

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Committee
FROM: Lyle Wray
RE: ARPA Funding for Regional Opportunities
DATE: August 3, 2021

CRCOG and other agencies, including CCM and other member municipalities have been discussing for a few months the opportunity or possibility of some portion of ARPA funding that was originally intended for counties to go towards regional opportunities via the COG.

Connecticut's total "county" apportionment was \$691 MM which, since Connecticut lacks functional counties, will be distributed to the individual towns on a population/proportional basis.

CRCOG would like to propose to the Policy Board (potentially) volunteer payments of 2% of the municipalities county portion to go towards CRCOG for regional recovery activities. Potential projects which would be vetted and approved by the Policy Board and participating municipalities would be as follows:

- Fully staffing regional recovery coordinator.
- Small business technical assistance.
- Grants to small businesses for digital payments systems or equipment necessary for online systems.
- Broadband implementation assistant grants (TBD).

Many of the above would be expansions of the tasks planned for the pending EDA grant, allowing CRCOG to reach more businesses and towns.

If all CRCOG towns were to participate in the voluntary payments, the total amount would be approximately \$3.77 million.

If the Executive Committee were to approve, CRCOG would send out letters to its member towns for an indication of interest in participation.