

American Rescue Plan Act

Talbot County Council Update



September 2023

**CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL
RECOVERY FUNDS**

\$7,221,973

May 2021

First Tranche Received by
Talbot County.

December 31, 2024

Funds must be obligated by
the end of the calendar year.

December 31, 2026

Funds must be fully spent.

Timeline for using ARPA Funds

FEDERAL TREASURY GUIDANCE

Survey Says . . .

634 PEOPLE RESPONDED WHEN ASKED HOW TALBOT COUNTY SHOULD INVEST IT'S ARPA FUNDS

52% of the respondents were from Easton, with responses coming from every corner of Talbot County



#1 Infrastructure

Expansion of broadband for education, remote work, and telehealth.

#2 Public Health

"We have learned from the pandemic that public health is vital."

#3 Assistance to Households

"People should always be first when considering such issues."

**Of the six
categories,
these ranked
the highest.**

ARPA FUNDS APPROVED IN 2022

\$4,758,439.96



**WORK IN
PROGRESS**

INVESTMENTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE



45% of those answering the survey ranked expansion of broadband as the top priority

FUNDING APPROVED

\$1.75 million

**Continuing Broadband Expansion to the
Unserved and Underserved**

Connect Talbot

- More than 225 miles of construction completed.
- 1,750 locations have broadband access; 920 customers have been connected.
- When complete, a total of 4,400 Talbot County locations will have access to broadband.

USDA Rural Utilities Service Visit

September 20, 2023



Your paragraph text

FUNDING APPROVED

\$105,000

**Improvements to failing septic system at
Chesapeake Center**

Status: Completed August 2022

Total Cost: \$100,961

INVESTMENTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

FUNDING APPROVED

\$500,000

Talbot County Fire Company Grant Fund

Seven local fire companies eligible for funding.

Distribution Summary

- A total of \$65,772.73 distributed from original allocation for foam disposal and resupply expenses.
- Easton, St. Michaels, Oxford, Trappe, Cordova and Tilghman received equal amounts of the balance at \$68,562.20 each and Queen Anne/Hillsboro received 1/3 at \$22,854.07.
- Three fire companies have spent their full allocation. One has partially spent its funding.

Fire Company Guidelines

Approved Uses

- Non-expendable Equipment - tangible property having a useful life of more than one year (e.g. radios, turnout gear, tools)
- Purchase of emergency vehicles and support equipment

Prohibited Uses

- Taxes, insurance, personnel costs
- Financial salaries or incentives for members
- Training and travel expenses
- Administrative costs including rent, telephone, utilities, security services

Approved Expenditures

- Easton: Custom Sutphen Engine Tanker
- St. Michaels: 2023 E-One Cyclone Custom Pumper
- Queen Anne/Hillsboro: Payments for the purchase of four sets of turnout gear and 22 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Air Packs
- Tilghman: Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) and Cargo Trailer for the UTV

FUNDING APPROVED

\$300,000

**Funding for additional EMS Unit for
Talbot County Emergency Services**

Status: Ambulance ordered.

FUNDING APPROVED

\$1 million

**Partial funding for an EMS Station/Back
Up 911 Center in North County**

Status: Project underway.

INVESTMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

FUNDING APPROVED

\$150,000

**Replenishing the shelves of Talbot
County Food Banks**

Status: \$10,700/pantry distributed in FY23 for a total of \$74,900. Equal amount to be distributed in FY 24.

Talbot County Food Pantries

- Carepacks
- Harvest of Hope at Easton Church of God
- Neighborhood Service Center
- Royal Oak United Methodist Church
- St. Michaels Community Center
- St. Mark's United Methodist Church (Pantry at Brookletts Place)
- St. Vincent de Paul

Food Bank Guidelines

Qualifying Expenditures

- Purchase of food.
- Purchase of consumable supplies used specifically for the food distribution program (ie. bags, boxes, food containers, cleaning supplies).
- Purchase of refrigerator, freezer, shelving, or other equipment costing that is necessary for the pantry's food distribution activity.
- Emergency repair costs for equipment or vehicle that is necessary for pantry's food distribution operation.
- Must be expenses not already supported by COVID-19 relief or other grant funds.

FUNDING APPROVED

\$250,000

Funding for Nonprofit Grant Fund

Preference given to those with projects that help those in need.

Nonprofit Program Summary

- Nearly 60 nonprofits submitted requests for funding, asking for approximately \$1.2 million.
- 16 Local nonprofits were selected to receive the available \$250,000 allocation.
- All approved requests were funded at 75%.
- Seven nonprofits have spent their full allocation. Two have partially spent their funding.

Projects Funded

- Sewer line installation at low-income housing project
- Purchase of cargo van for food distribution
- Staffing expenses and training
- Community art project

FUNDING APPROVED

\$50,000

**Improved Sound System at Talbot
County Free Library**

Status: Installation nearing completion.

Funds spent to date: \$0

TALBOT COUNTY GOVERNMENT

FUNDING APPROVED

\$160,000

Talbot County IT Cybersecurity Project

Funds spent to date: \$65,718

FUNDING APPROVED

\$10,000

**Chesapeake Multicultural Resource
Center Call Center**

Status: Project complete.

Funds spent to date: \$12,323

FUNDING APPROVED

\$235,000

Administrative Costs Including Staff

Funds spent to date: \$39,301

FUNDING APPROVED

\$250,000

Doverbrook Apartment Project

Approved by Council in Nov. 2022 for the replacement of 50 existing and 14 new affordable housing units; Easton matching at \$250,000.

ARPA FUNDS APPROVED

\$4,758,739.96

ARPA FUNDS SPENT
\$2,456,616.20

ARPA BALANCE REMAINING
\$2,463,533.04

Talbot County's ARPA Working Group

Pete Leshner

Clay Stamp

Jessica Morris

Martha Sparks

Kaitlin Foster-Clark

Mary Kay Verdery

Nancy Andrew

Ray Clarke

Cassandra Vanhooser

QUESTIONS?