



The American Rescue Plan:
Funding for Code Departments
April 6, 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 initial distribution estimates.



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 10, 2021 (60 days)

2nd: 50% 12 months after the first tranche at the earliest

States and territories – TBD one or two tranches.

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

2nd: At the discretion of Treasury, up to 12 months from certification

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

1st: At least 50% by June 9, 2021 (30 days after state receipt, unless state receives 30-day extension)

2nd: 50% by June 2022 at the earliest (12 months)

The American Rescue Plan

Fiscal Recovery Funds – Eligible Costs

- Costs necessary “to respond to the public health emergency” or “its negative economic impacts”
 - Prior Treasury guidance interpreted “necessary expenditures . . . incurred due to the public health emergency” as including code department hardware and software investments for remote work
- Premium pay to 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
- Official guidance document from Treasury is TBA

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” or “its negative economic impacts,” code department hardware/software needs expected to be eligible
- Funding may be used 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

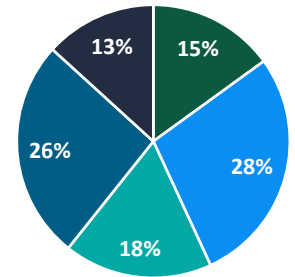
Survey of 1150 jurisdictions showed

- 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

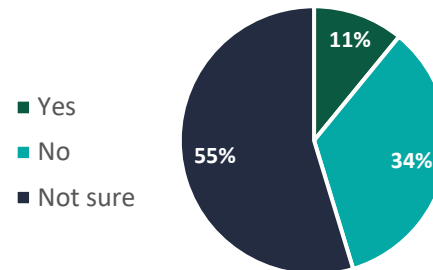
Fall 2020 Survey Use of Federal COVID-relief Funding

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.

Resources and Contact Info

Virtual Capabilities

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

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American Rescue Plan

- [Initial distribution estimates](#)
- [Fact Sheet: ARP Funding for Code Departments](#)
- [Talking points on why to support virtual needs](#)
- [Coronavirus Advocacy Resources](#)

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](#)



Digital Codes Premium

Digital Codes Premium

- **Work Faster, Navigate Smarter**

Navigate from section to section with ease using advanced search tools, reference links, color coded version changes and content tagging.

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Enterprise pricing available. Please inquire via enterprisesales@iccsafe.org

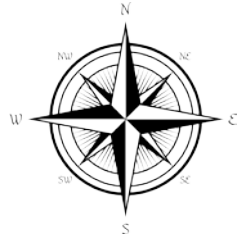


Model Program for Online Services (MPO)

MPO Overview

Best Practices

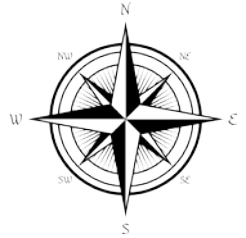
- The MPO Guide provides the code official with guidance and implementation of online permitting, electronic plan review and remote virtual inspections in response to the growing demand for and popularity of these services.
- The guidance is based on recommended best practices and the advice of building officials, industry professionals and inspection agencies. Training for staff and communication with customers is also discussed.



MPO Overview

Use Cases

- The purpose and scope of the Model Program for Online Services (MPO) is to provide guidance for the implementation processes to issue permits, provide plan review, and conduct inspections are also discussed.
- The MPO addresses items related to implementation and enforcement.
- Coming Soon: The MPO will be available in May at codes.iccsafe.org and shop.iccsafe.org.





Plan Review Services

ICC Plan Review Services



- Limited-Scope Plan Review/Technical Consulting Service
- Preliminary Plan Review
- Complete Plan Review

- Plans are reviewed to verify compliance with building codes and standards in multiple areas of discipline.
 - Residential and Commercial buildings, Accessibility, Electrical, Structural, Plumbing, Mechanical, Conservation & Energy, and Fire Safety

- Plan Review Portal Available for the Best Customer Experience
 - Track and review projects from anywhere
 - Digital Reports available for download
 - Upload and tag files
 - Automated notifications on progress of plan review

- Professional engineers registered in all 50 states, Guam District of Columbia, and parts of Canada

- More Information Available Contact Ben Chisholm at bchisolm@icc-nta.org or visit www.iccsafe.org/products-and-services/plan-review-services/



COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS

Digital Transformation for Community Development and Regulation



- Formerly General Code Content Management Solutions. Acquired by ICC in 2017
- Provide business automation solutions for local governments using state-of-the-art software while providing customer support



Integrated Software Solutions



Services

- Business Process Design
- Integration programming
- Implementation and Training
- Project Management
- Award-winning post-installation customer support

GENERAL CODE

Custom Local Building Codes and MapLink

Custom Local Building Codes (CLBC)

Combines code content adopted at the local level currently referenced from multiple sources into a unified code accessed through the Digital Codes Premium platform



CLBC Benefits

- Consolidates User Experience
 - Provides one central platform for I-Codes and all local code amendments
- Improves Public Transparency and Convenience
 - Free public access provided to combined code at no cost to users
- Enhances Functionality for Building Officials and Staff
 - Municipal users enjoy full feature benefits of Digital Codes Premium, mobile access to the content, and linking to the municipal code
- Saves Municipal Staff Time / Speeds Service for Constituents
 - Architects, engineers, contractors and tradespeople will quickly and easily find current regulations and requirements for projects, reducing the volume of inquiries to municipal staff
- Easy, Accurate Updates
 - All amended code content is kept up to date by General Code's expert staff

MapLink

Provides a simple to use GIS-based interactive zoning map that allows searches for zoning code by district, allowable uses or address.

- Quickly answers essential questions about a municipality's zoning code: "What can I do with my property?" "Where can I put my business?"

No-Impact Home-Based business

Land Use Details

Definition: A business or commercial activity administered or conducted as an accessory use which is clearly secondary to the use as a residential dwelling and which involves no customer, client or patron, no delivery of goods or services, no vehicular or pedestrian, pickup, delivery or removal functions, to or from the premises in a manner normally associated with residential use. The business or commercial activity must satisfy the following:

- (a) The business activity shall be compatible with the residential use of the property and surrounding neighborhood.
- (b) The business shall employ no employees other than family members residing in the dwelling.
- (c) There shall be no display or sale of retail goods and no stockpiling or inventory of a substantial amount of goods or materials.
- (d) There shall be no outside appearance of a business use, including, but not limited to, parking, signs, lighting, or other structures.
- (e) The business activity may not use any equipment or process which creates noise, vibration, glare, or electrical or electronic interference, including interference with radio or television reception, which is normally associated with residential use in the neighborhood.
- (f) The business activity may not generate any solid waste or sewerage discharge, in volume or type normally associated with residential use in the neighborhood.
- (g) The business activity shall be conducted only within the dwelling and may not occupy more than 25% of the habitable floor area.
- (h) The business may not involve any illegal activity.

Development Requirements: Additional development standards for this use have not been explicitly stated in the zoning ordinance.

Parking Requirements: The parking requirements for this use are not specifically stated in the zoning ordinance. The parking requirements for the most similar land use will be used.

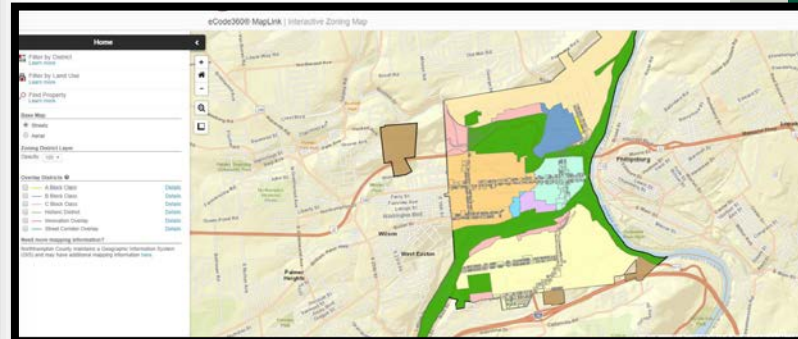
Review Procedures in this District

Zoning Application: If you are establishing a new use, a zoning application must be completed and submitted to the City of Easton. For more information, please refer to the Zoning Ordinance Procedure's details.

Dimensional Standards for District

- Accessory building height, maximum:** 15 feet
- Accessory building setback, rear yard, minimum:** 4 feet where no vehicular access exists; 10 feet otherwise.
- Accessory building setback, side yard, minimum:** 5 feet
- Building height, minimum:** 30 feet
- Building separation, minimum:** 5 feet
- Design Standards:** Additional design standards for this district can be found in §595-120. The context sensitive design standards of Article XXXV have been included in the General Requirements section of these site for your convenience.
- Other Dimensional Criteria:** Other dimensional criteria varies by land use and block. Please refer to the Table of Dimensional Criteria for the College Hill (AR) District.

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