ARPA Fact Sheet: Capital and Construction Projects

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has provided $641 million in one-time funding to the City of Baltimore in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. Mayor Brandon M. Scott has established the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programs to administer this funding on behalf of the City via an application process. This document contains guidance to applicants on the City’s strategy regarding using ARPA requests for capital and construction projects.

What is a capital project?
Capital projects are high-quality, modern infrastructure needed to ensure that all communities thrive. Capital projects include investments in assets that break down over time and the direct and indirect costs needed to improve the condition of the capital assets.

What categories of capital projects will the City consider funding?
The City will consider funding projects that are directly related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, critical in nature, and equitable. Examples of categories of capital projects include:

- Changes to public facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency (City-owned)
- Development of affordable housing units or facilities for unhoused persons
- Lead remediation
- Changes to public facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency (Not city-owned)
- Broadband Infrastructure (Fiber installation)
- Broadband Infrastructure (Public Wi-Fi)
- Water, sewer, and storm water infrastructure

Examples of eligible projects:
- HVAC/ventilation systems
- Barriers
- Telemedicine
- Temporary public medical and alternative care facilities
- Lead service line replacement
- Water conservation and reuse projects
- Rain gardens and biofiltration products
- Watershed protection projects

What should applicants know about ARPA guidance regarding capital projects?
Capital projects unrelated to the COVID-19 public health emergency or not explicitly deemed as an eligible use in Treasury interim final rule will not be funded. It is recommended that projects are completed within the timeframe established in Treasury Guidance.