



# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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NEW YORK

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **Schenectady Mayor Gary McCarthy Announces Dates for American Rescue Plan Neighborhood Tour**

Initial series of community conversations to explore use of ARPA funds

**SCHENECTADY** – Mayor Gary McCarthy announced dates for an initial series of community conversations on the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). Mayor McCarthy and City staff will attend a series of neighborhood association meetings over the coming weeks to discuss the use of ARPA funds.

The neighborhood association meetings currently scheduled are:

- Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm  
Stockade Neighborhood Association  
[Zoom Meeting](#)
- Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm  
Upper Union, Eastern Avenue, Central State Neighborhood Associations  
Location: TBD
- Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm  
Goose Hill Neighborhood Association  
Location: Steinmetz Park Community Room, Lenox Road
- Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm  
Mont Pleasant Neighborhood Association  
Location: Mont Pleasant Library, 1036 Crane Street

President Joe Biden signed ARPA into law on March 11, 2021. The \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill includes the \$65.1 billion [Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund](#) (CLFRF), which is direct funding for local governments impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The U.S. Department of Treasury is charged with administering the CLFRF.

Under the CLFRF, the City of Schenectady is slated to receive \$52,971,798. The City received the first half of these funds – \$26,485,899 – in May 2021 and will receive the second half from U.S Treasury in May 2022. The funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026.

According to [initial guidance](#) released by U.S. Treasury, eligible uses of CLFRF include general categories such as revenue replacement, responding to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, responding to workers performing essential work, and for necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. Prohibited uses of the funds include replenishing financial reserves, payment of debt, legal settlements, deposits into pension funds, and reduction in net tax revenue.

The City of Schenectady's [2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan](#) proposes strategic investments to make a concentrated impact in key areas and address identified high-priority needs such as housing, youth engagement, workforce development, and public infrastructure. The five-year plan also builds off the City's 2017 [Community Needs Assessment](#).

The City's Department of Development has also released a community survey to solicit additional public input on the potential use of ARPA funds. The survey is available [online](#) on the Department of Development [website](#). Hard copies are also available at Schenectady City Hall in the Department of Development.

Contact information for local neighborhood associations can also be found on the City's website: [www.cityofschenectady.com/408/Neighborhood-Associations](http://www.cityofschenectady.com/408/Neighborhood-Associations)