

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Vaccination, Testing and Emergency  
Operations

**Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery  
Funds**

April 8, 2022 Report

# City of Fort Worth, Texas

## 202x Recovery Plan

### GENERAL OVERVIEW

#### **Executive Summary**

The American Rescue Plan Act funding allows for staffing and resources needed to support COVID-19 testing and vaccination operations and emergency response activities. Staffing expenses are funded to continue various operations such as: vaccination sites, testing sites, and similar health and safety response elements that may arise. In August 2021, another surge of COVID-19 viral infections impacted the Fort Worth community. Hospitals and other healthcare community partners began reporting resource needs and challenges in meeting the community needs for medical care. In September 2021, third doses (boosters) for the COVID-19 vaccines became increasingly available with expanded eligibility planned in the coming months. At the City of Fort Worth, we continue to offer a collaborative effort to meet emergency response needs that are beyond the capacity of our traditional healthcare network. Funding provides for necessary expenses for the continued emergency response operational needs previously funded by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These needs may include: personnel time; personal protective equipment; communications and outreach campaigns; testing materials; testing site support materials; vaccination site support materials; treatment center materials; and general operating supplies.

#### **Uses of Funds**

The City of Fort Worth has been operating testing and vaccination operations since early on in the COVID-19 pandemic. American Rescue Plan Act funding continues to allow the City to provide broad community support in the area of Public Health through pandemic response coordination efforts utilizing the Joint Emergency Operations Center to provide neighborhood based campaigns. Testing and vaccination resources are provided using a broad range of delivery methods, including walk-in and drive-through operations, roving and pop-up sites, mobile clinics, collaborative events and homebound vaccination appointments.

## Promoting equitable outcomes

*Equity is achieved through targeted efforts to provide information and services to areas of low-income/low vaccination rates through a variety of efforts, listed below:*

### Canvassing Operations:

- 11,400+ flyers Spanish/English flyers distributed to low-income, low-vaccine rate communities
- Continuing canvassing operations with bilingual (English and Spanish) information sheets from October 2021 until February 2022 in various zip codes within Fort Worth's city limits where vaccination rates were lower to inform of and encourage COVID-19 vaccinations. Canvassing efforts directly targeted individual homes as well as local, small, businesses in an effort to spread information via word of mouth.
- Targeting of neighborhoods that have lower vaccination rates and have less community opportunities for vaccines in their community such as the Northside, Diamond Hill, North Tri-Ethnic, Handley-Meadowbrook, and Stop-Six communities in Fort Worth, TX.

### COVID Testing Operations:

- Free Testing
- No Identification Required
- Neighborhood based campaigns – going to their local community centers or churches (areas where the community already gathers to provide easy access to testing)
- Increasing testing operations during surges to match community demand and reducing operations during a lull (testing mobile team would reduce sites/go offline and then reopen those in the areas of highest demand – such as the east Fort Worth community of Meadowbrook and the west Fort Worth community of Como)
- Placed focus on the city pre-purchasing tests in order to provide free access to Saliva-based PCR tests that can be self-administered to anyone regardless of financial ability. Provided without any identifying information required which encouraged people to get tested without fear of citizen status being disclosed. (location focus on Northside Fort Worth community, which is predominately Spanish speaking – ensured that Spanish signage was posted stating that it was free testing access)
  - **Testing Ops at TexRail (13,500+ tests provided)**
    - Operational 8/12 and 8/30/21 - 3/25/22
    - Focus on providing free testing to the lower-income, Hispanic-prominent, Northside community. Self-administered COVID test that was available to all individuals – no ID or insurance required
  - **Testing Ops at the Fort Worth Stock Show:** Provided no cost COVID-19 rapid and PCR tests to attendees during the annual Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo from 1/12/22 - 1/30/22.
  - **Roving Sites:** Continued providing free PCR testing on a set weekly schedule at various public locations in seven of the eight city council districts to accommodate specific local testing demands from 10/1/21 - 10/8/2021 and 12/28/2021 - 2/17/2022.
    - FWISD Scarborough-Handley Field (Council District 5)

- Como Community Center (Council District 3)
  - Northside Service Center (Council District 7)
  - La Gran Plaza (Council District 9)
  - Beth Eden Baptist Church (Council District 8)
  - Christ Church Assembly of God (Council District 6)
  - Heritage Church of Christ (Council District 4)
  - Tanger Outlets (Council District 7)
- **Pop-Up Sites:** Began providing free COVID-19 rapid and PCR testing at the following public community events and locations to target areas with higher testing demand, typically over weekends to accommodate those that could not make it to a primary testing site on a weekday. Events took place on 10/16/2022, 10/30/2021, 11/20/2022 and weekends between 2/11/2022 - 2/20/2022 and onward.
  - Luck Optical
  - Fort Worth Dia de los Muertos
  - North Tri-Ethnic Community Center
  - Martin Luther King Community Center
  - Riverside Community Center
  - Como Community Center
  - Andrew Doc Session Community Center
  - Handley Meadowbrook Community Center
- **Rapid Testing Ops (8000 rapid tests provided):** Following the sharp spike in positive COVID cases resulting from holiday gatherings, we provided the following public libraries, one in each city council district, with 1000 free pick-up and take-home rapid tests while supplies lasted from 2/10/2022 - 2/25/2022. To emphasize equal opportunity to all residents, each car was allowed 4 tests per day on a pick-up basis where the only information collected was non-identifying demographic information.
  - Northside Library (Council District 2)
  - Ridglea Library (Council District 3)
  - East Regional Library (Council District 4)
  - East Berry Library (Council District 5)

#### **Vaccination Operations:**

- Free Vaccines
- No Identification Required
- Neighborhood based campaigns – going to their local community centers or churches (areas where the community already gathers to provide easy access to testing and vaccines)
- Mobile clinics with a weekly schedule – providing all vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, & J&J) (2 different mobile teams)
- Weekly Homebound appointments throughout Tarrant County
- **Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex (5000 vaccines provided)**
  - Operational 11/29/21-2/18/22
  - Provided no-cost vaccines in a location that was able to accommodate the lower-income neighborhood surround the city facility. The site frequently partnered with FWISD to provide vaccination opportunities for children in a safe environment. Also worked with individuals who were restricted by mobility issues or social anxiety to provide drive-up vaccines on-site.

- **Wilkerson-Greines Arena (4500+ vaccines provided)**
  - Operational 9/21/21-11/23/21
  - Drive-through vaccine site serving southeast Fort Worth area in order to encourage vaccination among predominantly lower income, African American community. The November Tarrant Area Food Bank's Mega Mobile Market held at Wilkerson-Greines, intended on providing groceries for lower income families promoted free COVID-19 vaccinations at Wilkerson-Greines.
  - No ID or insurance required, with the intent of increasing the vaccinated population in the area free of charge and of hesitance from minority groups due to identification requirements.
  - Collaboration with Fort Worth ISD, focus on pediatric vaccines beginning November which served as one of the first opportunities for children to receive the COVID-19 vaccine with focused attention.
- **JPS Collaborative Event at First Street Mission Ministries (156 vaccines provided)**
  - Operational 10/6/21-2/28/21 (Every Wednesday)
  - Serving the downtown metropolitan area of Fort Worth with focus on the homeless community in collaboration with JPS Health Network and First Street Mission Ministries. Sack lunches, clothing, mail and ID services provided by the Mission. Medical check-ups and health related concerns addressed by JPS. COVID-19 vaccinations provided by the City of Fort Worth.
  - Incentives such as Walmart gift cards, bus passes, and food truck vouchers provided by the Mission in order to encourage COVID-19 vaccinations among the homeless population.
- **Homebound (50+ vaccines provided)** – Continued remotely scheduling (over the phone) vaccination appointments and providing in-home vaccines through October 2021 until the end of February 2022 to Tarrant County residents who could not travel to a vaccination site due to various conditions such as Autism, Immobility, Disability, Severe Anxiety and more. Meals on Wheels and Tarrant County Public Health also collaborated with us to extend the reach of homebound vaccine appointments.
- **Pop-Up Sites: (750+ vaccines provided at pop-up sites)** Community-based pop-up events that took place at different locations throughout the city. Frequently hosted by local churches, businesses, or other community-service focused organizations. Partnered with these organizations to provide vaccines in a location that their community is already familiar and comfortable in. They trust the individuals who are hosting the events and are more willing to consider getting a vaccine when we come to their community. Easy, walkable distance for the residents who may not have reliable modes of transportation.
  - **Broadway Baptist Church** - Southside Fort Worth focus on Thursday's Agape Meals for the homeless in an effort to increase vaccination rates among the population.
  - **Luck Optical** - Partnered with an eye care provider to administer free vaccines to attendees of a public community event.
  - **Community Food Bank** - Serving lower income area at a high traffic community food bank with Amazon incentives for those fully vaccinated.
  - **Cardinal CT** - Partnered with a glass manufacturer to provide vaccines, primarily boosters, to employees of the company.
  - **Dia de los Muertos** - Provided vaccines for attendees of the annual Dia de los Muertos in Fort Worth parade and festival. Located in a predominately low-income, Hispanic area.

- **Brighter Outlook Inc** - Stop Six area with low income and lower vaccination rates. Working alongside Aetna Insurance, CVS, and medical teams providing free back to school exams for children, waving utility bills for residents of the community, and encouraging health checks and COVID-19 vaccines free of insurance and ID.
- **Lake Como Community of Hope** - vaccine event hosted for the residents of the Lake Como Community of Hope Apartments, most of which do not have modes of transportation that are required to get to tradition vaccination locations.
- **La Gran Plaza** - shopping center in the south/central Fort Worth area that is frequented by the residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. Viewed as a safe space for individuals to come to receive vaccines and the City of Fort Worth always made sure to have Spanish-speaking staff onsite for registration purposes and to make it over-all more convenient for individuals to receive their vaccines.

**Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category through February 28, 2022**

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	\$ 1,065,563.76	\$ 1,065,563.76
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	\$ 2,073,696.72	\$ 2,073,696.72
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	\$ 460,223.53	\$ 460,223.53

**City of Fort Worth**  
**Evans & Rosedale Redevelopment Recovery Plan**  
**State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**  
**April 8, 2022**

**Executive Summary**

The thirty-six properties (collectively, the Property) are located within the boundaries of the Historic Southside Neighborhood, the Evans and Rosedale Urban Village, Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number 4, and Census Tract 1231.001, which is a Qualified Census Tract. The Property was part of the December 2018 Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) in which the City of Fort Worth, the Fort Worth Housing Finance Corporation (HFC), and the Fort Worth Local Development Corporation (LDC) sought a Master Developer arrangement in and near the historic Evans & Rosedale Urban Village.

Between early 2019 and September, 2021, HFC, LDC, and City staff have negotiated a term sheet with Hoque. Hoque is proposing a two-phased redevelopment that will result in a total of at least \$70 million worth of investment; approximately 292 multifamily units, 20 townhomes, and 28 live-work units, with at least 20% of the total units being affordable; a cultural square; parks, and other public spaces.

**Use of Funds** – EC 3.10, Housing Support: Affordable Housing

The redevelopment requires the purchase of the 30 properties from the HFC at a price of \$3,595,977.13 and the five properties from the LDC for \$537,076.29 and allocates funding to pay for the one parcel owned by the City and valued at \$112,500.00. As authorized by Texas Local Government Code Section 272.001(g), the Property, which has a combined fair market value of \$4,245,553.42, would be sold to Hoque for monetary consideration of \$1 each for the purpose of developing low- to moderate-income housing.

**Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

To effectuate and maintain the public purpose of affordable housing, the Property will be subject to a lien through a Deed of Trust to Secure Performance, ensuring the required affordable housing is offered at the Property for a period of at least 15 years. If the affordable housing requirements are not met, Hoque would be required to repay the full fair market value of the Property out of its own separate funds.

**Community Engagement**

Eight proposals were received through the RFEI and reviewed through an extensive staff and stakeholder evaluation process. The selection criteria established included:

- 1) Vision with respect to the history of the area
- 2) Quality of design

- 3) The economic impact on the City
- 4) Qualifications and experience of the development team
- 5) Financial capacity of the development team
- 6) Community engagement
- 7) Alignment with the City of Fort Worth’s comprehensive plan and strategic economic development plans.

Hoque Global Properties, LLC (“Hoque”) was selected as the development team that was most closely aligned with the selection criteria. After significant community engagement and feedback, staff for the HFC, the City, and the LDC recommend that Hoque be selected to redevelop the area.

**Expenses by Expenditure Category**

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	\$0.00	\$0.00

**City of Fort Worth**  
**Allocation for Housing and Human Services Projects**  
**State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**  
**April 8, 2022**

**Executive Summary**

The City of Fort Worth Neighborhood Services Department plans to use ARPA funds to address the disproportionate economic impacts of the coronavirus crisis on the hardest hit communities, populations, and households. This includes allocating funds to community partners to support this effort, particularly focused on housing and human services projects. Several agencies submitted proposals for affordable housing and human services projects totaling \$31.4 million. City staff reviewed the proposals and allocated funding to the following seven projects:

- Child Care Associates – Renovation for Early Learning Center in Riverside: Gwendolyn C. Gragg Child Development Center \$2,000,000.00
- Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity – Purchase of fourteen (14) detached platted lots for the development of 26 or more affordable townhomes \$1,500,000.00
- Child Care Associates – Building a new Early Learning Center at the future/proposed Stop Six Hub \$5,000,000.00

Funds for Tranche 1 have been allocated and approved by M&C. The two projects (Child Care Associates – Gragg Center; Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity) are currently in the process of contract development in conjunction with Neighborhood Services Department and City Attorney's Office staff. The Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity project is nearing contract completion and is expected to be completed by the end of April 2022. Funds for Tranche 2 have not yet been received.

**Use of Funds**

The overall use of funds aligns with the following expenditure categories:

EC 2.10 Aid to nonprofit organizations;  
EC 3.6 Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care;  
EC 3.10 Housing Support: Affordable Housing

2.10 – The renovation for the Gwendolyn C. Gragg Child Development Center includes the addition of three classrooms bringing the total to eight classrooms and expanded services for infants and toddlers.

3.6 – The building of a new Early Learning Center at the future/proposed Stop Six Hub to expand access to infant, toddler and three-year old services in Stop Six. The ARPA investment will draw \$9.2M in quality learning services from Child Care Associates at no charge to low-income families in Stop Six over ten (10) years.

3.10 – The purchase of the fourteen detached platted lots south of John Peter Smith Hospital will include the replatting and development of land to build 26 or more affordable townhomes, which will be sold to low-to moderate-income households in Fort Worth.

**Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

All of the selected projects are anticipated to provide services and support to historically underserved, marginalized groups. This includes primarily low or very low individuals and families, which have been impacted greatly by the pandemic. Also, funding will serve both children with safe and affordable childcare. One of the three projects will serve the Stop Six community as a part of the transformation plan underway in partnership with Fort Worth Housing Solutions which is a part of its Choice Neighborhood Initiative grant. The Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity will serve a severely distressed community in south Fort Worth.

Project demographics are as follows:

<b>Address</b>	<b>Zip Code</b>	<b>Census Tract</b>	<b>Area Median Income</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2400 E. 1 <sup>st</sup> St..	76111	1232.00	\$53,951.00	This location is not in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) Area, but the clientele served are low-to-moderate income families.
1703 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1709 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1715 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1716 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1719 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1720 Galveston Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1720 S. Main St.	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1724 S. Main St.	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
1701 St. Louis Avenue	76110	1236.00	\$40,822.00	Located in a QCT
5100 Avenue G	76105	1036.01	\$17,630.00	Located in a QCT

**Community Engagement**

Community engagement is an ongoing part of the process for all projects. This includes receiving public comments prior to allocation as well as ongoing transparency as contracts are executed and projects are undertaken. Notices of allocations have been

posted through Public Notice, meeting agendas, and minutes to engage the community in the proposed use and final allocations of funds.

### **Labor Practices**

In compliance with other federal regulations, notice of projects will be posted as well as any available job opportunities. Contracts are still being prepared and will include language regarding hiring practices, wages, etc.

### **Use of Evidence**

Each activity will be evaluated based on the individual program goals and increased service levels. Child care evidence will be demonstrated through the increased number of children receiving affordable, safe child care. Affordable housing evidence will be demonstrated through the housing assistance provided to persons able to purchase a home at an affordable cost, which is 30% or less of the household income.

### **Expenses by Expenditure Category**

<b>Category</b>		<b>Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)</b>	<b>Amount spent since last Recovery Plan</b>
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	\$0.00	\$0.00
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing	\$0.00	\$0.00

City of Fort Worth, Texas  
Neighborhood WiFi Project  
**Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery  
Funds**

April 8, 2022 Report

## **Executive Summary**

The City of Fort Worth Neighborhood WiFi project will bring internet access to approximately 10,000 homes in five low-income neighborhoods in the community in order to improve citizens' ability to participate in remote learning and employment opportunities, improve public safety, increase community engagement, promote economic revitalization, provide supportive services to reduce poverty and create paths to self-sufficiency. This project was begun using CARES dollars, but due to unforeseen delays with staffing, design, and supply chain issues, it was approved to be completed using American Rescue Plan Act funding. The largest challenge facing the project however has been due to unsuccessful negotiations on contract with ONCOR for nodal placement. Therefore, the Fort Worth ISD has agreed to a partnership for nodal placement at schools within the neighborhoods being served in addition to City properties.

## **Uses of Funds**

American Rescue Plan Funding will be used in the Negative Economic Impact Area 2.4 – Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs.

By partnering with the Fort Worth ISD, households in five low-income, disproportionately impacted communities in Fort Worth will be able to receive free internet services:

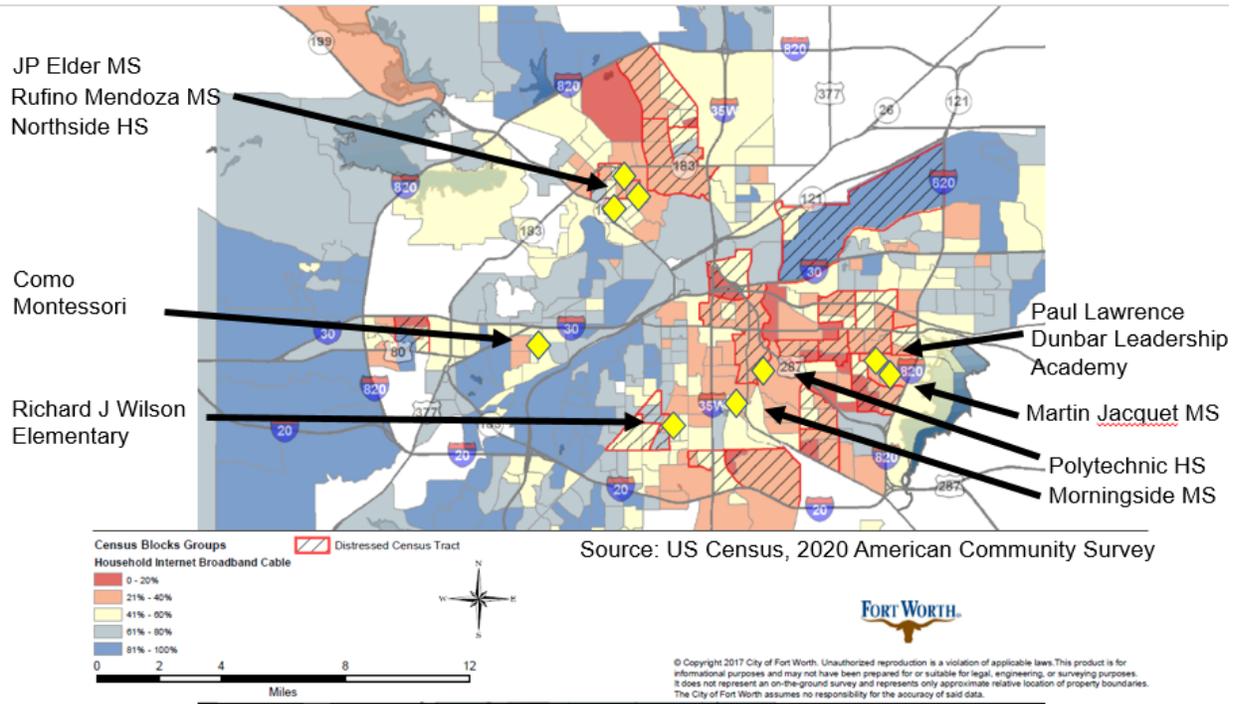
- Rosemont – Qualified Census Tract 1047.01
- Ash Crescent – Qualified Census Tract 1038.00
- Northside - Qualified Census Tract 1008.00
- Stop Six - Qualified Census Tract 1036.01
- Como - Qualified Census Tract 1025.00

## **Promoting equitable outcomes**

- a. Goals: Support underserved and disproportionately impacted communities by providing free internet access to 10,000 homes in Qualified Census Tracts within the City of Fort Worth
- b. Awareness: Outreach program provides handouts and flyers in both English and Spanish, Web FAQ and partnerships with community organizations to educate residents in digital literacy training, access to the appropriate devices and technical support
- c. Access and Distribution: There are no differences in levels of access to benefits and services across groups. No application is necessary for internet access.
- d. Outcomes:
  - Close the gap between lack of internet access and neighborhood improvement programs
  - Support remote education, employment search, remote work, telemedicine and access to other community services

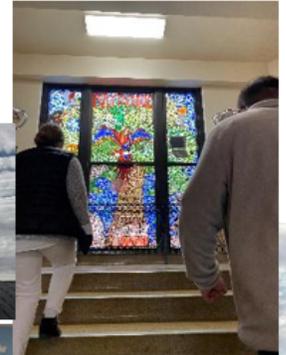
- Same quality of service as in libraries and community centers
- Bridge to more widely available wired broadband internet access

This program was designed with the City's lowest income residents as the focus of the deliverables. All neighborhoods are in qualified census tracts, and there is a high correlation between lack of internet access and neighborhood improvement programs.



## Fort Worth ISD Partner Campuses

- Rosemont
  - Richard J. Wilson ES
- Como
  - Como Montessori
- Ash Crescent
  - Morningside MS
  - Polytechnic HS
- Northside
  - Rufino Mendoza ES
  - JP Elder MS
  - Northside HS
- Stop Six
  - Paul Laurence Dunbar Leadership Academy
  - Martin Jacquet MS



### Accomplishments

- Equipment boxes (144)
- CFW pole installations (80)
- Radio broadcast equipment and circuits installed to CFW and FWISD locations
- Redesign of neighborhood deployment – removing planned ONCOR poles
- Originally designed CFW network is complete in all 5 neighborhoods

### Remaining Project Work

- Continue communication and education to neighborhoods
- Monitoring and Reporting on usage
- Installation of identified additional CFW poles to take place of ONCOR poles
  - Planned April – June with significant benefit to Stop Six
- Maintain Neighborhood Wi-Fi equipment
- Development of broadband improvement strategy

## Use of Evidence

Evidence will consist of the number of users of the network upon completion of the entire network

## Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	\$148,831.13	\$148,831.13

**City of Fort Worth**  
**CDFI Friendly America Recovery Plan**  
**State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**  
**April 8, 2022**

**Executive Summary**

The contract with CDFI Friendly America, LLC engages the consultant to provide consulting services in assessing the potential roles of Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) financing in the community, organizing potential CDFI Friendly strategies, developing an actionable CDFI Friendly business plan, and providing the City with consultative capacity-building support for the implementation of that business plan in collaboration with the Economic Development Department and the Department of Diversity & Inclusion.

**Use of Funds** – EC2.9, Small Business Economic Assistance (General)

The scope of work to be provided over a period of 18 months with a cost of \$3 million includes the following:

- Help the City of Fort Worth build its community's capacity by establishing an independent, permanent CDFI Friendly entity ("CDFI Friendly Fort Worth") with appropriate local board and staff to manage and execute the community's CDFI Friendly strategy;
- Perform research and make reports on past community development efforts in Fort Worth, local market conditions, significant market trends and/or opportunities, and other elements that might affect the community's decisions;
- Work with the City of Fort Worth and identified stakeholders to identify credit gaps that CDFI financing might fill and prioritize them to inform the CDFI Friendly business strategy; and
- Prepare—in collaboration with the City and identified stakeholders—a business plan that clarifies and illuminates key findings, assumptions, resource needs, market priorities, and projected outcomes of a CDFI Friendly strategy for Fort Worth.

**Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

The goal of CDFI Friendly America is to inform and create a CDFI Friendly strategy to significantly increase CDFI financing in Fort Worth with a priority on financing for communities of color, people of color, and others that have long been denied full access to essential financing on reasonable and appropriate terms

**Community Engagement**

CDFI Friendly America will conduct at least 50 group, community meetings for the following primary purposes:

- Learning about potential credit gaps
- Teaching participants about the potential roles of CDFIs

CDFI Friendly America will conduct at least 100 individual meetings with key leaders across sectors. The purpose of these meetings is to assess and identify the following:

- Past and ongoing efforts related to community development finance
- Interest and willingness of financial and philanthropic institutions to provide financial support to the resulting CDFI Friendly Fort Worth Strategy
- Potential interest in participating in the working coalition or in other roles
- Ability to provide guidance on potential credit gaps

**Expenses by Expenditure Category**

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	\$184,143.32	\$184,143.32

**City of Fort Worth**  
**UNTHSC TechStars Recovery Plan**  
**State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**  
**April 8, 2022**

**Executive Summary**

Current medical literature data reveals that more than half of people hospitalized with COVID- 19 still experience diminished lung function and mobility problems four months after being discharged. Studies have shown that a significant proportion of survivors of COVID- 19 experienced respiratory or functional musculoskeletal impairment lasting greater than four months after hospital discharge.

This new population of survivors with lasting mobility issues will put an increasing demand on existing physical therapy caregivers resulting in a need for new physical therapies. The negative economic impacts of the COVID- 19 pandemic have caused hundreds of thousands of businesses to close, placed many more at risk of closing, and significantly impeded the advancement of new technologies due to economic instability.

UNTHSC and its partners are providing business development coaching, mentorship, and business design for a post-pandemic economy for companies that are developing new treatments and technology for musculoskeletal conditions through the establishment of a business accelerator program

The accelerator program is run by TechStars, which has a long history of growing and funding innovative companies. This program, named the TechStars Future of Human Movement Accelerator, will facilitate the creation of a startup accelerator program for up to ten (10) startup businesses. The goals of this program are the following:

- Address the need for business development support for entities that have had product and technology development delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Advance products, treatments, and technologies that will address disparities in the delivery of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation (PTR) services that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

**Use of Funds** - EC2.9, Small Business Economic Assistance (General)

In order to implement these efforts, Tarrant County proposed an engagement in an inter-local agreement, in the amount 2,400,000.00, with UNTHSC to support the establishment of a three-year program for the Accelerator. Under the proposal, the City of Fort Worth is also providing \$2,400,000.00 as match funding for the initiative.

The Accelerator Services Program will facilitate the creation of a startup accelerator program for startup businesses. Each participant will relocate to Fort Worth and participate in an intense, immersive, 3- month mentorship-driven accelerator program

and will work to mature their company and technology in their respective medical field pertaining to musculoskeletal treatment.

Each Class will contain up to 10 participants. It is anticipated that three classes will be provided, with approximately one class per year. At the end of each class, the participants will present their progress to the technology and entrepreneurial community and will showcase the team's progress during an event.

### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

The City of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) have identified a need to partner in the establishment of an Accelerator Services Program to address the disparities caused by the pandemic in physical therapy services by developing businesses that deliver new therapies and technologies to better the health outcomes for all residents of Tarrant County.

### **Expenses by Expenditure Category**

<b>Category</b>		<b>Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)</b>	<b>Amount spent since last Recovery Plan</b>
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	\$0.00	\$0.00

**City of Fort Worth**  
**Visit Fort Worth Recovery Plan**  
**State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**  
**April 8, 2022**

**Executive Summary** –

Visit Fort Worth will put ARPA funds to work rebuilding our visitor economy, which supports jobs and local business. Visit Fort Worth powers economic development through tourism – creating jobs, raising the City of Fort Worth’s visibility and contributing to local quality of life. As a 501(c)(6) contracted with the City of Fort Worth, Visit Fort Worth represents the hospitality industry as they share the Fort Worth story.

Tourism has been named a priority industry by federal ARPA guidelines because the industry was among the hardest hit by the pandemic. In 2020, Visit Fort Worth responded to the pandemic by laying off 20% of its staff, reducing spending and shuttering visitor centers. During the pandemic 12 employees were laid off.

Over the next three years ARPA funds will replace about half of the \$10.44 million Visit Fort Worth lost during the tourism downturn. Specifically, \$6 million over three years or 57% of that total loss of projected revenue, enabling Visit Fort Worth to rehire 6 of the 12 staff members.

**Uses of Funds** - overview of intended use under EC2.11 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Visit Fort Worth has a three-point plan for the effective use of ARPA funds:

- Support recovery of conventions by attracting meetings and helping customers connect with local businesses and services.
  - \$3 million over three years
  - Project concepts
    - National marketing campaign to promote Convention Center expansion, including targeted promotions and events, corporate outreach, video, trade show exhibits
    - Site visits and familiarization trips for new convention customers, especially those who do not fit into the current facility
    - Pre-promotion of conventions to support attendance, such as marketing campaigns around conventions before they come to Fort Worth
- Leverage our momentum with sports tourism by securing and hosting events that attract fans and media coverage.
  - \$1.75 million over three years
  - Project concepts
    - Site visits and familiarization trips for sports events rights holders, including 2022 hosting of Sports ETA conference

- DFW-wide advertising to drive ticket sales for sports events, demonstrating local support
  - Start-up salary for sports events coordinator position, which will be funded by operating budget long-term as hotel tax collections recover to pre-pandemic levels
- Promote leisure tourism, especially highlighting our incredible attractions and experiences around the arts, western heritage, and nightlife.
  - \$1.25 million over three years
  - Project concepts
    - Splashy national advertising to promote new attractions such as Stockyards, Downtown, Cultural District, Dickies Arena and landmark museum exhibits such as Kimbell Art Museum’s 2022 “Language of Beauty in African Art”
    - Promotional roadshow in key Texas markets
    - Sponsorship for difference-making festivals and events that raise Fort Worth’s profile (e.g., Opal’s Walk, Fortress Fest)

**Promoting Equitable Outcomes** – the goal of the program is to stimulate the economic activity for all tourism related businesses in the city, such as hotels, restaurants, venues, and museums, which will provide employment opportunities for citizens across the city.

**Community Engagement** - overview how community involvement is included.

- Broad based marketing will include most areas of the city, highlighting what each part has to offer to attract tourism and economic impact to those areas.
- Sponsorships for community activities to include: Opal’s Walk, Fortress Fest, and others that highlight the diverse culture of Fort Worth, its history and residents, will be funded to contribute to the quality of life for residents and to attract visitors.

**Use of Evidence** - overview of how is the project being evaluated

- Marketing activities will be evaluated by evaluating reach, views, and/or engagement
- Sales activities will be evaluated by lead generation, definite room night bookings and/or number of events booked.

**Expenses by Expenditure Category**

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	\$0.00	\$0.00



City of Fort Worth, Texas  
Revenue Recovery Provision  
**Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery  
Funds**

April 8, 2022 Report



## Executive Summary

The City of Fort Worth (COFW) has identified priority projects to be funded by the Revenue Recovery Provision provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Several capital improvement projects in the Public Events Department deferred and suspended due to the loss of Hotel Occupancy Tax revenues as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic have been reinstated. The City will also use ARPA dollars to provide necessary funding for a variety of infrastructure projects to enhance services provided to citizens and the community.

## Uses of Funds

### Public Events Capital Restore - \$4,560,000

- After the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, 2020, as part of the effort to ensure that the Culture and Tourism funds could meet operating expenses and debt service obligations, in FY2020 and thereafter until the economic recovery began, selected capital improvements at the Will Rogers Memorial Center (WRMC) and Fort Worth Convention Center (FWCC) were suspended or deferred on August 25, 2020 when the formal actions necessary to revise appropriations and eliminate the planned budgeted transfer in the amount of \$3,570,294.00 from the HOT 2% Fund to the Public Events Capital Fund. All HOT 2% tax revenue collected in FY2020 was instead used to meet debt obligations for the fiscal year.
- Because HOT collections continued to lag for the first half of FY2021, again there were no capital transfers in FY2021 for the Public Events Capital Fund from the HOT 2% Fund for capital improvements. These projects are considered priority projects necessary for safety and required repairs or improvements to these facilities hosting conventions, trade shows and long-standing public events such as the Fort Worth Stock Show. In turn, investment in these projects will assist in reviving the tourism economy for the City of Fort Worth.
- The following ten projects were impacted and are being reinstated:
  - Richardson Bass (Sound) System Upgrade
  - Amon Carter EH Door Replacement
  - WRMC Sprinklers Cattle Barn #4
  - WRMC Justin Garage Ventilation
  - WRMC Security Cameras
  - WRMC Replace Auditorium Curtains
  - FWCC Star Tower Façade
  - WRMC Electrical Upgrades
  - WRMC Emergency Generator Enhancement
  - WRMC Auditorium Roof Replacement

### Fort Worth Convention Center Expansion - \$52,000,000

- The Fort Worth Convention Center started life as the Tarrant County Convention Center, constructed in 1966 and officially opened in 1968. In 1997 the City purchased the convention center from the County, and it was renamed the Fort Worth Convention Center. A 2014 “market and financial feasibility study” recommended renovation and expansion of the Fort Worth Convention Center in order to better compete and serve multiple events. This study was updated in 2019, and based on these recommendations, in January of 2020 a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a project management firm was published in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and emailed

to local and national project management firms. Interviews were held in March of 2020 as the COVID-19 crisis escalated. These interviews showed three teams highly qualified and capable of providing the required staffing and expertise. Before a selection was formally recommended, it became clear that COVID-19 would affect the tourism and convention industry and the project funding and schedule.

- Due to the reduction in Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue directly related to the pandemic, as described in the Public Events Capital Restore project, the project management selection process was suspended until July 2021. ARPA funding will allow Phase 3A of the project to move forward with the relocation of the kitchens, demolition of the east annex, and the realignment of an adjoining street to allow future development of a hotel.

### **Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum Mural Plaques - \$300,000**

- Noted Fort Worth architect Wyatt C. Hedrick designed the auditorium, coliseum and tower for the Texas Centennial celebration in 1936. The auditorium and coliseum were adorned with two, 200-foot-long hand painted tile friezes in a style characteristic of other murals created throughout the United States in the 1930s. The murals were designed by architect Herman Koeppel and Kenneth Gale, artistic director at the Zanesville, Ohio, Mosaic Tile Company. The auditorium frieze traces the settlement and industrial development of the west, while coliseum scenes depict the romance of the range and the various settlers who shaped the cultural heritage of the southwest. The historical subjects depicted in the two large tile murals were selected by W.J. Hammond, who was a Fort Worth City councilman (later, Mayor) and head of the Department of History at Texas Christian University.
- In September 2019, the Mayor's office met with City and Arts Council staff and determined that the City's advisory body, the Fort Worth Art Commission, should gather community input and make recommendations in response to the citizen's concern about the portrayal of African Americans on the tile mural on the auditorium.
- At the October 7, 2019 special called meeting of the Fort Worth Art Commission, the City's Historic Preservation Officer, Murray Miller provided historic context of the mural in relationship to its creation and the architecture. Following the presentation it was the consensus of the Commission to hold a public hearing to gather citizen input on how to move forward. After three (3) public input meetings, community members supported keeping the mural intact and providing some form of interpretation of the murals. The following January, 2020, the Commission approved recommendations, stating, "The Fort Worth Public Art Commission has determined that while the citizens' concerns were based upon possible misinterpretation of the imagery along with the negative response to the stylistic approach of the 1930s, it is vital that the City provide educational interpretation for the benefit of citizens and visitors who view the mural now and into the future." One of the recommendations was to convene an advisory committee to develop an approach that would allow visitors to better understand the historic perspective.
- On July 19, 2021, the advisory committee's recommendation for comprehensive interpretation at the WRMC auditorium mural was presented to the Fort Worth Art Commission. The recommendation includes seven bronze plaques installed in the brick pattern on the plaza in front of the auditorium and the coliseum: one introductory plaque and six plaques corresponding to the six scenes viewable in each mural. Each of the six plaques features a silhouette of a specific scene on the mural with text descriptive of the time period represented and themes explored in the imagery.
- Fort Worth Public Art will re-engage with Elements of Architecture, LLC to complete layouts for the Will Rogers murals while Arts Council staff drafts interpretive text, which will be submitted to the advisory commission. Following the advisory committee's review of final interpretation, they will make their recommendation to the Art Commission and will then conduct a community input gathering process. Once the final design and text have been approved, the Art Commission's recommendation for plaque design and interpretation will be presented to City Council for implementation

### **Future City Hall - \$6,400,000**

- Use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding would be focused on the purchase of information technology, security technology, and audio/video (AV) equipment to provide facility security and to improve service to Fort Worth residents in their development, permitting, and related needs
  - Building ITS design, procurement, installation, and commissioning
  - Building Security related technology design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning
  - Building Audio Visual and video conferencing design of unified solution, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning
- In conjunction with the ARPA funding, Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) funding in the amount of \$8,500,000 would be expended for information technology and AV equipment and supporting infrastructure to facilitate cablecasting meetings and other events from the new City Hall and Council Chambers
  - Design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning of IT systems enabling public, educational, and governmental cablecast and broadcast programming
  - Design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning of Audio Visual and Production Control systems enabling public, educational, and governmental cablecast and broadcast programming
  - Design, procurement, installation, testing, and commissioning of infrastructure critical to cablecast and broadcast production for enabling public, educational, and governmental broadcast programming
  - Enabling and support of closed circuit broadcast within the council chambers, overflow areas, and remainder of Future City Hall building

### **Neighborhood Redevelopment Infrastructure - \$1,600,000**

- Infrastructure support for the four-phase Stop Six Choice Neighborhood Implementation Program will include the design and construction work associated with underground power lines and the elimination of power poles for four phases of the transformation plan. This includes Cowan Place, a senior living multifamily housing development, Hughes House, a mixed-use housing development, and two yet to be named phases.
- The selected project is anticipated to provide services and support to historically underserved, marginalized groups in Qualified Census Tract 1013.02. This includes primarily low or very low income individuals and families, which have been impacted greatly by the pandemic.
- Funding will serve children and the elderly with safe and affordable childcare and housing for seniors. The focus in both supporting infrastructure and housing development is to address the increasing unmet need of affordable housing. Five of the seven projects will serve the Stop Six community as a part of the transformation plan underway in partnership with Fort Worth Housing Solutions as a part of its Choice Neighborhood Initiative grant
- Community engagement is an ongoing part of the process for all projects. This includes receiving public comments prior to allocation as well as ongoing transparency as contracts are executed and projects are undertaken. Notices of allocations have been posted through Public Notice, meeting agendas, and minutes to engage the community in the proposed use and final allocations of funds
- In compliance with other federal regulations, notice of projects will be posted as well as any available job opportunities. Contracts are still being prepared and will include language regarding hiring practices, wages, etc.
- Infrastructure evidence will be demonstrated through completion and the full housing completion for each phase. This will be documented with the awareness that these projects funded through ARPA funds are only a portion of the overall impact

**Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category**

	<b>Category</b>	<b>Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)</b>	<b>Amount spent since last Recovery Plan</b>
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$0.00	\$0.00