

CITY OF CAMAS – ARPA TIMELINE

Details about federal information releases, City decision points, stakeholder engagement, fund delivery, and development of a spending plan

2021

03/11/2021	The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is signed into law by President Biden, providing guaranteed financial relief to local governments.
05/24/2021	The Interim Final Rule (IFR) is released, giving early guidance on eligible expenditures. Some uses are enumerated in the rule, but overall the IFR is broad and non-exhaustive.
06/07/2021	Washington Cities receive their letter from the Office of Financial Management (OFM) asking for confirmation that the City wishes to receive its allocated amount. City officials indicate acceptance.
06/17/2021	The U.S. Treasury releases additional compliance and reporting guidelines.
06/27/2021	The City receives the first half (tranche), \$3.4 million, of the total \$6.8 million allocated to it.
07/22/2021	Staff meet with the Mayor and City Administrator to draft a tentative plan for public engagement on ARPA funds.
08/02/2021	Staff provide City Council with an overview of the IFR. The possibility of using some funds to address utility arrearages, which were approaching the end of a collection moratorium, is first introduced.
08/26/2021	Staff begin participating in monthly roundtables with cities across the state, the Association of Washington Cities (AWC), and the Municipal Research Services Association (MRSC) to gain clearer understanding of the IFR.
09/07/2021	Staff again update City Council on ARPA policy guidelines, alongside discussion of fund balance and structural deficit. Funding of a major ERP replacement is introduced.
09/20/2021	The community is notified that funding is available to assist with utility arrearages. This assistance is funded by ARPA funds, as directed by City Council.
11/01/2021	Staff update City Council on using ARPA funds to mitigate utility arrearages.
11/08/2021	The City launches the first stage of the public engagement plan on Camas Engage, asking users to rank a high-level list of City Council priority areas for ARPA spending.
12/13/2021	Staff provide Camas Engage results to the leadership team and provide a matrix to help them in identifying and narrowing down eligible projects that align with Council and community priorities for spending areas.

2022

01/06/2022	The U.S. Treasury releases the Final Rule. This text provides clarity on the scope of how ARPA funds can be used, broadening some restrictions, and narrowing others. This threatened some projects under discussion for funding.
01/19/2022	Staff learns of a “Standard Allowance” for revenue loss. This reopens the option of using funds to replace lost revenue, since proof of loss, which is complicated by factors like mitigation efforts and combined revenue streams, is no longer required.
01/25/2022	Staff put a hold on the public engagement plans for February while the option to take a standard allowance is investigated, which could broaden the scope of eligible projects earmarked for funding with ARPA.

03/07/2022	Staff bring updated information to City Council regarding the new information about the standard allowance, and its ability to broaden eligible uses of funds.
4/30/2022	First report is due to the US Treasury. Currently, the City of Camas has spent \$80,600 for utility assistance and has tentatively pledged approximately \$1.4 million to the ERP system replacement. The City is likely required to submit the intention of whether to use the Standard Allowance in whole, in part or not at all.
06/27/2022	The City receives the second tranche, completing the total delivery of the \$6.8 million allocated to it.