

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2021

Greene County receives first ARP allocation

Last week Greene County received the first of a two-phase allocation as part of the federal government's American Rescue Plan. An initial deposit of \$28,464,260 arrived on May 19 and the second allocation is scheduled to arrive next year.

In total, Greene County will receive \$56,928,520 in ARP funding to support local efforts to recover from COVID-19.

While ARP is similar to the CARES Act of 2020 - both stimulus packages are designed to support the economic response and recovery related to COVID-19 - there are several differences with this new program. The two most notable differences being the timeframe for expenditures and the expanded qualifying uses. ARP funds are allowed to cover costs incurred by Dec. 31, 2024. Qualifying uses for ARP funds include:

- public health response
- COVID-19 mitigation efforts
- replacement of public sector revenue loss
- water and sewer infrastructure
- addressing negative economic impacts
- premium pay for essential workers
- broadband infrastructure.

For more information regarding ARP guidelines, visit https://home.treasury.gov/

While final guidance from the US Treasury is pending, work is ongoing at the County to prepare for the program locally. An ARP page is under development on the Greene County website and a phone number will be made available as a central communication

resource. The County is also scheduling outreach and informational meetings with area municipalities to ensure funds have the maximum benefit throughout Greene County. Lastly, the County is working to conduct assessments to further determine community needs.

"We understand there are a lot of questions related to these funds and we ask the community for their patience as we await the final guidelines from the US. Treasury and work to implement program details at the County level," said Presiding Commissioner Bob Dixon. "We also recognize that ARP is going to require a marathon approach versus a sprint approach to distribute these funds into our community in the manner they were intended."

More information will be made available as the County continues the program roll out. For ARP questions and more information, citizens and businesses are asked to email arpinfo@greenecountymo.gov.

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Greene County is the State of Missouri's fourth most populous county, serving more than 275,000 people (2010 census). Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

For additional information, contact Donna Barton, Public Information Officer, at 417-844-4311 or <u>dlbarton@greenecountymo.gov</u>.