

ARPA FUNDING & SULLIVAN COUNTY

What We've Accomplished and What's Next to Do

What Is ARPA?

- **ARPA** refers to the **American Rescue Plan Act**, as enacted by Congress and the President in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Monies can be used in any of these ways:
 - Replace lost public sector revenue, to provide government services up to the amount of revenue lost due to the pandemic
 - Respond to the far-reaching public health and negative economic impacts of the pandemic, by supporting the health of communities, and helping households, small businesses, impacted industries, nonprofits, and the public sector recover from economic impacts
 - Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical sectors
 - Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, to support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand affordable access to broadband internet

How Was Sullivan County Eligible?

- Sullivan County applied for ARPA funding as soon as it was announced
- Sullivan County submitted a request for funding based on losses in:
 - Taxes (property and non-property)
 - Departmental income
 - Intergovernmental charges
 - Fees for licenses and permits
 - Fines and forfeitures
 - State and Federal aid
 - And more
- The Federal formula allowed for a growth factor of no more than **4.1%**
- After Sullivan County's submittal, the growth factor maximum was increased to **5.2%**, raising the County's available ARPA funding (for Revenue Replacement) by **\$2,133,258**

What Has Sullivan County Gotten?

- As of June 2021, we received **\$7,325,891** in ARPA funding
- This represents the first of two promised payments from the Federal government
- Another **\$7,325,891** is expected to be disbursed to us in June 2022
- When payouts are complete, we will have received a total of **\$14,651,782**

What Have We Done With What We Got?

- The Legislature, by majority vote, chose to spend the first round of funding on two large-scale efforts:
 - Accelerating and expanding the Division of Public Works' road and bridge maintenance and repair program - **\$3,750,000**
 - Undertaking SUNY Sullivan's Capital Improvements, including energy efficiencies and building envelope upgrades in order to keep the college open and save operating costs - **\$3,575,891**
- An initial intent was to use \$375,000 of that funding to provide "premium pay" to County employees who worked in exposed situations during the height of the pandemic, but the Legislature ultimately chose to apply existing County funding toward that initiative

What Will Be Done With the Next Round?

- Another **\$1.275 million** is needed to complete the Capital Improvements at SUNY Sullivan
- That will leave approximately **\$6 million** to be allocated by the Legislature, in a manner consistent with ARPA's requirements
- The Legislature must **make a decision by December 31, 2024** and **spend the funds by December 31, 2026**