

PROPOSED ARPA ACTION PLAN

ROAD PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
PLUMBROOK ROAD RESURFACING	\$4,000,000	Summer 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This project involves providing a new asphalt surface for all 2.5 miles of Plumbrook Road, from Van Dyke Avenue to Utica Road. New traffic signals will be installed at the intersection of Plumbrook Road and 17 Mile Road on mast arms, replacing the existing diagonal wire span signals. The mast arms will be similar to the signal at the Dodge Park Road/17 Mile Road intersection. Other scope items will include various sidewalk improvements, tree plantings, drainage improvements, and signage and striping improvements. The intersection improvements will include upgrades of the signalization and pedestrian crossings and will meet all current ADA requirements. The project is anticipated to begin in late Summer/early Fall of 2022 and continue into the Spring of 2023.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
RYAN ROAD CONCRETE REPAIRS	\$1,600,000	April 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This project includes concrete repairs of deteriorated concrete pavement between 14 Mile Road and Metropolitan Parkway. The project will extend the roadway life and mitigate the need for the cold patches that have been used extensively this winter due to the freeze/thaw cycles and winter wear.

PARK PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
ITC CORRIDOR MULTI-USE PATH	\$2,500,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This path will provide a major link between the Iron Bell Trail and the northeast quadrant of the City, which will also include the transformational development at Lakeside. This project will provide 2 miles of trail commencing at Clinton River Road heading north to connections at Schoenherr Road and Hall Road. The City has engaged in negotiations with ITC for joint use of their corridor. The final design will consist of 10 foot wide shared use paved path with ample room for walkers and bikers. This project is consistent with the City's 2030 vision plan to provide an abundance of trails for biking and walking. The trail will enable recreation for people of all abilities.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
LAND ACQUISITION FOR RIVERLAND PARK IMPROVEMENTS	\$1,000,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This funding will be used in combination with funding from the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) for land acquisition to begin the redevelopment of the North Van Dyke District as part of the North Van Dyke Redevelopment Plan. Redevelopment will include public spaces for gathering, will activate the corridor as a place for people, and will provide connections to existing City assets. The vision will be guided by the best practices in planning, urban design, sustainability, equity, place making and economic development.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
LAND ACQUISITION FOR PARK IN SOUTH END OF CITY	\$1,000,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This funding is reserved to use in combination with a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) for the potential purchase of the open space adjacent to Fillmore Elementary School. MNRTF grant funding cannot be used for acquisition of existing buildings, so further analysis is needed to determine the highest and best use for the existing school building. This property is located in a Qualified Census Tract, meaning 50% of households have incomes below 60% of the Area Median Gross Income.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
ENHANCED SIDEWALK GAP PROGRAM	\$2,000,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This project will enhance the City's sidewalk program by filling sidewalk gaps throughout the community to increase the walkability. The funds will be utilized to construct sidewalks along the east side of Mound Road and other priority sidewalk locations. Funds will also be utilized to proceed with land acquisition needed to complete long-standing gaps that have existed due to the lack of rights of way. Closing sidewalk gaps provides greater handicap accessibility to more areas of the city. Sidewalks will be constructed to meet all current ADA standards.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
NEIGHBORHOOD STREET TREE PLANTING	\$500,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



\$144,000 will be allocated toward a street tree inventory that will provide a thorough assessment of each tree in the City rights of way and will include mapping of all trees onto the City's GIS system. The information provided from this inventory will also be used to estimate the cost savings realized by tree planting. The remaining funding will be combined with a \$250,000 MEDC grant to plant approximately 2,000 trees over the next three years. Tree planting is critical for a sustainable future. By creating oxygen and storing carbon, trees help counter climate change and can also help prevent flooding and soil erosion.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
COMMUNITY GARDEN	\$250,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



A thriving community garden is an integral part of establishing a sustainable Sterling Heights. Other benefits associated with a community garden include: improved air and soil quality, improved water infiltration, increased access to fresh foods, increased physical activity through garden maintenance activities, increased fruit and vegetable intake, reduced risk of obesity and obesity-related diseases, increased property values, and building community engagement. Limited access to healthy foods, such as fruits and vegetables, is a major barrier to healthy eating. Expensive fruits and vegetables may also be cost prohibitive for low-income families. Community gardens provide residents the opportunity to grow their own fruits and vegetables, increasing access and affordability. The program will be designed so that there is a continuity of commitment from participants to ensure its success. Location will be a key factor in success, as the community garden will need to be accessible, secure, and in close proximity to a water source. By-laws and participation agreements will need to be developed. If we are able to establish a strong foundation, the Sterling Heights community garden will flourish.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
MICRO-FOREST	\$1,000,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



A Micro-Forest is an urban sanctuary—a dense pocket of vegetation in the city or the suburbs. It contains trees, shrubs, climbers, and groundcovers densely planted to create a mini-ecosystem that has a cooling effect and dramatically improves the amenity of the area. Micro-Forests are being planted in downtowns, public parks, corporate campuses, industrial parks, and in backyards, really, anywhere there is 1,000 square feet of vacant land. This growing trend is justified by the tremendous environmental benefits derived from a forest, including cleaner air, a natural water filtration system, a natural air conditioner, a flood mitigation system, a natural habitat for all forms of life, a natural recreational amenity for people seeking peace and quiet. In just three years, a Micro-Forest is self-sustaining and requires no further cultivation. In ten years, Sterling Heights will have restored a natural asset that will pay huge dividends for the generations of residents that will follow.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
RETENTION POND IMPROVEMENTS	\$500,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



The City will undertake a comprehensive plan to rehabilitate the regional retention ponds. These ponds are typically adjacent to parks, neighborhoods, and major roads, and in some cases are utilized for recreational purposes. The goal is to improve the appearance of retention ponds by planting trees, native grasses, and replacing deteriorated and rusty fences. In addition, invasive species treatment and removal from the perimeter and center of retention ponds will increase aesthetics of the pond and improve proper storm water flow. This initiative is consistent with the City's Sustainability Plan.

**City of Sterling Heights
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds
Proposed ARPA Action Plan**



PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
COMPREHENSIVE TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY	\$100,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



This funding will pay for a comprehensive city traffic plan that will serve as a guidebook for all traffic issues. Through the use of traffic safety professionals and consultants the City will not only address current traffic safety concerns but also future challenges as the City continues to grow and diversify. Priority roadways need to be identified and all available traffic safety solutions must be considered, including: Traffic Enforcement, Portable Radar Signage, Public Education, Speed Humps, Speed Dots, Traffic Circles, Medians, Curb Extensions, Lane Striping, Chicanes/Slow Points, Full/Partial Lane Closure, and Residential/Commercial Parking. The city traffic plan will also outline how to uniformly handle traffic complaints and requests for traffic calming measures in residential or commercial areas utilizing a fair and impartial review process.

OTHER PROJECTS

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
DIRECT HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE	\$500,000	IN PROGRESS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project provides direct household assistance to low to moderate-income households who are assumed to have had a financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible households can apply for up to \$2,000 of financial assistance toward property tax bills, water bills, or other city issued bills on a reimbursement basis. To date, \$108,000 of assistance has been provided to 54 households.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
JOB TRAINING FOR UNEMPLOYED WORKERS	\$500,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will involve collaborating with Michigan Works, Macomb Community College and other partners to develop a scholarship program to fund job training for unemployed workers.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
PREMIUM PAY FOR ESSENTIAL CITY WORKERS	\$505,320	COMPLETED

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Premium pay of \$1,000 (maximum) was provided to essential City workers who were “deemed critical to protecting the health and well-being of residents” during the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
TEMPORARY CODE ENFORCEMENT	\$300,000	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

These funds will be used to implement a plan to combat the increase of illegal marijuana grow operations throughout the City.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$50,000	ONGOING

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

\$50,000 has been allocated for expenses related to administering the ARPA funding. Expenditures have been incurred for the creation of project displays used in the Community Investment Forums.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	PRELIMINARY START DATE
UNALLOCATED FUNDS	\$3,531,940	TBD

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed plan leaves approximately \$3.5 million unallocated for future projects, capital expenditures, and contingencies. Some additional ideas include:

- ✓ Home improvement assistance program to help with energy efficiencies and other quality improvements for financially challenged individuals.
- ✓ Matching funds for potential Federal, State and County projects that benefit Sterling Heights.

PROJECT NAME	FUNDING AMOUNT	SPENT TO DATE
TOTAL FUNDS	\$19,837,260	\$644,790