2021 COVID-Related Funds	**$7.72M**

One question that I received from several commissioners was what other funds are out there in terms of what we've received so far in terms of COVID-Related funding. As you are well aware, there was money last year through the CARES Act. It took a variety of different forms, so the total over the last year was about $43M. Then there were other COVID-Related funds which we've also seen including the Community Development Block Grant monies and others.

I just wanted to pause here in case there were any questions for Kathleen from the Commission on any of these numbers.

Commissioner Bynum said I was curious if Kathleen could spend a minute on each of the topics, COVID-Related funds. You know, what we spent those on if they're spent, that sort of thing.

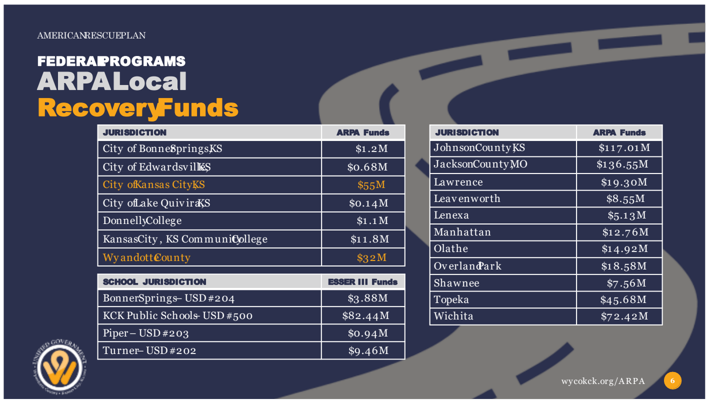
Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer, said the top part is the 2020 COVID-Related CARES Act funds and they total $43.6M in total. Of the $43.6, $37.3M of it is CARES Act dollars that came from the Governor's SPARK Taskforce. The other $6M are various other COVID-Related grants that were received and spent in 2020. So, all of those funds, all the $43M was spent in 2020. Down below are the grants that we've received through the Community Development Department and they total, as you can see, $7.7M. Wilba has talked with you about those. Those are the only grants that right now, related to COVID, that are available to be spent that we have in-hand that's been awarded so far because with our new Grants Management Division and the fact that we just brought on this terrific consulting firm to assist us with grant writing, we expect to get more grants as they come.

Commissioner Burroughs said, Kathleen, I think it's important, how much do—administration fees, administration costs, what's the allowable administration costs for receiving these funds? **Ms. VonAchen** said I don't know specifically what the administration allowable costs are for the HOME and Emergency Solutions and the CDBG grants, but I know they're pretty minimal and, of course, we wouldn't extend what's allowed. The amounts that were—the administration of the largest funds in 2020 for the CARES Act funding just entails the internal team that we put together to help facilitate the application process for all of our non-profits and then, you know, some internal staff for putting together the budget and presenting it. You know that whole team that Crystal Sprague lead, as well as a bunch of people in Finance. The cost was minimal compared to the total dollars spent. **Commissioner Burroughs** said well, I mean, there has to be a percentage of something that we can put our finger on. If we're looking at, hypothetically, $37M and the administration fees can take up 15% of that, hypothetically, we know what dollars are set aside. What they're used for is something else. I'm just curious as to what has been allowable administration costs for these funds—**Ms. VonAchen** said I would be happy to provide that to you. I just need to look it up. I don't have that number. I'm sure it's not even close to 15%, so not even close.

Commissioner Burroughs said if I may, a follow-up question, any administration costs that have been utilized to date have been used to hire the staff that you referred to earlier, if I'm to understand you correctly in your presentation. **Ms. VonAchen** said yes.

Mr. Bach said to further clarify, we moved staff from other areas where they were working within our government into the CARES team to work for that, so we were able to put their salaries against the CARES funding when we went for that. We didn't hire anyone additional. It was staff that was moved from other areas of operation into that and they've since been moved back into other areas. **Commissioner Burroughs** said, Doug, I anticipated that was case. I was just kind of curious, but it's cost-savings to us by just doing that and it comes out of that—we can call it administration costs, so I just want to ensure that we are on the same page when we talk about the cost savings, costs avoidance, because there should have been savings on our regular budget because we weren't paying personnel out of our regular personnel fund. **Mr. Bach** said yes sir, there was.

Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrator, said the allowable under CARES was 5% for admin. That was the statutory allowable percentage for administrative expenses. We can get the actual percentage in terms of what our spend was. It was, as Kathleen mentioned, below that, but we can get you an exact percentage on that. **Commissioner Burroughs** said I think it's important that the public knows how prudent we're being with these dollars and that's the purpose of the questions to ensure that it's not seen as a grab, that we're actually utilizing these dollars for the purposes that they were intended. I felt it was important to ask those questions, so thank you.

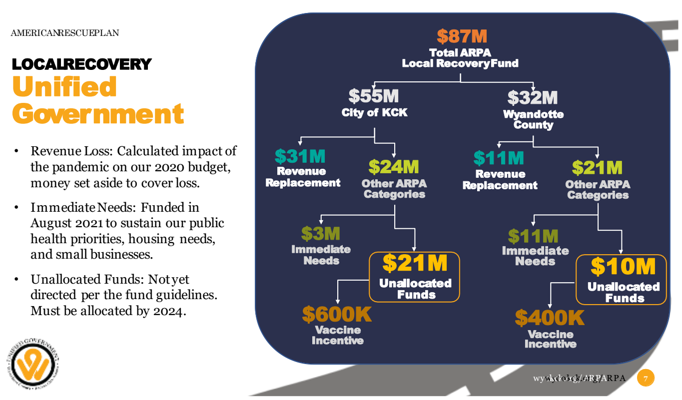


Ms. Hand said I'll move on to the next slide, but feel free to interrupt me. I'm in that awkward position of not being able to see beyond my presentation. This is another set of data that was requested by a few of the commissioners. This is a snapshot of what other jurisdictions have received in terms of Recovery Funds. You can see based on the cities, counties, Community College, and Donnelly College of how that money was distributed and then the differences here in the school jurisdictions based on need how the money was distributed. Then this just gives us a comparison of costs of several counties and cities in the metro area. I'll pause in case there are any questions for mostly Ms. VonAchen.

Commissioner Johnson said thank you for this information Ms. Hand. Do we know that the ARPA funds, for instance, in Johnson County and Jackson County, do they include all of the various jurisdictions within those categories? We have ours broken out, we don't give a sum total of them all—**Ms. VonAchen** said no. **Commissioner Johnson** said but I just wondered, so they do not. So, there are other funds within Johnson County and/or Jackson County or any of the others that are not included as a result—or in that particular area, right? **Ms. VonAchen** said right.

I mean the Unified Government got two—we're effectively two recipients because of the fact we're two legal entities being that we're the city of Kansas City, Kansas and we're Wyandotte County, so that's why there were two allocations made to the Unified Government. Johnson County, they're just one entity and they got one allotment. **Commissioner Johnson** said gotcha. I do see Lenexa and Olathe and Overland Park and Shawnee broken out. I was just more concerned about the school districts and things of that nature.

Ms. Hand said I also think it's important to note here, this is the Local Recovery Funds. This is just one portion of the total ARPA bill in terms of where there are other resources and other funding opportunities to come. It's quite a lot of speculation about how those programs will roll out. They'll be implemented across many different federal agencies and so, as Ms. VonAchen mentioned, the fact that we now have the support of an internal grant team and a consultant to help us, I think we're really thinking forward in terms of how can we make sure that we're ready for those opportunities when they come on line. So, more to come that we should be anticipating.



In the meantime we also wanted to make sure we just kind of provided a little bit of a reminder on where we're at with the Local Recovery Funds to date. We started off with that two-part allocation per our legal entity status, as Ms. VonAchen noted, and then based on the calculations of the impact of the pandemic on our previous budget, there was an element of money that was used for what's called revenue replacement. So, basically, this money was set-aside from the ARPA Local Recovery Fund to cover that money that was lost in our 2020 budget. Then in August you approved expenditures for some of our immediate needs and this included most importantly our ongoing efforts to sustain our public health crisis and really be on the ground providing vaccines and boosters now as well as testing, contact tracing and many other services that have been essential to our community.

In addition, there was specific funds that were set-aside for housing needs, utility assistance, and small business support and that all came out at this point here. This about, $14M in the immediate needs, funded by the county on this side and the city on this side.

Where we're at today is this money here, about $31M, about $21M from the city of Kansas City, Kansas and $10M from the county that are unallocated. From this money we did pull that recent incentive to get our workforce vaccinated as an incentive. A small dollar bonus was offered to hopefully ensure that we can provide continuity of service as we get into the flu season and continue to see COVID-19 in our community.

This is kind of where we're at today, kind of giving you a sense of where the pot of money exists under the Local Recovery Fund. I'll pause there in case of any questions.

Commissioner Ramirez said thank you Ashley for the presentation and for the rest of the special session. As I've told you before, it's amazing how you've been able to synthesize all of our thoughts and everything that you've done for us, so thank you for that.

My question, and more so a clarification, to residents who may be watching so that they remember, Kathleen or Doug, can you tell us what exactly Revenue Replacement is and what have we done with that amount of money? **Mr. Bach** said certainly commissioner. It fills the category of lost revenue through calculation formulas which we can go into more detail if you'd like, but it's one that the federal government put out their formula that said for that jurisdiction when you looked at the amount of money you did not receive coming through 2020-2021 in looking into the future, the calculated we lost, we were able to plug that hole back into our government.

Some of it was used just to prevent us from having to dig back into our reserves, an amount that was able to be in there, so we have a larger fund balance than we would otherwise have, but we have not designated a lot of it for spending. It will still be there for us or we use some of it just for operating needs to get through the year because it was, in fact, lost revenue that we did not otherwise receive. Kathleen, I'll ask you to go a little bit better into the detail or explanation of what it is.

Ms. VonAchen said the Treasury gave us guidelines for how to calculate the revenue loss. All the jurisdictions in the United States used the same methodology. It basically takes the amount that was actually received during 2020 and compares it with 2019 and then applies a 4.1% increase to the ‘19 figure and so that higher number is subtracted from how much you actually collected in 2020. That difference is the revenue loss and not all revenues are included per the guidelines, only specific revenues that really are used for governmental services basically.

The calculation for the 2021 revenue loss number was included. This is a two-year amount so not only for 2021 but also 2022, so all of these figures are two-year figures.

Commissioner Ramirez said I’m trying to remember back from when we were budgeting, when we were going through our budget, from the top of your head, if you can’t remember, that is completely okay, how much of that is left over and did we put into our fund balance? **Ms. VonAchen** said if you remember back about a month ago, we passed the budget and in workshop #6 I showed you the financial outlook over the next five years. You can see that at the end of 2022 the City and the County General Funds do have a growth, a slight growth, in their fund balance. There is a fund balance remaining as a result of this revenue replacement money, but the future CMIP beginning in 2023 and 4 begins to eat away at that. You know, Commissioner, I would be happy to resend you a couple of the PowerPoints that we provided during the budget process to refamiliarize yourself with those figures and those projections.

Commissioner Ramirez said okay, yes, that would be great. I just wanted to make sure, you know, and Commissioner Burroughs had also mentioned, this is once in a lifetime money we may or may not ever get again so I just want to make sure we’re spending it where it needs to be and where it should be and that we, as a governing body, are watching where those dollars go, so thank you for that explanation. **Ms. VonAchen** said of course you have to keep in mind, it’s not just the General Fund because often you just think about the General Fund, it’s across all the funds and there were significant drops in various funds including the Enterprise Funds, the sewer and stormwater, so it’s across all the funds, not just the General Fund.

Commissioner Walters said similar question. Why is the revenue replacement not considered unallocated funds? We did not include it in the ‘21 or ‘22 budget. It’s just money that you said is—we’re just putting in the bank and we might spend it in 2023 or 2024 or something. I think it should be at the top of our mind as unallocated funds right now. **Ms. VonAchen** said the 2020—

so the revenue replacement was deposited into the respective funds where the revenue loss was incurred and so that would have occurred during the 2021 and 2022 years as part of the budget process. Much of those funds were spent in order to sustain operations. There is a portion of the funds that is remaining in the fund balance, but certainly not—just, you know I don't remember exactly how much, but we're talking in the $4M to $6M range across all the City funds, not just the General Fund.

Commissioner Walters said so, the question is, what do these figures mean, $11M for example in the County. You say some of it has been spent, some of it has not been spent. Why can't we get actual numbers? **Ms. VonAchen** said I would be happy to provide you with numbers and I can do that. **Commissioner Walters** said it just doesn't seem like we're taking it seriously if we're trying to figure out how to allocate these funds and we don't even know how much we have to allocate. **Ms. VonAchen** said those were allocated. Those revenue replacement dollars were allocated. They were part of the budget process that was approved as part of the budget process. **Commissioner Walters** asked, you're sure about that? **Ms. VonAchen** said yes.

Mr. Bach said, yes Commissioner, they show up in the budget. We allocated those into each of those areas and then final decision allowed for more money to fall down into the fund balance, but that allows us to roll into the upcoming years as we're looking at, as Kathleen noted, some of the Capital projects we were looking at. So we're able to cash fund those out as we project them in because we come into those years and are able to do them, so it does start to bring that fund balance right back down to the level to which you would have as that two-month reserve. **Commissioner Walters** said I guess that's why the fund balance was so excessive, but I still don't understand why we're not talking about how to allocate. We're here to talk about how to allocate these funds. Why do we scroll the money away and say we'll take care of it in two or three years?

Ms. VonAchen said I would be happy to pull together the figures that show how much of the revenue, lost money, was not necessarily spent through the end of 2022 for all the respective funds and then you can have that information. **Commissioner Walters** said well okay, that's fine, but it's not going to be very helpful this evening. That's all.

Commissioner Townsend said at the bottom of this tree we show $600K for vaccine incentive for KCK and $400K for vaccine incentive out of the County. What's the difference between those two? Is it just who was the money spent on? Was there $400K for these incentives for County employees or City employees, what was the difference with those? **Mr. Bach** said yes, that's correct. It's the approximate percentage of employees that work under the City versus the employees that work under the County, the projections to how many will be eligible for that. As we said, we have not officially moved that money into those accounts. We will pay it as employees submit their information and then they are vaccinated, but this is the accounting that we are allocating to say we believe there will be approximately a million dollars spent in this area. If we don't have that many take advantage of the incentive program, then we will not move this amount out, but at this point that's the amount of money that will be coming out of the City side and then out of the County side as we're projecting it going forward.

Commissioner Burroughs said, Kathleen, I think some of the questions go to the fact that when we see the lost revenue, $42M, it takes up 50% of the entire $87M. As it was stated by one of my fellow commissioners, we're not having an opportunity to allocate. You said it went through the budget process and there are some of us that looked at that and saw some of that backfill and seen the revenue savings that we had in our contingency funds, but collectively we didn't have a chance to discuss these breakdowns. I think when you see a total of $31M available that hasn't been allocated yet out of $87M when $45M—I'm sorry, when $42M has already been put into the budget. These were some questions that were brought up during budget discussion. I think this discussion points to the fact that there are those of us that didn't support the budget because we didn't feel we had the answers necessary when it comes to backfilling the revenue replacement. We didn't have a chance to question why this place lost the revenue, how did it lose revenue. We were going through the priority-based budgeting, this money hit and all of a sudden boom, it was transferred into lost revenue. I know you gave the overview about the Treasury on the federal side gave us qualifications for doing so, but you give us a formula and we're supposed to trust those numbers and it's not that we don't trust those numbers, we just want to verify those numbers.

So, I do understand the questions in reference to the $42M, so basically we're allocating right at about 30% of the money that's left, maybe 40% of all the money, and we as a Commission have heard the outcry's from our community of the need that we have. We just want an opportunity to have a chance to fairly look thoroughly at some of these numbers that have been presented. I know the budget has already been approved and I will publicly state, I did not support that budget because I wasn't comfortable with the numbers, but that was just me. I think that's some of the concern we're hearing this evening.

Mr. Bach said I will just say, remember a large percentage, most all of the money in revenue replacement was put in because we needed revenue, we lost revenue. Remember, as we were building the budget in 2020 and I came to you and we were taking very evasive maneuvers and we were anticipating eating into our fund balance a lot in different areas, plus we were cutting back on our staffing and where we were going with that. So, one is, we didn't end up eating our fund balance way down below what the acceptable fund balance level is. We put it in, put it into our account, so we kept our rainy day fund available and then it was able for us to be in, so that's the largest percentage of that. A very fiscally responsible move made by the governing body as we dug into the budget and went through the detail of these.

Then there was a little bit more. We went from a two-month reserve as to what we projected to be a three-month reserve because what we looked at going forward into 2022. Is that wrong, Kathleen? **Ms. VonAchen** said we hit the three-month reserve at the end of 2021 but not in 2022. It dropped back down in 2022, by the end of 2022. **Mr. Bach** said so I mean the big part of that answer is, we lost revenue and we needed it to fill a gap from where that revenue was coming into it and we tried spending a fair amount of time going through that and it put us in—you know, as we went through 2020 we were taking action. We were hoping so we wouldn't dig ourselves in a hole, but we were going to be in a place where our fund balance was much lower than we wanted it to be. Fortunately, through the ARPA money, we don't have to take and spend a lot of our money each year to build our fund balance back up to what would be an acceptable level to go through during the course of the year.

We can certainly dig back into the budget. I know we will be digging back into the budget to show where those numbers are as we start to look forward. Our intent in looking at where we're at with the unallocated funds is the lost revenue is an allocation of an area where we can designate to go with that money and that's where, if the Commission elected to put those, rather than just let our fund balance fall off the wayside. Now, this money that we're looking at tonight, basically the $31M, is money that there has been no direction given as to where this money should be expended, in which area, or finalized.

Commissioner Burroughs said, Mr. Bach, I understand that and I appreciate your explanation. We were going through the priority-based budgeting process and we didn't have a chance to finish that process. So, I guess, some of the questions a few of us might raise in looking at the budget is, how do we know those revenues were lost. Was it just inefficiency on our side, was it a lack of revenue coming in, was it decisions that were made during COVID to cause some of this loss. I mean those are some of the factors that we want to take into consideration because we recognize the needs of the community and they're multifaceted and we want to ensure that we have the most money available and the best opportunity to allocate them.

If I may, I would just like to say I'm really pleased to see that we have a person doing grants to reach out and utilize any of these monies to bring in additional dollars whether it be federal sources, private, philanthropic sources, state, or regional sources; whatever they may be to ensure that we're getting the best return on the investment of these dollars. I think some of the questions is the fact that one, we've been operating remotely quite a bit and when we see a large amount of money put into lost revenue to replace that revenue, but we don't know if it was our inefficiencies because we didn't have a chance to finish this priority-based budgeting, as I stated. That's just some of the background. Please don't take it anymore than that. We're not trying to be argumentative, those of us that are questioning the budget, we're just trying to do what is prudent and that's to ensure that we get this money into the categories that we feel is necessary to move our community forward and address the myriad of needs throughout all of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas.

Mr. Bach said thank you Commissioner. We will pull that detail up and submit it all to you.

Ms. Hand said let's shift the conversation. We had a really great conversation during the last session where you really helped kind of take the Commission priorities and hone them in on what does it look like when we apply them to the lens of the world that we're working on now, living through COVID-19, but also really focusing on our recovery.

Based on the input that you provided, and I was able to circulate this to you in advance, and I hope that we were able to encapsulate any of your feedback. If there's anything here that you don't agree with, please let me know and we'll make a point of opening it up for discussion.

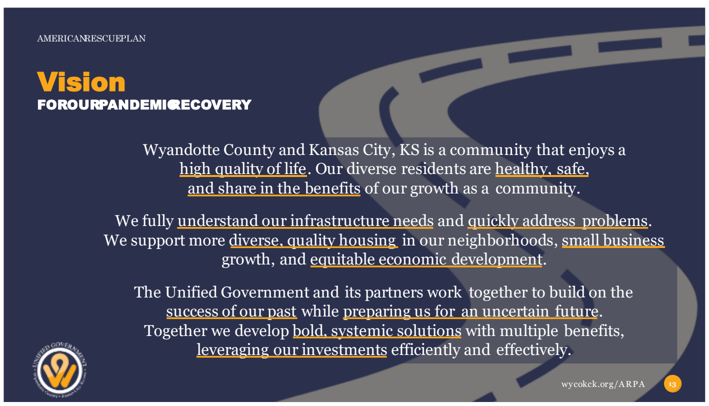
I'm going to run through values, vision and goals as they've been restated based on the input that I've heard over several direct conversations with the commissioners, but also as a product of our workshop just a few weeks ago.

Starting with the values, and these are kind of the guidepost that we want to apply, as we make decisions as an organization across the community and partnerships. The first value is really focusing on supporting more equitable and inclusive future to ensure our community is an affordable, safe, and sustainable place to live for generations to come. So, this builds on a conversation that I think is ongoing about how we define the term equity and that is something that I'll raise in a little bit, but also, I think, incorporates a lot of the sensitivity to preserving and protecting the existing community while growing our community for the future.

The other value that you expressed is that you invite collaboration and partnership with our community in addressing our greatest challenges by working transparently and focusing on our greatest needs and direct staff to do the same. So, recognizing that we can't do it all. That there are a lot of opportunities out there and we will need many folks, all hands on deck, to really build a future that we are all excited about.

The third value is really about embracing bold, creative solutions to proactively and quickly transform the way that we work as an organization to support our community in its recovery from the pandemic. So, this was extracting some of the sentiment that I heard in terms of being willing and open to trying different things as part of our approach to our recovery, but also that we wanted to see things happen with immediate benefits and supporting the community as a whole.

The final value statement is that we prepare for the future and understand how our investment impacts social, public health, economic and environmental outcomes in our neighborhoods. This is speaking to the theme of resiliency that we heard from several commissioners during the last workshop, but also really understanding our return on investment across multiple indicators, not just economic, but these social and health and environmental outcomes as well.



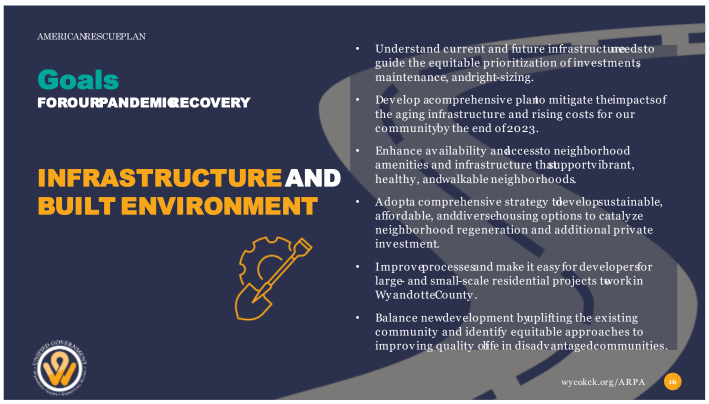
Then, from that, based on the input that I heard, drafted this rather wordy vision statement, but it does try to encapsulate that future state that we're working towards where Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas is a community that enjoys a high quality of life. Our diverse residents are healthy, safe, and share in the benefits of our growth as a community. We fully understand our infrastructure needs and quickly address problems. We support more diverse, quality housing in our neighborhoods, small business growth, and equitable economic development. Finally, the Unified Government and its partners work together to build on the success of our past while preparing us for an uncertain future. Together we develop bold, systemic solutions with multiple benefits, leveraging our investments efficiently and effectively.

From there we basically had a lot of really great ideas and discussion about what goals we wanted to set for the recovery and what does recovery look like and how do we start to measure that based on creating smart goals. These three kind of categories essentially emerged from that discussion focusing on Community Health and Well-Being, our Infrastructure and Built Environment, and our Organizational and Community Resilience.

I think, you know, we have to recognize that some of these goals go beyond the scope of the Local Recovery Funds, but recognizing that we are looking for systemic change, having the opportunity to kind of state what that systemic change can look like and still help organize that priority-based budgeting approach and methodology as it comes to the specific dollars that are used per the requirements of the Local Recovery Funds.

The first set of goals around Community Health and Well-Being address kind of multiple components. Obviously, addressing the emergency that we potentially face with the ongoing pandemic as well as cold weather coming on, so making sure that we are ready for this winter and continuing to support our pandemic response.

The second goal really focusing around establishing a more comprehensive approach and there was great emphasis on working with our local and regional partners to address the unhoused population that is growing across the region, but particularly in our community. Then, fully implement the Community Health Improvement Plan to strengthen our overall health and well-being, and as you are all aware, this includes everything from violence, prevention and reduction to healthy lifestyles and the built environment. So, a very comprehensive approach to thinking through our health as an organization, but also reflects the multitude of impacts across various communities in terms of how we live, where we live, and what that does in terms of determining our health outcomes.



The second bucket of goals which I've shared with you is the Infrastructure and Built Environment. This is where we heard quite a bit of emphasis on really understanding and being able to assess what our needs are in terms of infrastructure, how we continue to maintain them, how do we right-size them and making sure that we're mitigating the impacts of our aging infrastructure. Commissioner Markley specifically said let's get that locked in by the end of 2023 to help us have a longer term strategy. That work has already been underway in many ways with the CMIP process and elsewhere to really help kind of look and understand how our infrastructure is sustainable.

Also, thinking about important quality of life aspects that infrastructure and built environment contribute to whether it's walkability or access to amenities. Housing, obviously, was a recurring theme and really seen as an important catalyst to our neighborhoods and bringing more private investment into our community, but recognizing the need for diverse housing options that can straddle all needs across our diverse population.

Then we also identified improving processes to make it easier for small and large-scale residential projects to come to Wyandotte County and balancing new development by making sure that we are lifting up the existing community and making sure that we are improving the quality of life of our most disadvantaged communities. So, you know, making sure that we're balancing progress with and bringing in new residents, but also elevating the quality of life of our existing community.

The final bucket of goals just to kind of wrap this up is really thinking about how we operate as an organization and in partnership with the community and thinking about our resiliency, not just as the Unified Government, but the community as a whole. This was in direct response to feedback from some of the commissioners that noted we know it's not a question of if, but when the next catastrophic event potentially happens. So, being prepared for that, learning from our experiences in this COVID pandemic can help move us forward. So, preparing our workforce and the community for those future disasters is important, making sure that we're able to respond at the neighborhood level to create impacts across those triple bottom line indicators. Building trust and accountability with our community through this kind of rapid deployment of these funds and inclusive reinvestment. Finally, making sure that we continue to work towards our ongoing fiscal sustainability so that we, as an organization, can continue in service to the community.

I just covered an awful lot for you and hope that you all received my email with the URL to respond to the interactive component of this workshop which starts in the next slide. If there is anyone who did not receive it, please just let me know right now, otherwise, we will go into the interactive component of this workshop as we wrap up our conversation around the goals.

Commissioner McKiernan said, Ashley, I cannot tell you how much I appreciate getting the information for tonight a day ahead of time, much appreciated. However, it does lead me to ask—to make the following observation. This is not necessarily a question. In these slides I think you've done a nice job in a bullet point format of kind of distilling some of the ideas, some of the objectives, some of the directions that we collectively have talked about and yet when I get to your pick three slides which are coming up in a minute, I don't find a parallel choice that really matches some of the wording that you've used here in your bullet points. **Ms. Hand** said well, that's because that's how I ensure, Commissioner McKiernan, that I am valuable to this process. I have to walk you through what the slide content is about. That is more around the strategies that we could potentially tackle in identifying what the Commission sees as key opportunities for us as a community to take on in terms of how we approach meeting these goals.

So, once we kind of go through this kind of validation of the goal statements, then those you pick as your top three is much more about how do we get there, what type of strategies would you like to see us explore, dive into deeper, reach out to the community on and understand much more specifically because, obviously, there are a lot of different ways that we can tackle these issues and getting your direction on some strategies that you would like us to look at as a Commission can certainly hone that process much more quickly.

It also opens up the conversation with our community by giving the opportunity for the community to weigh in on the types of strategies that we are considering, otherwise, it becomes a very open-ended conversation and very difficult to really kind of understand from a data-driven perspective because it becomes very qualitative. This will allow us to get a little bit more insight from our community engagement process which we will be rolling out full force following this workshop.

Commissioner, full disclosure, when I had to send the email with a link to the pollev tool, I was shuddering that it was at 4:30 this afternoon because I knew I had missed the opportunity yesterday. **Commissioner McKiernan** said no, you had all the text of it in what you said. There was no need to have that link early. **Ms. Hand** said I just should have had it altogether, so my apologies.

Mayor Alvey said, Ashley, to clarify, do you want us to go to the link or will there be a link through—do you want us to go to the link? **Ms. Hand** said if you go to the link and open up your screen and you can just watch that and it should cue the slides at the same time. If you go to the pollEv.com, URL, that I provided.

What we'll do, we'll do a little test of it, so get everybody there and you should see this on your—you should see a soccer pitch on your screen and this is just a test. All you have to do is click where on the field you would choose to play and you just use your cursor to draw a pin. There you go, someone has dropped one in already, excellent.

Commissioner Burroughs said, Ashley, I don't know that I have the email to participate. If you could send that to me again in my WyCo email. **Ms. Hand** said yes, absolutely, I will do that right now. My apologies Commissioner Burroughs. I note that we don't have any bystanders at this point where everyone is on the pitch, that's good news.

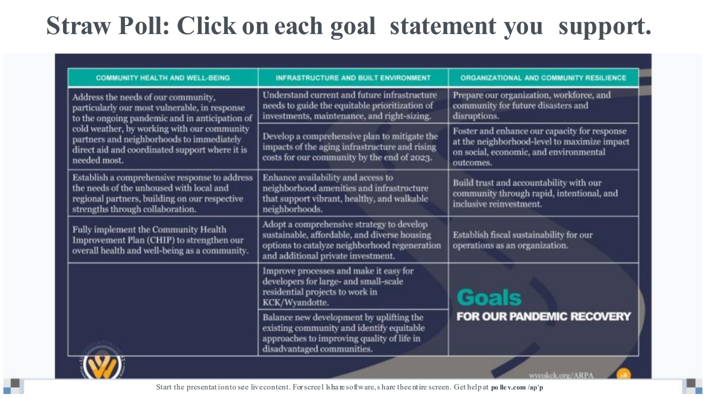
Commissioner Townsend said if you make one selection, can you make another? I want to make sure I'm making some at all. **Ms. Hand** said on this exercise, I actually don't remember if I locked it down to just one. **Commissioner Townsend** said then I guess you got me. **Ms. Hand** said we'll take your word for it, but we'll be able to see a little bit better with the next one because it gets a little bit more specific.

Commissioner Burroughs, I hope you received the email. **Commissioner Burroughs** said I'm looking for it now. It hasn't come through yet. **Ms. Hand** said if you will go to pollEv.com, it will pull up and enter a name and you just type Unified Government123. Magically, it's right here on the top of my screen. Is anyone else having trouble getting access to this because once we get through this little exercise, I think it will be pretty straightforward moving to the next one. It's just a straw poll on the goal statements that I recited.

Mayor Alvey said now this is the difficulty when I'm on here I will not be able to see the presentation and recognize questions. **Mr. Bach** said, Mayor, I will be able to continue to see questions so if someone gets one, I'll let you know. **Mayor Alvey** said alright, that will be helpful. **Ms. Hand** said the good thing is the poll survey will follow the same thing on the presentation, so as I advance to the next slide, you'll see the change in the survey tool. Is everybody comfortable with the tool to move forward? **Mr. Bach** said on the board, aren't we still one short? **Commissioner Burroughs** said that's probably me. I put my pin in the goalies box so if that's not me, please let me know, I'll take the other side goalie box. For whatever reason, I'm having some difficulties. **Ms. Hand** said if you have trouble on the next one, Commissioner, please let me know.

Commissioner Kane said I don't like doing stuff like this. **Ms. Hand** said, Commissioner, I appreciate that.

Commissioner Townsend said I thought I dropped that goalie to the right early on, so I don't know. **Ms. Hand** said let's see what we've got.



I'll be able to tell you where you were after this. Let's just keep going and see how this goes for the next one. This is just basically a straw poll based on the one workshop to date. We had some follow-up conversations, those that were available for that, but I just want to kind of—you can drop pins on—how about this, to make it simpler, if there is a goal statement that you prefer to discuss and pull out and not advance kind of a good package, all of the things that we've heard so far, please drop a pin on it or just call it out and let's talk about that now so that we can kind of continue to finesse these statements, but really get them locked in so that it provides the guidance that we need for the priority-based budgeting process.

Commissioner Bynum said, Ashley, did you say if there's one we don't want? **Ms. Hand** said yeah, if there's anything that you would like to talk about further because you're either not clear on it or you don't think it fully encapsulates any of the issues or ideas that were mentioned over the last several weeks of discussions.

Ms. Hand said, Commissioner Kane, I invite you to speak up if you want to speak to anything that you would like to talk about further if you're not satisfied with where we're at on these statements. **Commissioner Kane** said okay, thank you.

Mayor Alvey said this says any goals, we hit one under each column because I hit it once and it only allows me to do it once. **Ms. Hand** said that's not the way it's supposed to work.

Commissioner Ramirez said mine says you can only respond once. **Ms. Hand** said okay, well then, if that's not going to work, then what we're going to do is we're going to speak to this if it's not something—something's glitchy in the back end and that's probably my fault. Maybe it would be better just to hear from any of the commissioners if there are any kind of concerns for any of these statements as they are currently written, anything else that you think is omitted or missing from this. This is a great opportunity to make sure that we bring that feedback in at this stage in the process. These goals statements will guide all decisions kind of moving forward.

Commissioner Bynum said I accidently pinned the Organizational and Community Resilience top heading and now if you can clear it, I would be able to read it better. It kind of muted the— **Ms. Hand** said let me see what I can do.

Commissioner Markley said I just had a question. I think in the middle column, the second one from the bottom about developers for large and small-scale residential, I kind of feel like that falls under the one above it and maybe that's just me. I feel like maybe it's not a separate goal, maybe it's a strategy to achieve the goal directly above it about diversifying housing options. I'm not against it, it's just I felt that maybe it was s more detailed strategy of the one above. **Ms. Hand** said alright, I'll make a note of that.

Mayor Alvey said would you want to go through and ask each commissioner what their—under each column, what their priorities are? Is that what you're asking? **Ms. Hand** said I just want to make sure if there's anything in here that you're uncomfortable with or is missing, that we remove it or add it at this point. It is intentionally a restatement of what I heard from the first workshop, but you know there was a lot of information and I may have not gotten everything the way you want to see it. If you would kind of call out what you think is most important, I think that would be very helpful to us, but I think we can also look at this in the context of your overarching Commission priorities through the strategies that you would like to pursue. Mayor, I would leave it to you. If you would like to hear more from the Commission on how to prioritize within these goal statements, I'm totally comfortable with that. **Mayor Alvey** said I guess we would just have to do verbally what we were going to do virtually—digitally. **Ms. Hand** said right. **Mayor Alvey** said why don't you just use that same process.

Commissioner Ramirez said personally I don't think a lot of these need to change. I think you did very well again at synthesizing all of the information that was given, but I would agree with Commissioner Markley, that I do believe the two that refer to housing are—they're saying the same thing. I would personally like the third one from the bottom, the middle—the third one from the bottom, the comprehensive strategy to develop sustainable, affordable, and diverse housing options. I think that one would be the best one to use because it's broad enough as a goal and then, from there we can develop strategies within that goal. **Ms. Hand** said excellent. I think that's a good call on both parts. It's somewhat redundant, so I can definitely consolidate that and emphasize it's really about making that comprehensive strategy that would include the possibility of process improvement as an action item.

Commissioner Burroughs said I have no concerns over the Organizational and Community Resilience and Community Health and Well-Being. The one I'm struggling with, kind of like my colleagues, down at the—in the middle option, Infrastructure from the bottom, improve processes. I mean this is something since we became a Unified Government that has been strongly advocated for over the last 20 some years. It almost rings hollow with me. I would like to see it, but it just rings hollow with me. It's not like there's really a lot of sentiment to it. I think just the comment above, adopt a comprehensive strategy, I think that takes away the—I think that falls in line with building trust and accountability. If we throw this out there again continuing to state that we're going to improve processes when it's been 21 years and we still struggle in getting things done—I mean we've made advances, but that's just one that I struggle with personally. **Ms. Hand** said okay, great. Thank you for that feedback.

Ms. Hand asked, would any other commissioners like to weigh in on any of the goal statements here or should we move forward and talk about strategies a little bit? **Commissioner Bynum** said move forward.

Ms. Hand said this one, you should be able to select three and what this does, it encapsulate several of the strategies that we heard in our discussion at the last session as well as strategy recommendations that came from our own team across the Unified Government. So, you know, we do a lot of thinking about best practices from other cities and other communities, but also recognize that there's opportunity to try some really innovative ideas here. Now, there are obviously limitations to how our Local Recovery Funds are spent, so not all of these are necessarily eligible, but when we think about kind of the systemic impacts that we're trying to create, sometimes these kind of very specific tools can help open up a lot of that systemic opportunity and it becomes an opportunity for us to fund that with ARPA. So, we just have to get very specific in terms of what we want to accomplish so that we can look at how ARPA can fund that.

I can see some pins already growing, so please pick your top three for Community Health & Well-Being.

Commissioner Kane, I know you don't like this tool, so please let me know if there are things that I can mark as your preferred strategies that you like. I'd be happy to track that so it's incorporated into the summation of this workshop. **Commissioner Kane** said okay.

Commissioner Townsend said is there a delay when you hit this because I'm hitting it, but I don't know that it's actually—**Ms. Hand** said well, what we could do is if you're concerned it's not showing, we can—I can look at the backend of this after the session and make sure that everybody had something tallied here, but we can also, as we kind of review, what the leaders were around this and actually it seems like we have a pretty high concentration of votes for a couple different strategies to explore more deeply. I see we're still seeing it so, Commissioner Townsend, there may absolutely be a delay.

Commissioner Townsend said well, just for the record, I did hit A, B and C. I was hitting these, you know, and nothing happened and I see something bump up, but I don't know if that was mine from a delay or another commissioner.

Commissioner Bynum said I, once again, have misused the tool and that's my little green pin out there in the blue ocean. I'm going to place that on Item E. **Ms. Hand** said Item E, great, thank you for clarifying that.

It looks like there are a couple of areas where you would like the Unified Government to kind of move forward in terms of exploring these strategies. I'm using that kind of all-inclusively, the Commission, Mayor and community as well as the Unified Government. But it looks like to me that we're very close Item A and Item C as top strategies.

Item A is providing our unhoused population with co-located resources for the upcoming winter in partnership. Then, C is a little bit more long-term which is improving our zoning and code enforcement education and outreach as well as work at the neighborhood level to take ownership over some of these issues. There's limited capacity for us as an organization to do all these things at the neighborhood level.

Does anybody want to speak to why they supported one of those two strategies?

Commissioner Townsend said I just mentioned, I don't know if the pin was effective or not on A, B and C and it looks like B and C, from what I can read, are about neck and neck or tied. I'll say one thing that seems to me in all three of these, these are recurrent situations; housing, food, and improving the quality of neighborhoods and life with the code enforcement and zoning issues. We hear this continually. I know I hear it from my constituents. So, those are the three things that we seem to always have issues around and how to allocate budget monies to make these situations better or improve them. That's it. **Ms. Hand** said excellent.

Commissioner Markley said I was just going to speak to Item C. It will not shock anyone that I have a heavy marker on Item C. I think this is just the continuation of the efforts and focus that we've been putting toward these types of problems through SOAR. You know it's something we've seen success in, but we still have a long way to go and I think the successes we've seen are really encouraging in how they have improved our neighborhood. So, I think it continues to be a need in an area we need to focus on. **Ms. Hand** said excellent.

Commissioner Ramirez said first question, Ashley or someone on staff, can you clarify exactly what J encompasses? **Ms. Hand** said I think this was in response to some feedback that we heard at the last workshop where—really thinking of it, for example, if code enforcement was the number one thing that he wanted us to address as an organization, do we rapidly scale up so that we can kind of do a full sweep of those issues, kind of clear out all of the backlog of—and through education obviously, probably increasing some of the requests for enforcement. But really looking at, if we were to really prioritize one of these actions, should we add people to make sure that that's happened. As you know, for example, the team that mows all the medians, for example, there's just limited bandwidth to do that with the number of people and equipment that we have. So, whether or not we want to double-down on that was the kind of strategy that had been discussed.

Commissioner Ramirez said I picked A and C, but I also picked I. I think that one is as important because we have all these master plans around our community and we know we need to do a better job of ensuring everything that we do and every project that comes along that fits with the master plans and what can we do to make those master plans happen. I know that it takes time and it takes years. It's not going to happen in one or two years, but let's start investing more in our master plans, so that's why I chose it as my third.

Commissioner Philbrook said I picked J because I really do believe that we can accomplish a lot if we pick strategic areas to work on and take care of it so our community actually sees us doing something. Even though we do a lot, they don't necessarily see it and so I would like for us to be able to emphasize something so they can see it. **Ms. Hand** said, Commissioner, I think that opens up the possibility not just for this strategy, but it could also be a way to evaluate opportunities as part of the kind of priority-based budgeting. Visibility of the project could be a way to score it to help as one of many factors to look at.

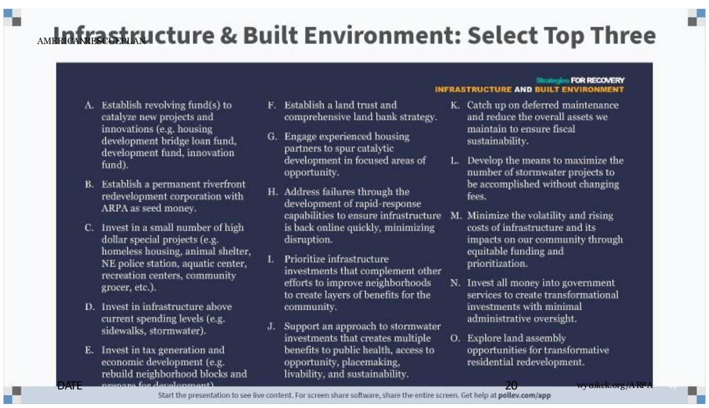
Commissioner Philbrook said yes, and that is important, you know, whether we like it, it does matter if people can see that we're actually doing something. A lot of the things that we do are not readily right in front of them, so they don't notice, but they do need to see that we do want the best for our community and by letting them see it and responding to what they've seen, will be very helpful.

Commissioner Townsend said with two of my colleagues already identifying with the J or I, this is so little you can't see, projects is identified in area plans, J and B then, are cousins here because when you look at what B says, there's an example, we talk about the desired grocery store in the northeast community. That was one of the big asks and fundamental rocks of the northeast master plan. So, I think it's worthy to note that B and I are related in the objectives here. **Ms. Hand** said absolutely, and there will inevitably be some overlap with some of these strategies. I think figuring out kind of what that investment is, what the role of the Unified Government is, and then what funds do we have from either the ARPA as it currently stands to support that. I think those are decisions that we'll look to the Commission to guide us on.

Commissioner Johnson said Item D, is that really speaking to the concept of fighting against gentrification in our neighborhoods as we are redeveloping them? **Ms. Hand** said yes, and I tried and I probably did not do a good job kind of phrasing it, but I did try to kind of encapsulate that.

We want to make sure that we're investing in the people that are here too and making sure that they can stay and continue to live and love and thrive in our community. **Commissioner Johnson** said right. I think a prime example is what was led by Commissioner Townsend on Tuesday with regards to postponing the tax sale. That, you know, certainly will get us through the wintertime, but also helps us to address issues of persons that are not able to pay their taxes such as they are right now. So, I certainly—although it looks like I'm the only one who put a dot there, wanted to make sure that I was clear in understanding what that really meant, so thank you. **Ms. Hand** said I can do a better job of restating it, but I will also appreciate the feedback, so I appreciate that.

Are we ready to move on to the next one? Commissioner Kane, I just want to make sure if you wanted to weigh in on anything that you would like us to prioritize among these strategies that I make sure I heard your input. **Commissioner Kane** said I'm good.



Ms. Hand said this is the next goal set of Infrastructure & Built Environment. So, here I ask you again to please select your top three just to start to see where the concentration of interests are in terms of prioritizing the different approaches to tackling this goal area.

Commissioner McKiernan said I can hold this until more people have responded if you would like. I just have an observation about two of the choices on this list. **Ms. Hand** said go for it. It might change somebody's mind. **Commissioner McKiernan** said well, I find that I and K are overlapping in many ways. I look at both as infrastructure so to I, prioritize infrastructure investments that complement other efforts to improve neighborhoods. Well, part of that is catching up on deferred maintenance which is K. **Ms. Hand** said so, combining those strategies basically. **Commissioner McKiernan** said I picked I, but I see a lot of overlap with K. **Ms. Hand** said I think that would be easy enough to combine as a strategy that deferred maintenance and use that as a catalyst for neighborhood improvement.

Mayor Alvey said I would also say that D and M would work together if we invest in infrastructure above current spending levels, that will minimize the volatility of rising cost of infrastructure. **Ms. Hand** said excellent. I will do that.

Commissioner Kane said I like number C. It's got everything that the community's been asking for, for quite some time.

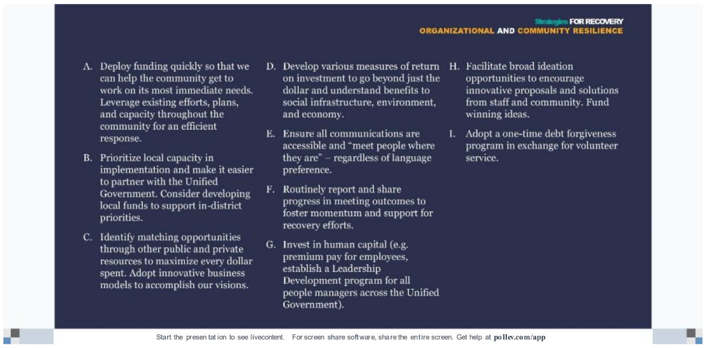
Commissioner Townsend said I don't believe I have a delay. I guess I'm just not doing this the proper way, so for me C for the visibility. Several of the commissioners on the previous slide talked about that. As Commissioner Kane said, there are a lot of asks here so we have a high profile asking and just what's needed in a lot of areas. I also thought that there are a lot of cousins here with regard to the infrastructure as Commissioner McKiernan mentioned and also Mayor Alvey. So, I, M, K and D, they're all interrelated with regards to infrastructure. **Ms. Hand** said okay, excellent.

We have to recognize too, and I know Ms. VonAchen would remind me, the Local Recovery Funds are limited in terms of how they can be spent on specific types of infrastructure as you are aware, but with things like the infrastructure bill and other areas of ARPA funding in the future, having that kind of the part of our prioritization strategy will be useful. Thank you for weighing in on this.

Does anybody else want to kind of weigh in on any of these strategies that they'd like to see us kind of move forward in this conversation? Well, I think we've seen a fairly covered field here because of the number of cousins per Commissioner Townsend's qualifications. So I think that's something to take back and retool a little bit to make it a little bit clearer, more clear-cut, but this certainly helps me to kind of understand where you would like us to kind of think through some key opportunities to implement the goals around our Infrastructure and Built Environment.

I'm going to move to the final set of goals.

Organizational & Community Resilience: Select Top Three _.



I would love to have you weigh in on this last set. What are the strategies you would like to see in terms of our Organizational and Community Resilience. I can already see that there's learning already happening because the pin got dropped and taken away, so I can see somebody figured out a tool function. We'll get there, I promise. I won't subject you to too much more of this. **Commissioner Ramirez** said that was me. I clicked the button just to see what would happen.

Ms. Hand said we're seeing quite a bit of (inaudible). There's a lot in this of what definitely came up in the discussion around making sure that we could match funding opportunities with this using it as seed money or matching funds to maximize all the dollars that we spent, so that definitely seems to be a frontrunner. Would anyone like to speak to something they prioritize? **Commissioner Markley** said I was just going to speak to Item H, the facilitating ideas exchange. I thought one thing that we saw success with really in the CARES Act situation is that we basically said to everybody what do you want to do, what ideas do you have, where should this money go and I think we got back some ideas that we wouldn't have come up with on our own. Let's put it that way, that we were able to fund and that made a difference. I really would love to see us focus on the ideas and not so much the funding. I think it's easy for people to see the dollar signs and say, oh, we have all this money, let's figure out how to spend as much of it as possible in our department. You know I understand that.

We don't have a lot of money to go around a lot of times, so people are excited to have a funding opportunity, but more than that, I think if we're going to really revolutionize how this county operates, we need people to bring us their ideas. Some of those ideas might not cost a whole lot, maybe it's just adding an employee here or changing how an employee operates here or changing the way we're organizing something. So, it may not be the biggest dollar items, but they might be the ideas that make the biggest impact, so I really would like to see us invite people to bring their creative ideas and not just the ideas that cost the most money which I think is the inclination if we don't sort of specify what we're looking for. **Ms. Hand** said excellent.

Commissioner Ramirez said now, I don't think they're cousins, they might be step-brothers, E and F, because you know, yes, we need to routinely and report and share the progress we make and thanks to you, you know, we do a very good job of that. Our social media is very active and so I thank you for doing that, but also when we do that going to E we need to make sure it's language accessible for all of our—you know we keep saying and we always say Wyandotte County is the second most diverse county in this country and for us to honor that is to make sure that the information and everything we give out reflects that. So, on this slide, I believe those two are important to me because we know from last year, if there's information we need to get out, we need to make sure that it gets out to everybody and that everybody has the opportunity to hear it and understand what's going on. **Ms. Hand** said I appreciate that.

Commissioner Philbrook said sorry, I'm operating off my phone because I'm having issues with dealing with one computer to accomplish this. I'm really liking G and the reason I like G about investing in our human capital is because we have a lot of folks working for the UG in our community and until very recently I don't believe they have been encouraged to learn and develop more and actually speak up and becomes leaders. I know that our Public Works group has already established a very robust training for leadership and there are people stepping forward that have not taken that opportunity to do it before. To have people like that encouraged, that's how we make our community great, is by encouraging those who love to live here, chose to work for the UG, and want to stay here by encouraging them to help us solve our problems by letting them be leaders. So, that's what I have to say about that one.

Commissioner Burroughs said, Ashley, could you give an overview of A? I'm kind of struggling with that one a little bit because if that means delegating monies, getting those monies out to organizations, that we are responsible for the money. Can you give a little bit of an overview about A for me please. I want to be supportive of A, but at the same time I just want to ensure that if we're going to leverage existing efforts, a lot of those organizations already have grants of philanthropic money and received federal funds and/or state dollars elsewhere and I don't want to see us duplicate those if we can put those dollars in services somewhere else. So, could you explain A a little bit more in-depth for me please. **Ms. Hand** said I think, Commissioner, there's a couple different ways this type of strategy could be deployed. It could be something where, for example, you could almost imagine an evaluation of what's happening within a neighborhood and kind of us doing that needs assessment in a very rapid kind of response pace where we could say, okay, we see these types of things are available here, but there is a major need here that's not being fulfilled. So we kind of very precisely go in and invest in what that gap is. It has to build off of what else is happening within the community itself because it wouldn't make sense to do one thing by itself. It just won't have the type of impact, but by looking at what else is happening in that context to help make sure that we can kind of amplify the benefits instead of trying to do something by ourselves without that context.

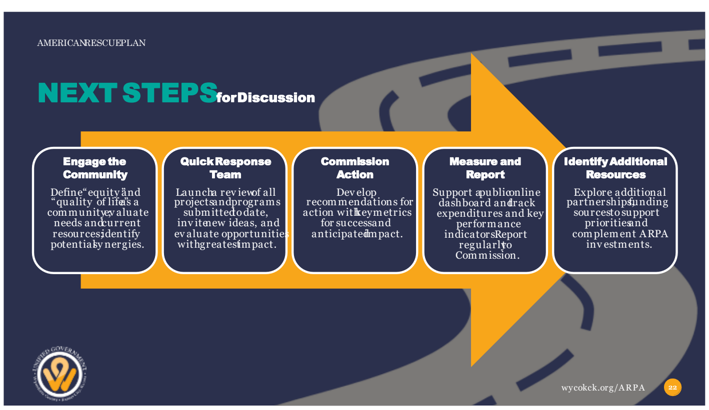
I do think there's the other idea too which could be continuing that process of kind of following where other organizations have identified those needs and investing in that and taking a light process to make it easier for people to access those funds quickly so that money is out into the community as quick as possible. I do think, you know, there are others that have responded to this so I would be interested to hear your read of this as well, but that's kind of essentially what I was thinking in terms of how to make sure that we put money that continues to move other things forward and help make multiple efforts successful and being very tactical in how we approach that.

Commissioner Burroughs said I guess my concern was, if we're just going to hand money out to those organizations to do this stuff just to get the money out there quickly, and then if something should happen and they need additional dollars, I kind of read it that maybe we should as a local unit of government just kind of watch what they're doing. And if they need additional to make a project move forward, we are to supplant that funding, step in with an additional funding source versus just throwing the money to these organizations to get it on out because if we can leverage existing efforts, I'm all about that. I just don't want to lose the opportunity for us, as a local unit of government, to have an opportunity to better our community within our districts as commissioners. I think that's extremely important to every one of the elected, that they see that we are working and we're concerned about our individual districts and the community as a whole. **Ms. Hand** said excellent. Thank you for that feedback.

Commissioner Ramirez said thank you Commissioner Burroughs for that question because I did have—personally, myself, as well had some trouble understanding and maybe for an analogy, Ashley, and please correct me if this is wrong, but would A be like what we did for the CARES Act funding where we internally allocated and had the criteria of organizations apply for the funding, but we gave the funding to United Way where they could quickly give out that money. Would that be a correct analogy of what A is about? **Ms. Hand** said I think to some extent, but the fact that United Way had the function of being able to disperse, for example, that $1.85M from immediate needs for housing and utility assistance, they had the ability to quickly put it into eleven different agencies and you only have one place to go, two on one, to get access to any of those services. I think that is the type of capacity that is an opportunity to explore.

CARES did precede me a little bit so I may not be able to really respond as to whether or not this is comparable to that process, but it is the idea that if there's a gap and a need for a little bit of money to kind of get someone to the next level of success with their plans or their programs, if that is kind of the catalytic money that they need to make to that next level of impact, is that something that we should consider doing.

Any other feedback on this? I just want to thank you all for humoring me with these tools. I know they can be a little cumbersome, but it does help with gathering some of the data and feedback from you.



The next step is really to go out to the community with some of the feedback that you've provided in this framework around goals and some of these strategies in terms of identifying what else is happening, where should we be looking and starting to capture some of those innovative ideas. We want to go out to the community and really make sure they have opportunity to really weigh in and provide some input into what's happening in their community. We did some general outreach in August and have been maintaining some communication since then, but we really wanted to be able to kind of have more specific things for people to weigh in on. What does this mean and what does this look like.

I would like—kind of the next step is up to you as a Commission to kind of determine, but I will turn it over to Doug to talk us through that a little bit, but really a lot of the guidance that you provided tonight can help us with some of that priority-based budgeting. How do we apply a lens to all of the things that we know are out there already that are hoping to get funded, but also to cast an even wider net to other options and other opportunities that we haven't even heard about or explored as of yet because there just hasn't been the need to capture that input.

So, if it's alright with you, Mr. Bach, I would like to turn it back to you to kind of walk us through what comes next or Mayor, I'm not too sure, just to make sure that it's clear kind of where we go from here based on the outcomes of this discussion.

Mr. Bach said I think this is one where the Mayor and I had talked through what next steps could be and how to engage the Commission at a higher level and I think, Mayor, you were going—you had some specific thoughts on that as to how you would move forward with the Commission from this part, so I'll just turn it over to you.

Mayor Alvey said the first thing I want to do is talk about the Engage the Community. What does that process look like, Ashley? **Ms. Hand** said we've already outlined a process and various approaches to take. We also are going to partner with the folks that are helping us as consultants who have the ability to go out into the community with an outreach team to also engage more directly. This includes a variety of options including we would like to do some proactive outreach in terms of webinars and opportunities for people to learn more, hear more about what's happening, where we're at. We have online tools to collect input online, but we also are creating a variety of tools that we can go out into the community in person or via mail and other kind of physical ways to reach out to people because we recognize that there is a digital divide and not all tools are user-friendly.

So, we want to make sure that is accessible so that will include a variety of touch points throughout the process as well as maintaining recording on the ARPA website that we've started so that we can provide kind of a regular and routine check-in so people can see what's happening and where those dollars are going and hear more about what the impact of those things are as we go through this process as a whole. So, not just in deciding how the money gets spent, but then tracking the impact of that money as it's spent.

Commissioner Johnson said I just wanted to make sure that within these next steps that we do them in a multilingual way so that we're reaching all areas of our community. **Ms. Hand** said absolutely.

Mayor Alvey said my thoughts on this, the CARES Act distribution allocation I thought was a good process. There was basically a sub-committee of the Commission and so I reached out to Commissioner Markley to ask if she would lead up this effort again. I've also asked Commissioner McKiernan and Commissioner Townsend to join in. I also will like to serve on that committee. We could go to one more Commission member, so if you're interested, please email that to me.

What I'm more concerned about is really to bring this back Special Session on a regular basis that is first of all, we're incorporating community input, reporting that back out, and really just reporting back out to the community on a regular basis. We're just going to be doing the front work basically and receiving consistent communication from the Commission on what the community itself is doing. It's going to be somewhat labor intensive, I know as the CARES Act funding allocation was, but have more frequent interaction with the entire Commission and we'll just be reporting back to the entire Commission.

That's why I'm concerned about the community engagement before we start meeting that we can get some of that moving forward, specifically I see you get defined equity and quality of life, evaluate needs and current resources; identify potential synergies. You know, I'm not sure if that's, you know, that's got to be an ongoing process, but again, there might be some things that need to be brought forward at the beginning.

Ms. Hand said, Mayor, absolutely and I think what clarifies this process and the approach that you and the Commission will take in moving the committee forward, we will make sure that outreach strategy and that communication strategy aligns with what you are able to accomplish and when. Make sure that we're not only preparing you with information in advance, but also helping the community to come to the table with the latest and greatest information so that they can feel like they're empowered to be engaged with the information that they need to weigh in on their thoughts on these various issues.

We will absolutely design an approach that works along the timelines that you have set for the committee and make sure that the right information is out there. For example, we are working right now on an immediate needs update just to kind of help the community understand where we're at with the funds that have been allocated to date and where those funds have already been put into the community so that people can understand what happened in August, how it's been working behind the scenes and in the community ever since. So, those are the types of things we'll make sure that we are working in lockstep with you and the committee.

Commissioner Burroughs said, Mayor, would you repeat those that you appointed to the oversight committee again, please? **Mayor Alvey** said Commissioner Markley, Commissioner McKiernan, and Commissioner Townsend and myself. **Commissioner Burroughs** said, Mayor, can you share with us, did any of those serve in the prior disbursement? **Mayor Alvey** said yes. Commissioner Markley did. **Commissioner Burroughs** asked, is there a reason, Mayor, you didn't appoint anybody, the Chair of the Finance Committee to that committee that represents Bonner and Edwardsville? **Mayor Alvey** said well no. Just that I wanted to reach out—I felt these three individuals would do a good job in bringing this back to our Commission as a whole.

Commissioner Burroughs said okay, Mayor, I think there's qualities and skill levels in other commissioners too beside just these three and by all means I'm not attacking these three. I was just curious as to why Bonner Springs and Edwardsville were not included in the first tranche and here we are going back and discussing a second opportunity and neither Bonner Springs nor Edwardsville commissioners were involved in that disbursement. I'm just curious as to why your decision was not to include in this one. **Mayor Alvey** said as I said, there is room for one more individual on this committee and so I welcome Commissioner Walters or yourself. **Commissioner Burroughs** said, well Mayor, I would be more happy to serve if it's your decision to do so, but I didn't anticipate that, but I do want to ensure that Bonner Springs and Edwardsville are included. **Mayor Alvey** said understood.

Commissioner Bynum said I just wanted to make sure we clarify, that in the CARES Act team that brought forward those allocations, the City Manager of Edwardsville and someone from the

Bonner City Manager's office both were with us the whole way through that process. In this situation, I think it's just a little bit different because those two cities have been allocated their own ARPA funds and the way they would intersect with us here is through our county side ARPA allocations. I'm just saying all of that for clarification.

Commissioner Philbrook said well, Commissioner Bynum, thank you so much for filling in that information. I was going to tell him the same thing, but thank you so much and they were very much involved and were very pleased with the process.

Mayor Alvey said thank you all. I think that concludes our meeting for the evening and we will be communicating. Doug, just so you know, the next Special Session we'll be coming forward with just an outline. We'll briefly present an outline of how we will proceed with this. So, we'll need to set-aside a time at the next Special Session. **Mr. Bach** said okay. We'll work on that, Mayor.

MAYOR ALVEY ADJOURNED
THE MEETING AT 5:53 p.m.

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Brett A. Deichler
Interim Unified Government Clerk

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