



The American Rescue Plan:

Funding for Code Departments

May 19, 2021

The American Rescue Plan

Enacted on March 10, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provided \$1.9 Trillion in federal recovery investments, including the direct payment of **\$350 billion** to state, tribal, territory, and local governments (STTL) through the **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF)**. Click [here](#) for allocation specifics.



States and DC
\$195.3 billion



Counties
\$65.1 billion



Larger Municipalities
\$45.6 billion



Tribal Governments
\$20 billion



Territories
\$4.5 billion



Municipalities <50,000
\$19.5 billion

The American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds – Timing

Local governments >50k and counties will receive funds in two tranches.

1st: 50% by May 2021

2nd: 50% approximately 12 months after the first tranche

States and territories – one or two tranches.

1st: At least 50%, 60 days from certification

2nd: Approximately 12 months from certification

Local governments <50k will receive funds in two tranches.

1st: At least 50% by June 2021 (30 days after state receipt, unless state receives 30-day extension)

2nd: 50% approximately 12 months after the first tranche

The American Rescue Plan

Fiscal Recovery Funds – Eligible Costs

- Costs necessary “to respond to the public health emergency”
 - Employee time dedicated to response and activities eligible under the CARES Act, as including code department hardware and software investments for remote work
- Responding to the pandemic’s “its negative economic impacts”
 - Costs associated with rehiring public sector staff, up to pre-pandemic levels
- Premium pay to “eligible workers” performing “essential work”
- “Provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue . . . due to the COVID–19 public health emergency ”
 - Code department staffing and operations expenses are eligible
 - Funds cannot used to replace revenues lost because of tax cuts tied to the receipt of State or Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
- Investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

CARES Act (2020)

- \$150B for states and localities >500,000
- No req. to provide funds to AHJs <500,000
- \$111.4B provided to states and \$27.6B to AHJs >500,000
- Covers “necessary expenditures” from the public health emergency, including code department hardware/software needs
- Funds may not be used to revenue shortfalls to cover staffing or operations that would not otherwise qualify
- Eligible costs incurred and funding spent: Mar. 1, 2020 – Dec. 31, 2021

American Rescue Plan (2021)

- \$350B provided to governments of all sizes
- All AHJs must receive funding by formula
- \$195.3B for states, \$65.1B for counties, \$45.6B for larger munis, \$19.5B for munis < 50,000
- Covers response “to the public health emergency,” code department hardware/software needs are eligible
- Funding may be used to rehiring public sector staff and for the “provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue . . . due to the COVID–19 public health emergency,” including for staffing and operations
- Eligible costs incurred and funding spent: Mar. 3, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2024

Code Department Surveys Reveal Needs

Spring 2020 Survey Revealed Virtual Needs

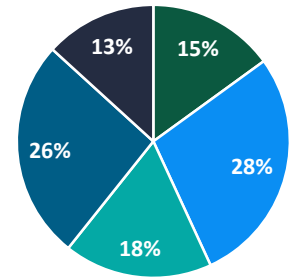
Survey of 1150 jurisdictions showed

- 2/10 lacked needed hard copy code books
- 3/10 lacked e-permitting capability and 4/10 e-plan review capability
- 6/10 lacked the capability to conduct virtual inspections

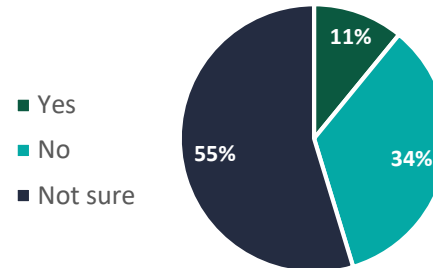
Fall 2020 Survey Use of Federal COVID-relief Funding

Has your department faced budget cuts?

- Yes, but we do not expect additional budget cuts
- Yes, and we expect additional budget cuts
- No, but we expect budget cuts
- No, and we do not expect budget cuts
- Not sure



Has your department used or does it expect to use the Coronavirus Relief Fund for virtual needs?



Code Departments are Critical

- Per DHS and every state, code officials are essential workers
- Protect health and life safety
- Disaster mitigation and response
- Facilitate construction, vital to our economic recovery
- [Full talking points available here](#)

Next Steps!

How to Access Fiscal Recovery Funds

1. Determine your staffing, operations, and/or hardware/software needs and assess costs.
2. Determine whether funding is available for your department.
 - Consult with the budget/finance department, county clerk, municipal league.
 - Check out ICC's Coronavirus Response Center – [Advocacy Resources](#) or email Advocacy@iccsafe.org for help.
3. Determine the purchasing/procurement process.
4. Track expenses and, where applicable, apply for reimbursement.

Fiscal Recovery Funds and ICC Solutions

Supporting department operations and enabling remote work

- [Digital Codes Premium](#)
- [Model Program for Online Services](#)
- NTA's [Third Party Plan Review](#)
- E-permitting with [Municipity](#)
- E-process and Records Management with [Laserfiche](#)
- Remote Virtual Inspections through [Inspected](#)
- General Code's [Custom Local Building Codes](#) and [MapLink](#)

Resources and Contact Info

Virtual Capabilities

- [Code Council Survey Results](#)
- [Going virtual](#)

Gabe Maser

Vice President, Government Relations

gmaser@iccsafe.org

202-730-3953

American Rescue Plan

- [Allocation specifics](#)
- [Fact Sheet: ARP Funding for Code Departments](#)
- [Talking points on why code department needs should be supported](#)
- [Coronavirus Advocacy Resources](#)