

Bristol County, Massachusetts
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2023 Report

Bristol County Massachusetts
2023 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Plan:

Bristol County has chosen to distribute its SLFRF allocation of \$109,786.776.00 to the cities and towns in the County [sub-recipients], calculated on a per capita basis, after withholding 10% for the County's use for administrative costs to implement this program as well as its own eligible projects.

Key outcome goals:

1. To provide funding to municipalities to support their recovery from the Covid-19 public health emergency in keeping with the goals and requirements of ARPA.
2. To provide technical assistance as needed to municipalities to ensure the projects submitted meet eligibility requirement in keeping with ARPA goals.
3. To issue funds in a timely manner to subrecipients dependent upon review of applications for eligibility and compliance.

Progress to date:

A total of 59 applications have been submitted for the period of 7/01/22 - 6/30/23. For this period the County has approved a total of 29 applications for a total of \$36,046,343.64 in funding. This represents 32.8 % of Bristol County's SLFRF allocation.

Challenges or opportunities identified:

Only 44% of the funds have been obligated thus far [since the beginning of the program], despite the fact that the funds must be obligated by 12/31/24. We will need to be more aggressive in encouraging the municipalities to apply for the funding in the next 12 months.

Uses of Funds

Bristol County has approved a wide range of projects and programs that support the goals of ARPA and will support the communities' recovery from the negative effects of the pandemic and resulting economic downturn. Details on the type of projects and programs are as follows:

Support Public Health:

Applications funded include emergency response communications upgrade, HVAC upgrades in public buildings, trailer-mounted message boards, reimbursement of employees' COVID medical bills, and an emergency medical response boat.

Economic Impact:

Applications funded include housing security, grants for non-profits emergency relief for veterans, re-indexing and digitizing of public records, speed alert and radar message signs/trailers, artist recovery program, and veterans' kitchen; summer camp; a splash pad.

Premium Pay:

Application for premium pay for municipal workers.

Water/Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure:

Infrastructure applications for PFAS remediation, sewer line engineering, water main flushing and improvements, emergency backup generator replacement program, wastewater treatment plant and pumping station upgrades, Vector truck, valve replacement, well replacement, stormwater corridor construction project, , partial lead pipe remediation, culvert replacement, SCADA design and implementation, and drinking water project including bulk water purchase for senior center/ emergency shelter to replace contaminated drinking water.

Revenue Replacement:

Applications to fund costs incurred on school building project due to COVID-related delays.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Bristol County is committed to reviewing all applications received from our municipalities through a lens that reflects diversity, equity, and inclusion. We are relying on the community input received at the local level to inform the funding requests. We have received many applications from municipalities whose residents were disproportionately affected by the pandemic. We are using the matrix developed by the state of Massachusetts for proposed equitable allocation of ARPA funds to identify the municipalities most eligible under the stated criteria. We anticipate that as the program continues, we will seek further community input through the municipalities and will collect data to confirm that equity, diversity and inclusion are the foundation of all the programs funded.

Community Engagement

The County is committed to seeking community input. This was done in various ways: discussions at County Commission and County Advisory board meetings and outreach to all of the communities in the County.

Labor Practices

Bristol County will confirm that all approved infrastructure projects will follow federal, state and local regulations/ laws relative to fair labor practices.

Use of Evidence

At this time only a few of the approved projects or programs have indicated that evidence-based measures will be incorporated. The County will continue to review all submitted applications to determine if this will be needed and will monitor the municipalities for their compliance in collecting evidence-based data.

Performance Report

Currently we are requiring the subrecipient municipalities to report quarterly, which includes information on the status of each project and funds expended. We are in the process of developing a system to confirm performance management using performance indicators that will be reported to the County by the subrecipient municipalities.

Expenses by Category

Support Public Health:

1.6 Medical Expenses	\$919,151.96
1.7 Other Covid -19 Public Health Expenses	\$68,000.00
1.11 Community Violence Interventions	\$1,522,877.00
1.12 Mental Health Services	\$175,000.00
1.14 Other Public Health Services^	\$7,304,535.90

Negative Economic Impact:

2.2 Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid*^	\$100,000.00
2.3 Household Assistance: Cash Transfers*^	\$171,384.00
2.11 Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care*^	\$280,535.41
2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: H&S Neighborhood Features^	\$675,888.39

2.25 Addressing Educational Disparity: Academic, Social, Emotional*^	\$470,000.00
2.30 Technical Assistance, Counseling, Business Planning	\$173,000.00
2.31 Rehabilitation of Commercial Properties or Other Improvements	\$625,300.00
2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations^	\$352,935.00
2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other*^	\$1,365,000.00

Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector:

3.1 Public Sector Workforce; payroll and benefits	\$197,859.22
3.2 Public Sector Workforce: Rehiring Public Sector Staff	\$743,289.95
3.4 Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery	\$69,995.00

Premium Pay:

4.1 Public Sector Employees	\$227,796.92
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Infrastructure/Sewer and Water:

5.1 Clean Water/ centralized wastewater treatment	\$955,525.00
5.2 Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance	\$2,278,665.12
5.5 Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure	\$1,228,000.00
5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater	\$3,491,281.24
5.9 Clean Water: Nonpoint Source	\$241,275.00
5.10 Drinking water: Treatment	\$690,440.00
5.11 Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution	\$5,240,460.00
5.12 Drinking water: Lead Remediation, including in Schools/Daycares	\$3,122,568.00
5.13 Drinking water: Source	\$1,734,440.00
5.14 Drinking Water/Storage	\$2,085,190.00

5.15 Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	\$51,947.00
5.18 Water and Sewer: Other	\$2,178,000.00

Revenue Replacement:

6.1 Provision of Government Services	\$2,600,000.00
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Total approved for period of 7/01/22-6/30/23 = \$36,046,343.64

Project Inventory

#1117 Infrastructure Water/Sewer from Fairhaven: Town-wide water main flushing
\$300,000.00

The proposed project, which will be overseen by the Department of Public Works will be to hire an outside vendor to conduct a full water main flush throughout the Town of Fairhaven. The Town of Fairhaven is experiencing water quality issues (i.e., discolored water) being supplied to residents and businesses. Flushing the entire water system in Fairhaven is the first Phase of this project and part of a larger approach in the region to address water quality issues. The town in its entirety would benefit from the flushing and these funds are only being used with the Town of Fairhaven. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$300,000 (quote attached). The quote is for one zone - there are 11 zones to be completed and a small amount for contingency. The Town Meeting vote for Phase 2 of this project (which is not being funded through ARPA but from the ratepayers) is also attached.

#1118 Infrastructure Water/Sewer from Fairhaven: Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade
\$930,540.00

This project includes a large-scale upgrade to the Town's wastewater treatment plant to include nitrogen removal capability. The facility is located on Arsene Street and is a conventional activated sludge plant that is designed for 5 million gallons a day (MGD) of wastewater flow. During a heavy rain event the flows can peak at 16MGD. The original facility was completed in 1969 and some of the original structures still exist. It was last upgraded in 1989. The plant discharges to the inner harbor thru an outfall located just west of the intersection of Church and Main Streets. Prior to discharge the flow is treated to levels of biological oxygen demand (BOD) and total suspended solids (TSS) below those dictated to us thru our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit which is issued jointly by the Massachusetts DEP and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. Fairhaven's current permit mandates that we upgrade our treatment plant to manage nitrogen removal levels set forth by the DEP/EPA in our NPDES permit. Future phases of the project will be funded by the ratepayers and if possible other funding sources. The total project including all phases is expected to cost close to \$50 million dollars over the next 4 years. The Town is proposing using 1 million in ARPA funds to cover some of the cost and reduce the impact on ratepayers. The full appropriation was voted by Town Meeting (copy of vote attached).

#1124 Infrastructure Water/Sewer from Freetown: Backup generator for pump station and control system
\$35,460.00

To purchase and install a backup generator system for the Chipaway Pump Station. In the event of a power outage the generator will maintain the water pressure adequately in order to be able to continue water service to residents. In addition, the computerized control system is over 20 years old, and parts are no longer available for the system. The control system needs to be replaced prior to it failing.

#1129 Premium Pay from Easton: Premium Pay for Essential Town Employees
\$227,796.92

The Town has negotiated premium pay for eligible essential employees required to work in person during the State of Emergency declared by Massachusetts Gov. Baker (March 10, 2020, through June 15, 2021). The essential functions of these employees necessitated performance of duties in person, rather than remotely for a majority of the time during the State of Emergency. These eligible workers were required to maintain continuity of operations of essential critical infrastructure sectors in the areas of public safety and emergency response, public works and public health.

#1130 Infrastructure Water/Sewer from Westport: Route 6 Water/Sewer Zoning Study
\$20,000.00

The Town is in the process of completing 100% design plans for public water and sewer along the Route 6 Corridor from Fall River to the Dartmouth Line. As part of this infrastructure project the Planning Board is seeking to engage a qualified engineering consulting firm to perform a Zoning study with proposed amendments to address the changes in permitted uses directly impacted by the installation of public water and sewer. Public infrastructure along the corridor will permit uses currently prohibited by the constraints of onsite water and individual septic systems. The Town must plan for the increase in economic development and the potential for more affordable housing when sewer and water infrastructure is installed. Zoning updates are a critical component of the water and sewer project. Bristol County has already approved \$35,000 for this rezoning initiative. In order to complete the entire corridor and additional \$20,000 is needed.

#1131 Infrastructure Water/Sewer from Berkley: Holloway St Culvert Replacement
\$82,691.40

The Town needed to perform an emergency replacement of a culvert located on Holloway St. During a water line replacement as part of providing water to residents with contaminated wells, the culvert that the water line needs to go under, was determined to be at a point of failure where the water line could not be put under it. The town moved forward with an emergency procurement to replace the culvert. This same culvert was also identified in the town Municipal Vulnerability Plan (MVP) Community Resiliency Building Plan recently completed by SRPEDD and approved, as an under-sized culvert causing area flooding. The culvert was designed by an engineer, including the headwalls, culvert and guardrails. The

procurement was completed on an emergency basis and approved by the Inspector General's office. The culvert has been replaced.

#1134 Infrastructure Water/Sewer from Fall River: Waterfront Stormwater Corridor Project
\$2,000,000.00

Reconstruction of the Davol Street CSO chambers and creating a stormwater conveyance system which includes large box culverts and specially designed and configured manholes that will allow a large amount of stormwater to pass through a newly constructed transportation corridor.

#1135 Support Public Health from Rehoboth: Exterior Communication Messaging Display- Town Hall Building
\$50,000.00

The Rehoboth Board of Selectmen request funding to purchase and install an exterior mounted full color LED sign measuring approximately 50" X 88" to be located in front of the Rehoboth Town Hall. The sign would be visible to all who travel the main north / south roadway through the town and would be utilized to assist in the notification of public health and public safety matters, as well as other critical information. The proposed cloud-based solution would enable messages to be changed remotely and in real time; thus, making notifications available as events unfold. The communication device would also be connected to the automatic emergency generator to ensure the ability to communicate without interruption.

#1136 Infrastructure Water/ Sewer from Dartmouth: SCADA Improvement and Controls Upgrade
\$160,440.00

SCADA design and implementation services including engineering design, equipment, electrical installation, startup services, control panel modifications, construction administration, implementation, and startup service.

#1139 Infrastructure Water/Sewer from Fall River: Removal of Partial Lead Remediation and Infrared Hot Box for Waterline Access
\$3,128,571.80

Fall River received a \$10 million federal grant for the removal and replacement of a portion of the City's approximately 3,760 lead service lines that brings residents drinking water to their homes. A review of the City's existing inventory indicates an estimated 760 service lines require full replacement and under 3,000 service lines require partial replacement in private property (curb stop to water meter) to remove the remnant lead pipe from previous public right of way replacements. In order to complete the entirety of the removal and replacement of the City's lead service lines, more funding is required. The funding from the BC Treasury will allow the City to replace approximately 450 partial lead services from meter to the curb stop near property lines. The infrared equipped "hot box" asphalt arrays are essential in the operations for repairs and installations below paved bituminous surfaces by the Department of Community Utilities-Water and Sewer Division. The equipment would be utilized in the removal of partial lead remediation project.

#1140 Economic Impact: Grant Program for Non-Profits from Taunton
\$200,000.00

The City of Taunton would like to offer a grant program for nonprofits. The goal is to fund nonprofits that provide programs that directly target those in our community who were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. ARPA permits funding nonprofits in order to assist communities in the recovery and to assist the nonprofit in its own recovery.

The grant funding may be used for programs that provide direct aid to Taunton households, employment programs, mental health/substance abuse programs, food/shelter insecurity assistance, and other programs targeted to those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. The City of Taunton also recognizes that many nonprofits suffered a negative economic impact and need assistance in recovering. To assist in the recovery, the nonprofit may seek funds to help them do so.

#1144 Economic Impact: Weir Riverfront Park Splash Pad from Taunton
\$454,945.40

Two shaded spaces, both Approximately 17 x 18, for individuals to relax. Approximately 4,000 square feet of a splash pad for children of all ages to run, play and stay cool.

Adding a splash pad in the Weir Riverfront Park will provide the community with a safe recreational area for children of all ages. This will help promote health and increased physical activities and will positively affect the community's well-being.

#1147 Infrastructure Water/Sewer: Wastewater Equipment from Attleboro
\$1,233,000.00

This project entails the procurement and installation of essential Wastewater equipment available through the program that will serve to improve the City's Wastewater system. The pieces of equipment are as follows:

1) Vactor Truck

Purchase a VACTOR 2100i with Single Engine Dual Stage Fan, 10 Yard Debris Body, 1000 Gallons of Fresh Water. This vehicle is for the collections crew. It is used for daily work required in the upkeep of the sewer collections system. This work includes maintenance of sewer lines, treatment plant tanks and process lines and pump stations.

2) Replacement of Emergency Generator at Abbie Lane Pumping Station

This project consists of purchasing and installing a new 25kW emergency standby generator for the Abbie Lane Sewer Pumping Station, transfer switch, connecting to propane supply tank and miscellaneous electrical supplies needed for the installation.

3) Replacement of Emergency Generator at Trinity Circle Pumping Station

This project consists of purchasing and installing a new 30kW emergency standby generator for the Trinity Circle Sewer Pumping Station, transfer switch, connecting to propane supply tank and miscellaneous electrical supplies needed for the installation.

4) Replacement of Water Booster System

The project consists of replacing the present Water Booster System, electrical control panel and related control automation.

#1148 Economic Impact: TOGETHER Summer Camp from Taunton
\$200,000.00

This application is the remaining request for application ARPA-1037, which was approved in 2022. Provide safe & free/affordable childcare to low/moderate income families & give economic opportunities to a diverse group of high school & college students to increase income within their homes (summer jobs)

#1150 Support Public Health: Emergency Response Upgrades from Westport
\$315,000.00

The upgrades are required to maintain consistent operations for the Town of Westport public safety (police, fire, EMS) departments during all emergencies including pandemic response. The current radio repeaters are not in optimal locations and use old phone landline technology that experience repeated failures. The upgrades will allow access to the town's fiber optic network and provide reliable service. This will enable improved radio communications within the town including the town's senior living facilities and larger apartments. Currently communications are poor forcing responding personnel to use cell phones, which could delay emergency response and patient care during a crisis such as the COVID pandemic.

The battery backups are required to support network infrastructure supporting these radio repeaters by providing critical power to this equipment during a crisis, thus enabling proper response from all public safety departments in a pandemic response.

The relocation of the Internet demarc is vital to public safety. In a crisis such as a pandemic, even more so. This connection allows for communication with external medical services such as doctors, researchers, hospitals as well as various state and federal agencies that will be providing guidance and responses during pandemic emergencies. Each of these items work conjunctively to provide increased capability and response for the citizens of the community during a pandemic like we witnessed during COVID.

#1151 Support Public Health: Emergency Response Radio Equipment from Westport
\$140,000.00

The radio upgrades are required to maintain consistent radio operations for the Westport School staff to coordinate with public safety (police, fire, EMS) departments during all emergencies including pandemic response. This will enable improved radio communications within the schools, including staff, SRO's and emergency personnel. Currently radio communications are poor forcing personnel to use cell phones, which could delay emergency response and patient care during a crisis such as a pandemic.

In addition, the school department's request for two-way radios is part of the district's overall policy to battle Covid and other respiratory diseases within the school building, while encouraging and developing experiential learning that effectively personalizes education for students at Westport. To do so, students must sometimes leave the school proper and be provided with experiential learning opportunities outside the traditional classroom. As a case in point, the district partnered with our farming community during the 2023 school year to initiate a "Farm to Table" program at our Westport Elementary School. As a part of the program, students work with farm educators outside the campus, engaging in science and agricultural research. To do this safely, it is critical that staff have access to equipment that can allow them

to clearly communicate in real time outside the classroom, especially in light of the health and safety issues that impact schools daily.

**#1152 Infrastructure Water/Sewer: Sewer Line Engineering from Freetown
\$200,000.00**

This funding is to be used as a match to the Massworks grant received in the amount of \$775,000 for the design and engineering for the Assonet Sewer Line extension. Design and permitting will pave the way for subsequent construction, which will establish a foundation to catalyze economic development and workforce housing as well as other housing options by expanding sewer service northerly along South Main Street near Exit 9 at Route 24 and Route 79 to Freetown Town Hall (Assonet Four Corners area). A 2019 feasibility study highlighted the need for expansion.; so, did a regional CEDS document. In 2019, Freetown retained Environmental Partners to conduct a feasibility study to explore sewer expansion in Assonet. The report explored the installation of low-pressure sewer system from the Freetown Town Hall area to the South Main Street and High Street intersection. In addition, the report outlined the installation of a gravity sewer system from the South Main Street and High Street intersection to a new sewer pump station located at the Alexandra Drive and Ridge Hill Road intersection. This would entail a lot/easement procurement at 23 Alexandra Drive to develop it into a pump station. Lastly, the feasibility study recommended the installation of a sewer pump station and force main piping along Ridge Hill Road and South Main Street.

**#1153 Infrastructure Water/Sewer: Valve Replacement from Taunton
\$600,000.00**

The work includes the installation of three additional gate valves on the 30" finished water transmission mains between the Taunton Water Treatment Plant in Lakeville and the Harris Street Pumping Station in Taunton. Additional 24" insertion valve to be added to replace a broken valve at the water treatment plant on the feed line to the sedimentation basins and a 24" insertion valve in Precinct Street in Lakeville. Temporary and permanent trench-width pavement restoration. Temporary bypass piping.

**#1154 Economic Impact: FRACC Artist Recovery Program from Fall River
\$173,000.00**

The Fall River Arts and Culture Coalition (FRACC), in partnership with Assets for Artists, proposes a hands-on approach to implement the FRACC Artist Recovery Program. FRACC proposes a multi-faceted plan to advance Arts, Culture and Tourism in the City of Fall River. The program will provide working capital funds and assistance to artists that have struggled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**#1155 Economic Impact: Housing Security for Homeowners from Easton
\$71,384.00**

Easton's Taxation Aid Committee exists to provide direct financial relief to income-qualified or otherwise eligible (disability status) residents to reduce the burden of real estate taxes consistent with MGL c. 60 c 3D. In order to meet their statutory and local charge, the Committee adopted regulations for the administration of this financial aid including eligibility

standards for applicants using Massachusetts' own standard for housing affordability – specifically those standards relating to MGL c. 40B – wherein housing income limits are determined based on size of household and whether or not the combined income is at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. To qualify for the financial assistance, applicants must demonstrate that they meet these standards (see guidelines document). Disbursements will mirror stimulus payments (up to \$1,400). The entire project request of \$71,384 is allocated toward this evidence-based intervention.

Note: This application is a continuation of ARPA-1036, which has been fully expended.

#1156 Infrastructure Water/Sewer: Belf Filter Klampress Reconditioning from Dartmouth
\$690,000.00

Recondition two (2) Klampress Type 85 Size 2 Type 85 Size2 (1.5 Meter) belt filter presses at job site, installation of main control panels and installation of wash water booster pumps. Reconditioning of Klampressess includes using only new O.E.M. (Original Equipment Manufacturer) parts, labor for removal/installation, inbound/outbound freight charges and start-up services. Complete factory Rebuild to “like new” condition of 2 Klampress Type 85 size 2(1.5 Meter) belt filter presses using OEM parts, installation of new Belt Filter Press Main Control Panels and the installation of 2 new replacement direct coupled wash water booster pumps with 3HP motors.

#1159 Support Public Health: Employee COVID medical expenses for Jul 2022- Mar 2023 from New Bedford
\$507,900.91

Funding for health insurance is carried through the Medical Claims Trust Fund, which combines employer and employee payments to support the City's self-insured health insurance program, which is managed by Blue Cross Blue Shield. When entities are self-insured, ARPA-eligible expenses include medical expenses related to confirmed COVID cases as well as suspected COVID cases for testing and diagnostics. This request covers COVID-related medical expenses for the period from July 2022 to March 2023.

#1160 Economic Impact: Veterans' Kitchen from Fall River
\$50,000.00

Request to provide financial assistance to the non-profit organization, the Veteran's Kitchen of Fall River. The organization provides crucial services to veterans and their families, including weekly eat-in or take-out meals, weather appropriate clothing, non-perishable food staples, and event outings with lunch included. Additionally, the organization operates out of 602 Third Street in Fall River, which is in a Qualified Census Tract and the "Final Rule" deems disproportionately impacted.

#1161 Infrastructure Water/Sewer: Bulk Water Purchase for Senior Center/Emergency Shelter from Rehoboth
\$46,440.00

The Town has detected elevated concentrations of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) in the public water supply wells at the Senior Center. The Senior Center is unable to use the

kitchen to provide meals to our seniors or allow them to drink the water. The Senior Center is also a designated Emergency Shelter, in the event of an emergency and would provide food, water and shelter to its residents. A social benefit to our senior who experience isolation during the pandemic is sharing meals with other seniors in town. Our senior center is a great resource for our seniors in not only in socialization but communicating other services available for those in need.

The Town will utilize SLRF Funds to:

Temporary supply of drinking water at the Senior Center/Emergency Shelter for 8 months with added 2 months contingency.

Provide pump station with two \$3,000 gallon tanks to tie into pump house in order to utilize the kitchen to provide meals to our seniors.

Henshaw Farms is an approved vendor by MassDEP (see attached list of Emergency Bulk Water Providers on MassDEP website, Henshaw Farms is the local provider). Henshaw Farms provides the tanks and sources the water from designated suppliers with meets all water criteria determined by MassDEP for all public water suppliers. The City of Fall River will be providing the water. All water supplied is tested monthly and sent to the lab to ensure the water is safe to drink.

#1163 Support Public Health: HVAC Improvements at Town Hall from Fairhaven
\$18,000.00

These much-needed HVAC improvements will improve ventilation, air handling and temperature control in the Town Hall. The request includes installation of mini split units and a plan that will maintain the integrity of the existing building. Equipment, labor and electric wiring of the new units are all included in this cost. This project is eligible for ARPA funding as delineated in the US Treasury's SLFRF - Final Rule Overview, Page 14 Ventilation System Installation and Improvement - public building. This work has not yet been completed and the project will begin once the ARPA project is approved by the County.

#1166 Infrastructure Water Sewer: Route 6 Corridor Sewer Collection System from Town of Swansea
\$2,278,665.12

The Town is seeking funding for the design and engineering services for the Route 6 Corridor Sewer Collection System. We have recently partnered with the Town of Somerset and agreed to an IMA. The Town now has an elected Sewer Commission, which was established recently with its first members voted in this past April. The Town is working to design a collection system, pumping stations and force mains from the Coles River crossing over Wood Street to the Somerset Wastewater Treatment Plant, consisting of approximately 10.74 miles. The Town has gone out to bid for vendors for this project, receiving two competitive proposals. The Town has selected Wright-Pierce and has received a price proposal for the Scope of Work. We are working on the contract now - all terms have been agreed upon, but this funding piece is the last part of our work before signatures are provided. The Scope will be to design and get the Town through all required permit processes and approvals so that the work can be shovel ready. The Town will be using Somerset's NPDES permit as a co-permittee.

#1167 Infrastructure Water/ Sewer: Testing and Remediation of Contaminated Drinking Water from Rehoboth
\$644,000.00

The Town has detected elevated concentrations of per-and-polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) in the public water supply wells at the Rehoboth Town Hall property; the adjacent Fire/Police Station property; and the Rehoboth Senior Center.

The Town will utilize ARPA funds to:

- Retain the services of Wilcox & Barton, Inc. to manage and coordinate the Town's response with MassDEP and provide support and technical.

- assistance to address questions and concerns from Town residents.

- Prepared an immediate Action Response Action Plan for submission to MassDEP.

- Testing and mitigation of impacted groundwater at private homes and businesses affected by release of PFAS at the Fire Department property, sampling, laboratory analysis, treatment systems installation/maintenance, regulatory reporting, source assessment and remediation.

- Permitting and design of treatment system for public water supply wells at the Fire Department, Town Hall and Council on Aging (Senior Center).

Once permitting has been completed and design of treatment system has been approved by MassDEP, an additional request for the installation of treatment system will be submitted.

#1169 Support Public Health: Emergency Medical Response Boat
\$799,916.30

The area of North Fairhaven includes 4 Environmental Justice neighborhoods, 3 that have Median Household Incomes of just \$29,917, while the Median Household Income of the Town as a whole is much more than that-\$75,645. This area has also been designated by DHCD as a "Slum and Blight" Neighborhood making it eligible for specific federal programs. This area is located along the Acushnet River and since the pandemic has seen an increase in public health and safety calls for emergency medical assistance. This area has also seen a dramatic rise in opioid and overdose calls since the onset of the pandemic and the need for health and medical assistance to this low-income vulnerable population. This particular area of the Town, North Fairhaven, along the river and harbor, includes some of the lowest income members of the population making them highly vulnerable to the impacts of the pandemic, especially the use of opioids and opioid related medical and health needs. Given its proximity to the river and harbor, there are areas that are difficult to get to and are much more accessible by boat rather than traditional vehicles, especially the areas where low income and vulnerable populations congregate in Fairhaven. The Fire/EMS Department would like to partner with the Harbormaster & Health Department to purchase a boat that could be used in this area to more effectively respond to public health and safety calls, including calls related to opioid related emergencies.

#1170 Economic Impact: New Bedford Registry of Deeds Digitizing, Re-indexing and Tagging Document Images from Bristol County
\$140,000.00

All digitized documents will be uploaded to the user-friendly website making them readily available without the need to go to the Registry in person. The process will decrease traffic within the Registry and will allow a safer option as compared to prolonged visits to the building. This will help maintain the safety and health protocols put in place during the COVID 19 Pandemic.