



English 

Introduction

Granite City Community Innovation (ARPA) Funds Survey

About this survey

The City of Barre is seeking your input on how Community Innovation, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds should be spent to benefit City of Barre residents. The ideas included in this survey reflect priorities identified by residents in the [All In For Barre Report and Action Plan](#), those brought forward through the [Innovation Funding Letters of Interests](#) and priorities identified in the [City of Barre's Capital Improvement Plan \(CIP\)](#).

Is this survey anonymous?

Yes, this survey is anonymous. It does not collect name or contact information.

How long will the survey take?

This survey should take no more than 5-7 minutes.

How long will the survey be open?

This survey will be open until December 7th, 2022.

Where can I learn more about this survey?

A hybrid in-person/live video public forum will be held on **November 15th, 6:30-8:00pm at Alumni Hall, 20 Auditorium Hill** to further discuss ideas and opportunities included in this survey. To learn more about the forum or to reach the live video link, go to www.barrecity.org



For all accessibility requests, please email:

execassist@barrecity.org

For further questions regarding this survey or the upcoming public forum, please email Nicolas Storellicastro, Barre City Manager at: citymanager@barrecity.org

More on Community Innovation, ARPA Funds

What are Community Innovation Funds?

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), the City of Barre has special, one-time funding to support transformative community projects which can be leveraged by additional funding from outside organizations. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which provides \$350 billion to state and local governments across the nation for the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Of Vermont's \$1.25 billion share, over \$200 million (about \$300 per Vermonter) was allocated to municipalities. The City of Barre received \$2.5 million and needs to decide what to spend these funds on by December 31, 2024. The funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.

This survey is one step in the process of understanding how best to use ARPA funds to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic in a way which reflects the needs and interests of those living and working in the City of Barre.

Participant Information

Section 1: Demographic Information

This survey is anonymous and does not collect name or personal contact information. Providing the following demographic information helps us understand if we are conducting an inclusive engagement process. Please select all answers that best represent your identity.

How old are you?

- Under 18
- 18-24 years old
- 25-34 years old
- 35-44 years old
- 45-54 years old
- 55-64 years old
- 65+ years old
- Prefer not to say

Choose one or more races that you consider yourself to be

- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- American Indian/Native American or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin
- Yes, Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin
- Another race, ethnicity, or origin
- Prefer not to say

How do you describe yourself?

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary / third gender
- Prefer to self-describe
- Prefer not to say

How many children under 18 live with you?

- No children under 18 currently live with me
- 1 child under 18 lives with me
- 2 or more children under 18 live with me
- Prefer not to say

What best describes you?

- I rent the house/unit I live in
- I own the house/unit I live in
- I do not rent or own the house/unit I live in
- Prefer not to say

Are you a person with a disability?

- No, I do not have a disability
- Yes, I have a disability
- Prefer not to say

Housing

Section 2: Housing The following questions respond to opportunities and challenges residents have brought forward related to improving housing conditions, housing availability, and housing affordability in the City of Barre.

How important do you think the following types of initiatives are as they relate to housing needs in the City of Barre?

Not important Somewhat important Important Very important

Create funding assistance program/s for first time home owners and low-income households.

Increase temporary housing and emergency sheltering options for residents needing these services.

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Complete a feasibility study to understand what land is available for developing new housing stock.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create funding assistance program/s to support the repair, updating, and weatherizing of current housing stock.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Community Programs and Services

Section 3: Community Programs and Services

The following questions respond to opportunities and challenges residents have brought forward related to improving existing and/or creating new community programs or services in the City of Barre (examples include, but not limited to: social, cultural, educational, recreational, health, or nutrition programs or services) .

How important do you think each of the following types of initiatives are for City of Barre residents.

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Increase access to online and in-person community programs available specifically for older residents, 65 and older.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase access to school-age youth and teen after school and weekend events and programs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide programs and events to orient and welcome new residents.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide free, public events which celebrate local food, traditions, cultures, seasons and the arts.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase access and affordability to infant and preschool childcare and education programs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide programs and events which offer career training and workforce development.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Provide programs and events to boost local business, start-ups, and entrepreneurship.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create a City of Barre Community Center, a central, accessible, indoor space dedicated to community programs for all residents.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Streets and Sidewalks

Section 4: Streets and Sidewalks

The following questions respond to opportunities and challenges residents have brought forward related to improving streets and sidewalks (including but not limited to those driving, busing, cycling, walking and using a wheelchair) in the City of Barre.

How important do you think each of the following types of initiatives are for the City of Barre.

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Improve walking and cycling connections between schools, residential areas, and downtown services and amenities for use during day and after dark hours, including ADA (American Disability Act) compliant design requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve bus stop conditions, such as adding bus shelters.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide programs, projects and events that encourage public art on or adjacent to downtown sidewalks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve and expand signage to make way finding easier and to market businesses, services, and special places in the City of Barre.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expand opportunities for street tree planting, landscaping, benches, and trash/recycling bins.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Improve parking options and signage for parking in the City of Barre.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve year-round access to sidewalks in the winter months by consistent sidewalk plowing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Parks and Trails

Section 5: Parks and Trails

The following questions respond to opportunities and challenges residents have brought forward related to improving recreational trails, parks and playground conditions and connections in the City of Barre.

How important do you think each of the following types of initiatives are for the City of Barre.

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Improve and expand recreational trail connections in and around the City of Barre, including ADA (American Disability Act) compliant design requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve signage and way-finding for trails and parks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explore options for creating public access to the riverfront and river for recreational purposes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enhance trail and park offerings at cultural sites and museums in downtown.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expand public playground options and ensure ADA (American Disability Act) compliance and opportunities in public playgrounds.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve year-round access to trails and parks in the winter months by consistent trail and sidewalk plowing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Public Buildings and Utilities

Section 6: Public Buildings and Utilities

The following questions respond to priorities outlined in the City of Barre Capital Improvement Plan for maintenance and/or improvements of public buildings and utilities in the City of Barre.

How important do you think each of the following types of initiatives are for the City of Barre.

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Maintain and improve the condition of City Hall.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Maintain and improve the condition of Civic Center Facilities (Auditorium, B.O.R and Alumni Hall)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Maintain and improve the condition of the public safety building.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Understand current storm water impacts and improve storm water systems for flood prevention and water quality.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve energy efficiency of all City of Barre public buildings and phase in an electric fleet of vehicles.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Maintain and improve water treatment plant for safety, efficiency, and water quality.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Update all City of Barre public buildings to be ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliant, including but not limited to: parking, signage, bathrooms, entrances and exits.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Overall Priority Areas

Section 7: Overall Priority Areas

Given the priority areas discussed in this survey, where would you like to direct ARPA funding over the next three years? **Rank at least your top three priority areas** or all five priority areas. 1 = highest priority, 5= lowest priority.

1 2 3 4 5

Improve access to community programs and services (including but not limited to: social, cultural, economic, educational, or health programs and services).

1 2 3 4 5

Improve housing conditions, housing availability, and housing affordability. ○○○○○○

Improve and expand street and sidewalk safety, conditions and connections (including, but not limited to for those driving, busing, cycling, walking and using a wheelchair or stroller). ○○○○○○

Improve condition of and access to recreational trails, parks, and playgrounds, including the riverfront and river. ○○○○○○

Maintain and improve condition of city buildings and utilities, (including but not limited to: Civic Center, Alumni Hall, Public Safety Building, Wastewater, and Storm water systems). ○○○○○○

Proposed Projects

Section 8: Letter of Interest Projects

In September 2022, the City of Barre posted a Letter of Interest request for ARPA funding considerations. Groups of people, individuals, or organizations working for the public benefit in the City of Barre are eligible to apply. The list below are recent project proposals brought forward in the Letters of Interest request process. These projects range in size and scale and may require additional funding sources to be completed.

Rank at least your top five projects for receiving at least partial ARPA funding. 1 = highest priority, 12= lowest priority.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Barre Area Senior Center Visual Media Center upgrades for increased program offerings. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Spaulding High School athletic field upgrades. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Studio Place Arts' 'Walk Thru to Main Street' public art and improved street lighting project from city parking area to downtown businesses. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Civic Center ADA (American Disabilities Act) and other facility upgrades. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Install ADA compliant wheelchair swing in public playground. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Dedicated warming shelter and education space at Aldrich Public Library, Milne Room. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Bond field, external light installation for softball and baseball fields. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Purchase electric vehicles for Meals on Wheels program. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Granite City Apartments project, creating nine new apartments at the Ward 5 School. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Circle Women's Shelter safety and comfort upgrades to facilities and utilities. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Barre Opera House (BOH) external lighting and beautification project - illuminating BOH architecture and Main Street sidewalks. ○○○○○○○○○○○○ ○ ○ ○

Improve City of Barre website to be ADA accessible.



Other ideas

Section 9: What have we missed?

Thank you for completing this survey! If you have other innovative community project ideas, priority areas not mentioned, and/or questions or concerns related to this survey, please use the space below to tell us what they are.

