



# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Internal Project Proposal Form

## Instructions

Please review the ARPA guidelines and allowable uses for SLFRF funds before completing this form. Complete this form to the best of your ability, and answer questions in complete sentences. Any questions about projects or information to include in the form should be addressed to *both* Everett Ashford ([Everett.Ashford@gastongov.com](mailto:Everett.Ashford@gastongov.com)) and Jake Weist ([Jacob.Weist@gastongov.com](mailto:Jacob.Weist@gastongov.com)).

## About

Gaston County requests proposals from its internal departments for projects to help the community recover from and respond to COVID-19, as well as propel our community forward through eligible uses of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund monies.

Gaston County has been awarded \$43,612,126 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (Recovery Funding), as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. This infusion of federal resources is intended to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

Gaston County is committed to investing these funds in projects that:

- Align to county strategic plan and community priorities
- Support equitable outcomes for most impacted populations
- Leverage and align with other governmental funding sources
- Make best use of this one-time infusion of resources
- Have a lasting impact

[Click here to read the County's ARPA project selection process, including a project ranking methodology.](#)

[Click here to learn more about compliance.](#)

[Click here to learn more about eligible uses of the County's ARPA funding.](#)

## Timeline

- May 2021: County received initial ARPA funding
- August 31, 2021: Began quarterly financial reporting

- December 31, 2022: Second quarterly report
- December 2024: All funds must be encumbered
- December 2026: All funds must be spent

## Form Instructions

**Availability:** This form will not close. Submissions will be reviewed in the order they are received.

**Save and Resume Later:** Clicking the Save button (bottom right of form) will save your progress and allow you to either copy or email a personalized link to your in-progress entry. This link may be shared with others. Anyone who has the link to the saved form entry can pick up where you left off and complete your submission.

**Submit:** When your form is complete and ready for review by the ARPA Project Review Committee, click submit. You will not be able to edit the form after you click submit. If you need make any changes to your form after submission, please contact Budget.

**Confirmation Email:** When you click submit, you will receive a confirmation email to the email address listed in the "Primary Contact Personnel Email" field. It will include a copy of your entry details in the body of the email, as well as a link for viewing your submission online, which may be shared with anyone.

## Questions?

Contact Everett Ashford and Jake Weist

[Everett.Ashford@gastongov.com](mailto:Everett.Ashford@gastongov.com) & [Jacob.Weist@gastongov.com](mailto:Jacob.Weist@gastongov.com)

## Project Description

### Project Name

ARPA Project Coordinator

### Department Name and Number

4265 - Public Works

### Primary Contact Personnel

Dan	Ziehm
First	Last

### Primary Contact Personnel Email

Dan.Ziehm@gastongov.com

**Location of Project (if applicable)**

Address Line 1

P.O. Box 1578

Address Line 2

Gastonia

North Carolina

28053-1578

City

State

Zip Code

**Treasury Expenditure Category Level**

5. Infrastructure

**Treasury Expenditure Category**

5.18 - Water and Sewer: Other

Please refer to the [SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance](#) for the expenditure categories at the end of the document on pages 42-46 and report the one that corresponds with your project.

**Description of Project**

Positions will oversee complex projects of the following capital projects that may design and construction management of waterline extensions to include Chapel Grove waterline extension, Lowell Elementary waterline extension, North Belmont Park waterline extension, Tryon Elementary waterline extension, as well as Domestic Violence Shelter Housing Expansion, and other eligible ARPA projects.

*Provide a short summary of your proposed project.*

**Project Start Date**

1/2/2023

**Project End Date**

12/31/2026

**Project Plan**

The Project Coordinator(s) will oversee the design and construction management of complex infrastructure projects that entail multiple inter-local agreements executed between Gaston County Government, various municipalities within Gaston County, Two Rivers Utilities, and potentially Lincoln County Water. The timeframe for the projects could take a minimum of 8-12 months for design (project specific) and 12-24 months for construction (project specific).

*Explain how the project will be structured and implemented, including timeframe.*

**Please explain both the NC state and federal legal authority to undertake this program.**

Gaston County Government has the authority to design and construct water and sewer infrastructure.

**Link to COVID-19 IF Project is under Expenditure Category Levels 1-4, NOT Required for Levels 5-7**

Identify a health or economic harm resulting from or exacerbated by the public health emergency, describe the nature and extent of that harm, and explain how the use of this funding would address such harm.

### Statement of Need

Some of the current waterline projects are served by groundwater wells and/or community well systems. Past droughts and mining activities in the area have resulted in a shortage of sufficient drinking water for some communities. In addition to some of the schools within Gaston County are not able to supply a clean water source on their own.

*Describe the need that this project will address. Include data to demonstrate the need, and cite the source of the data.*

### Population Served (Is it serving a QCT [Qualified Census Tract] or disproportionately impacted communities?)

QCT - 305.02, 307.00, 310.01, 310.03, 310.04, 317.04, 332.04

*Define the population to be served by this project, including volume and demographic characteristics of those served.*

### Results

Gaston Schools should be able to compare operations/maintenance cost before and after the waterline extension.

*Describe the proposed impact of the project. List at least 3 performance measures that will be tracked and reported. If possible, include baselines and goals for each performance measure.*

### Evaluation

Gaston County Environmental Health will have data relative to monitoring the wells in the area for contamination and low flow.

*Describe the data collection, analysis, and quality assurance measures you will use to assure ongoing, effective tracking of contract requirements and outcomes.*

### Equity Impact

Underserved populations and neighborhoods may have the greatest pandemic recovery needs. Funding for waterline projects will deliver safe and affordable water to venerable communities and community parks

### Project Partners

Various project partners not limited to: Gaston County Schools, Two Rivers Utilities, City of Gastonia, Town of Lowell, City of Mt. Holly, City of Cherryville, Bessemer City, Gaston County Parks and Recreation, and Lincoln County.

*Identify any subcontractors you intend to use for the proposed scope of work. For each subcontractor listed, indicate:*

- 1.) *What products and/or services are to be supplied by that subcontractor and;*
  - 2) *What percentage of the overall scope of work that subcontractor will perform.*
- Also, list non-funded key partners critical to project.*

### Capacity

*Describe the background, experience, and capabilities of your organization or department as it relates to capacity for delivering the proposed project and managing federal funds.*

**Special Considerations**

*Provide any other information that might assist the County in its selection.*

**Which of the County's three strategic focus areas best describes the purpose of this request?**

Community health, safety, and wellbeing

## Project Budget

**Budget**

Estimated salaries and benefits for FY23-26

Provide a detailed project budget including all proposed project revenues and expenditures, including explanations and methodology. If you prefer to upload an Excel budget, you may do so below in "Attachments."

**Attachments**

ARPA Positions Budget Revised by TRM.xlsx

## Revenues

If your project will be supported by a combination of funds in addition to ARPA funding, please list them here. For all revenue sources, list the funder and denote whether funds are confirmed or pending. If you are requesting a 100% ARPA-funded project, please indicate how much you plan to spend each fiscal year.

Untitled	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
ARPA Grant Funding		\$228,071. 00	\$235,413. 00	\$243,151. 00	\$250,993. 00

