Jefferson County, MT – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Upon review, the bill allocates $65.1 billion in direct federal aid to all counties based on their share of the U.S. population. Jefferson County will be receiving $2,370,188 in ARPA plans. The funds will be dispersed to the County over the next two years.

Allowable uses outlined in the bill include (but are not limited to):

- Responding to or mitigate the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 emergency or its **negative economic impacts**;
  - Social safety-net services
  - Small business support
  - Non-profit support
  - Economic Development
  - Hospitality/tourism support
- Responding to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by **providing premium pay to eligible workers** of the county that are performing such essential work, or by **providing grants to eligible employers** that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
  - Social safety-net services
  - Non-profit support
- Providing government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue; and
- Make necessary **investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure**.
  - Infrastructure expansion

The U.S. Treasury *has not* released their full guidelines yet, nor submission instructions. However, the National Association of Counties (NACO) has worked with the Treasury Department to establish the criteria mentioned above. During the next 30 days, the County will be soliciting public comment throughout the County.

During this time, it is anticipated that the full guidelines and submission instructions will be finalized and released to the County. Prior to finalization, The APRA plan and budget will be compared against the guidelines to ensure accuracy. Once complete, the APRA plan and budget will be posted on the County’s website. Hard copies will also be available.