
An aerial photograph of a rural town. In the center, there is a white church with a tall steeple. To the left of the church is a large red barn. The town is surrounded by green fields and trees. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear sky.

ARPA Community Input Session #1

Sunday, April 10 at 2:00pm

What is ARPA?

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) included \$350 billion in pandemic-related aid for state and local governments. Congress directed nearly \$200 million of that funding directly to Vermont's cities, towns, and villages.

Peacham is directly receiving \$214,000.

Key Objectives of ARPA Funding:

- **Fight the pandemic** and support families and businesses struggling with its public health and economic impacts
 - **Maintain vital public services**, even amid declines in revenue resulting from the crisis
 - **Build a strong, resilient, and equitable recovery** by making investments that support long-term growth and opportunity
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ARPA - Vermont (continued)

Investments that *revitalize a community*, making it a better and safer place to live for existing residents and to help in attracting new ones:

- Outdoor recreation (trails, parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, etc.)
- Diversity, equity, inclusion (DEI)
- High-quality affordable childcare
- Measures to support housing development to grow the tax base
- Bike and pedestrian safety
- Community gathering spaces
- Support for local non-profits doing excellent work that benefits residents
- Water, sewer and broadband



<https://www.vlct.org/arpa>



The top action ideas from “Community Conversations” were:

Support Working Farms & Land Conservation with Policies and Developing a Market for Their Products, including the Village Farm;
Develop More Affordable Housing Options, especially Younger People;
Create a Time Bank to Exchange Services Between Community Members;
Improve Broadband & Cellular Connectivity;
Develop an Accessible Community Calendar;
Tennis Court Redevelopment;
Develop a 15-Year Energy Vision;
Volunteer and Leadership Mentorship Program;
Redevelop Town Hall Complex;
Revitalize Village Center;
Develop a Community Fund for Peacham Initiatives & Projects;
Improve Access of Activities for All;

Pursue Liability Coverage for Community Activities & Events;
Reboot the Peacham Events & Activities Committee;
Improve Communication and Coordination Between Groups and Municipality;
Engage with School to Develop Student Volunteers;
Develop Peacham “Destination” Attraction;
Develop Community Resiliency Center;
Explore Ways to be More Diverse: A Diversity Initiative---Bring Together Groups and Residents;
Explore the Development of a Performance Space Venue; and
Explore Development of a Community Center.

Decision-Making Considerations

What creates the greatest benefit for the largest number of Peacham residents?

Are there other methods of funding the project, other than through ARPA?

Should all of the funds be spent now, or should some be reserved for future strategic needs?

What was the original intent of ARPA? (including key objectives, funding criteria that emphasized infrastructure, etc.)

Were there to be another pandemic, would this investment of funding have mattered?



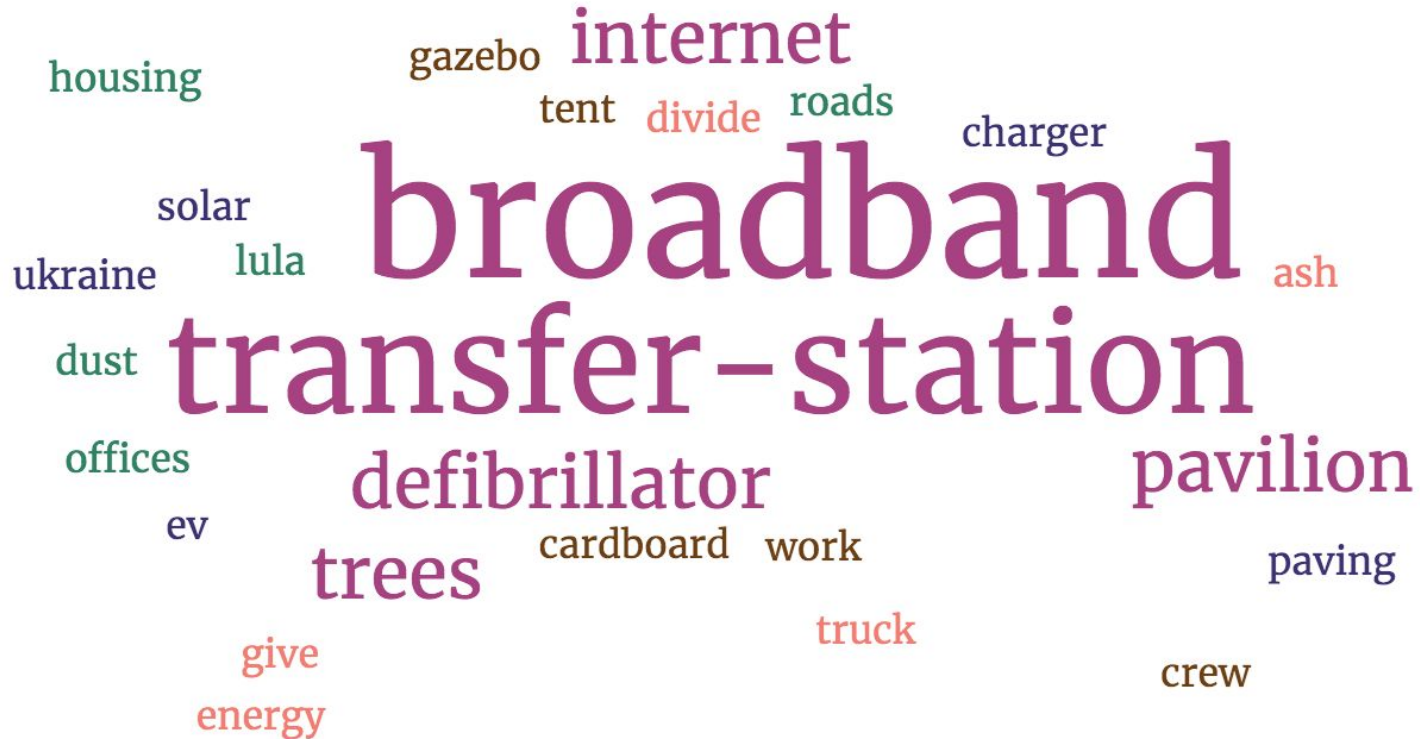
Community Input

Photo by Wes Lavin, via For the Love of Peacham

Proposals Submitted (as of 4/10/2022)

<u>Organization:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Requested:</u>
Fire District #1	Fire District Infrastructure	\$25,000
Fire District #1	Drill Third Well	\$60,000
Pavilion Committee	Peacham Pavilion	TBD
Fire Department	Fire Department Marquee	\$394. ⁹⁵
Fire Department	Fire Department EMS Vehicle	\$85,000
Broadband Committee	High Speed Fiber Backbone	\$30,000
Peacham Library	Community Patio	\$25,000

Recommendations Submitted (as of 4/10/2022)





Community Input

Photo by Kevin Flanders, via For the Love of Peacham

Coming Up:

- Proposal due by 4/18
- Community Input Session #2 ~ 4/24 at 2pm

Details, updated proposals, and contact information at peacham.org/arpa

Contact: selectboardclerk@peacham.org.
