

PRESS RELEASE



Anchorage Assembly Hosts ARPA Investment Worksessions

March 9, 2022

The Anchorage Assembly is hosting a series of worksessions with organizations and individuals who received American Rescue Plan (ARPA) federal funding assistance through Assembly appropriations in 2021. The worksessions will help the Assembly learn more about how the funds were used, how residents of the municipality were impacted by the funds, and how to expand on successful projects with the next round of funds that are coming this spring.

The first session was a roundtable discussion hosted by Visit Anchorage, where tourism industry leaders reported on their ARPA grants and gave forecasts for the summer 2022 season. A recording is posted at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EYf5blmHt0>

At that session, Angie Oberlitner of Alaska Step on Guides shared, “I was so relieved to get the money. It paid for past debt, for both the licensing and insurance. It allowed us to get back on our feet to actually be able to serve people in 2021. It sustained us through that period of time where we were still in question—were people going to come?”

ARPA Investment Review Series Schedule:

- **March 10, 2-3:30pm: Session #2 Food Security, Housing and Urgent Needs**, at Food Bank of Alaska, 2192 Viking Dr. A tour of the new cold storage facility, funded by federal relief funds, will be followed by presentations from Food Bank of Alaska, thread, Camp Fire Alaska, Hillcrest Children’s Center and Covenant House Alaska.
- **March 18, 11:30-12:30pm: Session #3 Economic Development**, at City Hall, Suite 155. Presentations from Restaurant Rescue Meals Program, Anchorage Community Land Trust Set Up Shop, and the Business Boutique.
- **March 22, 1-2pm (tentative): Session #4 Families and Quality of Life**, at City Hall, Suite 155. Presentations by the Alaska Native Heritage Center, individual artists and cultural organizations.
- A worksession on workforce development may be added at a later date.

All worksessions are open to the public in person and on the Assembly’s YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZDEuWj4IxdlwBhqrk62_XA. *Note: the*

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Food Bank of Alaska tour from 2-2:30pm on March 10 will be in-person only; a live stream of the worksession from 2:30-3:30pm will be available on the YouTube channel.

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