

ARPA Public Meeting Input – August 18, 2021

Downtown/Community Investment

- Dilapidated Structures
- Public nuisance buildings
- Decker's Creek cleanup – support trout fishing
- Inventory of structures
- Wilson Works building – small business incubator
- B&O reduction
- Façade grants
- Imminent domain to remove blighted properties
- Re-route large trucks
- Public bathrooms
- Fire fee for building re-investment (new/old)
- New library
- Truck weigh station in Sabraton after Greenbag Rd. turn
- Assistance w/ rehabbing properties
- Invest in comprehensive sidewalk program
- 24-hour drop-in shelter – either downtown or shuttle to Hope Hill (old Ramada)
- More pedestrian friendly connections between waterfront/wharf/every intersection
- Light it
- Demolish Warner theater or renovate. Set deadline. (Keep façade?)
- Sidewalks to schools (ex.: Dorsey Ave to Mountainview)
- Water stations downtown
- CVB staff at Hazel Ruby (Welcome Center) at trail side
- Winter access to restrooms at HRMP

Technology

- Broadband infrastructure (rail trails, new)
- Hybrid meetings
- Expand technology infrastructure at library's
- CCTV / Speed cameras
- Energy efficiencies in public buildings/vehicles (Green Team)
- Renewable Energy (solar)
- Coordinate traffic lights
- Technology equipment (free) to public
- City owned broadband infrastructure
- Free WiFi at all public buildings (Wiles Hill Sr. Center)

Strong, Vibrant Businesses

- Grant program for small businesses (\$5k to \$10K)
 - Can be city-wide, but focus efforts on downtown and small neighborhood businesses
- Incentives for development in specific areas of town (downtown, wharf district, area neighborhoods with small commercial nodes)
- Beautify downtown
 - Improve sidewalks
 - Create opportunities for outdoor dining spaces
 - Renovate existing buildings
- Work with property owners to reduce rents for small business development
- Facilitate the development of 'flex retail space'
 - Could work with a property owner or acquire property through the Land Reuse Agency
- Multiuse, multipurpose business incubator space (Wilson Works along Decker's Creek)
- Assist small businesses with worker retention efforts (sign on bonuses, retention bonuses, etc.)
- Community Kitchen for small business development
 - Help create App for special ingredients (supplies) that may not be readily available in the area
- Make investments in lighting along the Caperton Rail Trail (safety concerns in the evening/night)
- Look into the feasibility of installing Blue (Emergency) Lights along the trail
- Look at city-owned property to identify opportunities for new access to the trails, as well as locations to support pop-up markets or food trucks
- Increase the use (programs and events) of the Farmers Market
- Look at ways to incentivize more housing options downtown, including affordable housing
- Provide grants to the local arts economy to brand their business and help them gain a presence online to sale their artwork
- Downtown movie theater
- Bookstore
- Take care of the blighted housing
- Marketing campaign to mitigate negative perception associated with getting permits and development in the City (planning, zoning, code regulations)
- Use eminent domain to purchase powerplant and condemn it
- Facilitate the development of small grocers in area neighborhoods
- Truck traffic on St. Route 7
- Looking at zoning (parking) requirements – they can discourage small business/redevelopment efforts
- Establish free legal services (clinic) for small business development
- EV charging stations
- Bike parking facilities
 - Equip parking garages with bike racks, storage lockers, etc.
- Holistic Health Network
 - Look for partners to monitor innovations in new products

Water and Sewer Infrastructure

- Don Knotts pedestrian overpass
- Upper Popanoe Run sanitary and storm upgrade
- Dorsey Ave sidewalk
- Grafton Road sidewalk
- Burroughs Run sewer upgrade
- Fire station for rail trail
- Mile marker #7 & #8 rail trail stabilization (sewer main issue)
- Stormwater issues (rail trail and arboretum, include WVU)
- Rail Trail added to Flagel Dam project

Public Health, Social Services, Emergency Services and Planning

- Support for needle exchange program – new challenges
- Provide unemployment benefits that were cut off by Gov Justice
- Prevent evictions and foreclosures
- Bonus, premium pay for essential workers
- Incentive program for landlords who protect their tenants
- Direct cash payments to residents
- Invest in already-established social justice programs
- Affordable child-care, before and after school
- Menstrual products for low-income individuals
- Permanent emergency housing – can be from city services – weather
- Girls on the Run
- Feasibility study of a privatized city administration
- Career development for older folks – resume building, career return training
- 24-hour drop-in center
- Mobile health unit – preferably staffed by minority group members
- Addressing disparities in race and income
- Increased covid testing in schools, vaccines?
- Affordable housing (without pushing numbers out)
- Emergency mental health service (not just police)
- More public health, social services, emergency planning
- Innovative drug and alcohol treatment options
- Audit algorithm to make sure systems used to train police are actively unbiased
- Use Huntington's data model for overdoses – what works, what does not
- Grant to fund more social workers, counselors
- Green Pharma – holistic/alternative health
- Develop plan for social workers to avoid burnout
- Youth cycling coalition – free bikes for kids to encourage outside activity/rides on rail trail