

## PRESS RELEASE



### Process for Distributing Round Two of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds

**April 28, 2022**

Anchorage Assembly Chair Suzanne LaFrance has announced a proposed schedule for the Assembly to allocate the second round of funding through the American Rescue Plan Act. The Assembly is anticipating an installment of \$50 million to be transferred from the federal government in late May.

“The first rounds of federal relief helped us address urgent needs to keep people in their homes and keep businesses open,” said Chair LaFrance. “With this round, we will look to long-term projects and opportunities to build our workforce, assist local businesses, and support families for many years to come.”

#### Schedule

- **April 29:** Assembly Worksession #1 on ARPA funding priorities and process (10-2pm, City Hall, Suite 155)
- **May 6:** Assembly Worksession #2 on ARPA funding priorities and process (1-3pm, City Hall, Suite 155)
- **May 10:** Introduction of Draft ARPA Funding Plan at Regular Assembly Meeting
- **May 24:** Public hearing on ARPA Funding Plan at Regular Assembly Meeting
- **June 7:** Adoption of ARPA Funding Plan at Regular Assembly Meeting

#### Background

Over the past two years, the Assembly has distributed \$214M in federal relief funds through the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to help businesses, organizations and individuals survive the pandemic. Some of the beneficiaries of those funds shared how the funds impacted them:

“This saved our life. We were at the point where we were going to close our doors. We didn’t know what to do. And because of this program, we’re still open. We brought back our whole staff eventually. And we’re still surviving. And it’s all because of this program. If we hadn’t been a part of it, we would have closed and there would have been an empty café on 4th and K.” - *Brandi Rathbun, owner of Moose A’La Mode*

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“I’d like to thank the Assembly. Two years ago we were shut down by the mandate and it was probably one of the most challenging times of my life. This program was decisive. We were able to retain 15 employees because of the program.” - *Jason Motyka, co-owner of 49th State Brewing*

“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?” - *Angie Oberlitner, co-owner of Alaska Step on Guides*

### **ARPA Investment Review Series Videos:**

[KTUU - Anchorage Assembly is exploring how to best use next round of COVID relief funds](#)

#1: Tourism Industry – [click here to view](#)

#2: Food, Housing and Childcare – [click here to view](#)

#3: Economic Development – [click here to view](#)

#4: Families and Quality of Life – [click here to view](#)

#5: Workforce Development and Training – [click here to view](#)

#6: Arts and Culture – [click here to view](#)

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