MONADNOCK BROADBAND GROUP MEETING

APRIL 1, 2021 (3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.)

SWRPC.ORG/BROADBAND
ZOOM TIPS

PROVIDING FEEDBACK

2. Click the Participants button.

3. Click one of the icons to provide feedback to the host. Click the icon again to remove it.

Note: You can only have one icon active at a time.

...BY PHONE

• *6 Mute/unmute
• *9 Raise Hand
AGENDA

I. Welcome & Purpose of Session
II. Funding of Public Private Partnership Projects
III. Review of Candidate Topics and Key Points from March 15th Discussion
IV. Rolling Up Our Sleeves
V. Next Steps
VI. Adjourn
American Rescue Plan

What can we use the funds for?

The U.S. Department of Treasury will produce additional clarifying guidance, but below is what we know from statute. The funds must be used to cover qualifying expenses during the covered period, which ends December 31, 2024. Qualifying use of funds:

- respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality
- for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year
- make necessary investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure, or
- include premium pay for eligible workers performing essential work during the pandemic

Source: https://www.nhmunicipal.org/american-rescue-plan-act-2021-information-page
FUNDING OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

American Rescue Plan (continued)

Timing of Distributions

• First Tranche Amount – 50%: To the extent practical, not later than 60 days from the date of enactment.
  • Nonentitlement Distributions - Because it could take a full year for the Department of Treasury to calculate and disburse the allocations for smaller local governments (generally those with under 50,000 inhabitants, comprising over 33,000 entities), the Department of Treasury is instead required to send the first tranche fund amounts to the states within 60 days of the law’s enactment. States would then have 30 days to disburse the funds to the local governments (“nonentitlement units of local government”) based on population. A state could ask Treasury for an extension for distributing one or more of those allocations if necessary, but it would need to justify why the extension is warranted. States would have no discretionary authority to change the amount of, or attach additional requirements to, the payments allocated to local governments.

• Second Tranche Amount – 50%: Not earlier than 12 months after the date of the First Tranche Amount.
  • As with the first tranche distributions, nonentitlement second tranche amounts are also required to be passed through the states.

Source: https://www.nhmunicipal.org/american-rescue-plan-act-2021-information-page
FUNDING OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

NH SB 85 – establishing a broadband matching grant initiative and fund

- 4-C:38 Broadband Matching Grant Initiative Established.
  - III. Any broadband provider, political subdivision, or communications district formed under RSA 53-G shall be eligible for a grant of up to 50 percent of the total eligible costs of a project. Projects under construction at the time of application shall be ineligible. Projects in the planning stages shall be eligible.

- 4-C:39 Program Guidelines; Rulemaking.
  - VI. The broadband provider, political subdivision, or communications district shall provide a minimum of 50 percent of the total cost of the project. Sources of the match may include revenue bonds issued by the political subdivision, bonds issued by the communication district, or private investment by broadband providers either jointly or independently. Sources of the match provided by broadband providers shall not include other federal or state funding awarded specifically to support the expansion of broadband networks.
NEXT STEPS/NEXT MEETING

Strategies for moving forward, coordination, collaboration, etc.