



# The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021



## Conway Strategy Overview CITY OF CONWAY

June 2022

The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, a part of the American Rescue Plan (ARPA), delivers \$350 billion to state, local, and Tribal governments across the country to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

City Council approved project list on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Resolution No. R-22-36





# City of Conway

## American Rescue Plan Projects

The City of Conway is proposing nine separate projects that will address local needs in supporting the response to the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. Projects will touch every city department and invest in crucial initiatives. Below you will find the associated projects and more details on the goals of each initiative.

### Project One

#### Sagegrass Sewer Main Extension Project

Investment: \$286,113

The City of Conway identified an immediate need to extend the Sagegrass Sewer Mainline, located off Favre Lane, to efficiently serve the residents in the low to moderate income area. A partnership was formed between the City of Conway and Conway Corporation for this project, and Conway Corporation will carry out implementation. This project will provide access to future sewer connections for low to moderate income neighborhoods.

### Project Two

#### Overnight Emergency Shelter

Investment: \$700,000

The final rule of the SLFRF clarifies that recipients can use funds for capital expenditures that support eligible public health or economic response. The final rule addresses impacted communities making certain community development and neighborhood revitalization activities eligible for disproportionately communities. The City plans to address this negative economic impact by providing an overnight emergency shelter for those who need this service within Conway.

In 2019, a building on 1116 Gum Street was purchased for the development of an Overnight Emergency Shelter. The City and many groups of Conway have identified this project as a great need for Conway. The Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) has invested and dedicated substantial funding for this project, but there is still a great need to finish the renovation of the building. Conway's City Council approved and appropriated funding on March 8<sup>th</sup> for the remodel and development of the Conway Overnight Emergency Shelter building.

### Project Three

#### Drainage & Stormwater Improvements

Investment: \$5,427,726.00

The City plans to make strategic investments in addressing stormwater drainage issues. A citizen survey was conducted in October 2020, and drainage was one of the top issues that burdened the citizens of Conway. With the American Rescue Plan, the City has a rare opportunity to address this issue that has affected Conway for many years. Possible projects include but are not limited to: Downtown flooding projects (box culvert installation, detention stormwater treatment, drainage expansion), Centennial Creek drainage improvements, detention projects (Siebenmorgen, Salem/Irby), bridge improvements (South German Lane), Block wall ditch repair, Street overlays, and provide a city drainage mapping system.

#### Project Four

##### Conway Station Park Field Turf

Investment:  
\$2,403,482.10

Conway Station Park is located at 1501 Robins Street, has nine baseball fields, and is a major amenity for the City of Conway. Funding provided through the Rescue Plan will be utilized to provide turf fields for this facility. This will provide more practice days and prevent major tournament cancellations due to rainouts. The Advertising and Promotion Commission has committed up to \$750,000 in funding for this project.

#### Project Five

##### Employee Premium Pay

Investment: \$820,000

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds may be used to provide premium pay to eligible workers who performed essential work during the pandemic. Premium Pay may be awarded in installments or a lump sum for hourly, part-time, salaried, or non-hourly workers. Premium pay must be paid in addition to wages already received. The City plans to give a one-time bonus of 3% to all, full-time employees and \$300 to all part-time employees under this eligible use category.

#### Project Six

##### Conway Police Department – Shooting Range

Investment: \$1,000,000

The City will utilize American Rescue Plan funding to remodel the current shooting range used by the Conway Police Department to enclose the existing facility. This facility is used not only by the City of Conway Police Department but also by the Conway Fire Department and other local agencies. Thus investment in the shooting range will increase the safety surrounding the area and provide a facility for the Conway Police Department with a long-term solution for the shooting range.

#### Project Seven

##### Parks & Recreation Beaverfork Lake – Bock Dock Slips

Investment: \$550,000

Nestled in northern Conway, Lake Beaverfork is a small paradise of its own. Known for its fishing, scenery, and recreational opportunities, this 25-acre lake sits on a 960-acre lake attracting outdoor enthusiasts from all around. Lined with beautiful pine trees and a variety of oaks and maples, it's the perfect landscape to witness any month of the year. Beaverfork is a popular location for family reunions, bird viewing, kayaking, and regional cross country meets, and yearly fireworks show. Whether you're looking to reel in a largemouth bass, throw 18 holes of disc golf, or simply reconnect to your natural state, this is the park for you. Funding provided through the Rescue Plan will be utilized to provide lake boat dock slips.

#### Project Eight

##### Finance and HR Software

Investment: \$200,000

Springbrook is a technology company that develops pure play cloud-based financial solutions specifically for the needs of local governments. This software offers fast access to information, simplified reporting, and time-saving workflows to help local governments and ensure accountability, make informed decisions, and increase financial transparency. This funding will be used to migrate Springbrook to a cloud-based system and purchase HR modules to provide an employee portal.

## Project Nine

Conway Fire  
Department – Fire  
Apparatus

Investment: \$96,517.90

The City will utilize American Rescue Plan funding to pay off a current fire truck apparatus. Thus investment in the fire truck fleet will help increase public safety and response to emergencies. This will also allow the Conway Fire Department to purchase an additional truck this year.

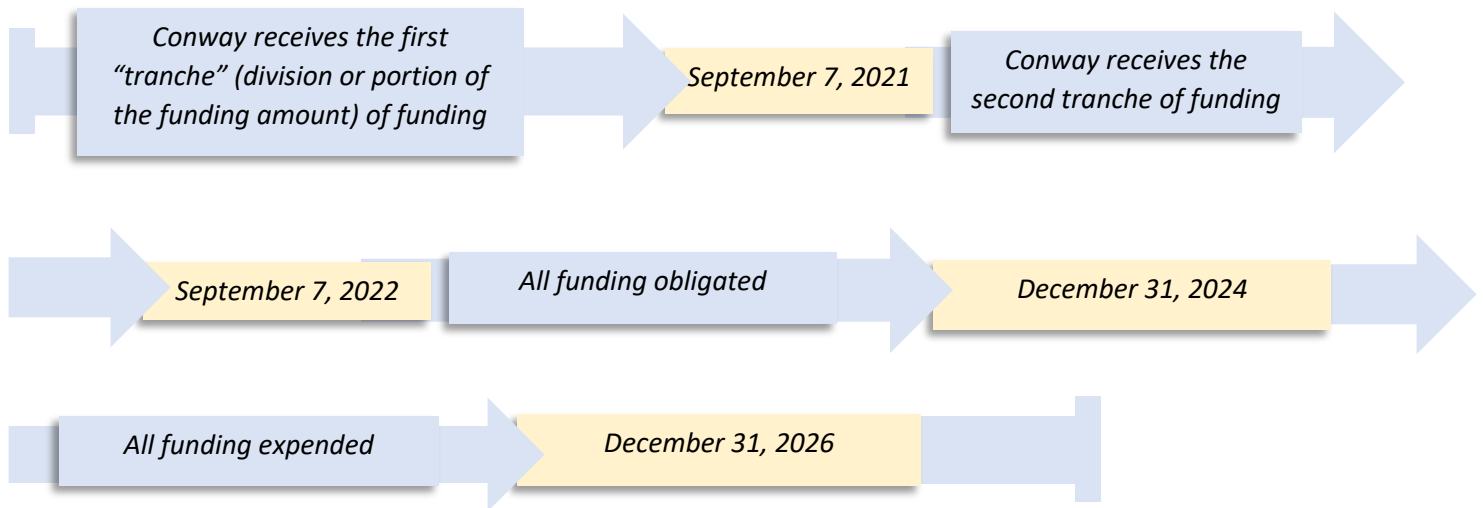
## Project Ten

Conway Fire  
Department –  
Station 3

Investment:  
\$750,000

The City will utilize American Rescue Plan funding to assist in the building of a new fire station (Station #3) that would be located off of Harkrider. Thus, investment in the fire truck fleet will help increase public safety and response to emergencies.

## Timeline



## American Rescue Plan Budget Breakdown

Project Name	Expenditure Category	Amount
Sagegrass Sewer Main Extension	Clean Water: Infrastructure (5.5)	\$286,113.00
Overnight Emergency Shelter	Services to Impacted Communities (3.11)	\$700,000.00
Drainage and Stormwater Improvements	Revenue Replacement (6.1)	\$5,000,000.00
Downtown Drainage/Chestnut Alley	Clean Water: Stormwater (5.6)	\$427,726.00
Conway Station Park Turf	Revenue Replacement (6.1)	\$2,403,482.10
Employee Premium Pay	Premium Pay (4.1)	\$820,000.00
Conway Police Department	Revenue Replacement (6.1)	\$1,000,000.00
Beaverfork Lake Boatdock Slips	Revenue Replacement (6.1)	\$550,000.00
Finance and HR Software Upgrades	Revenue Replacement (6.1)	\$200,000.00
Conway Fire Department	Revenue Replacement (6.1)	\$96,517.20
Conway Fire Department	Revenue Replacement (6.1)	\$750,000.00
<b>Total Services to Impacted Communities</b>		<b>\$700,000.00</b>
<b>Total Clean Water Infrastructure and Stormwater</b>		<b>\$713,839.00</b>
<b>Total Premium Pay</b>		<b>\$820,000.00</b>
<b>Total Revenue Replacement</b>		<b>\$10,000,000.00</b>
<b>Total ARPA Funding</b>		<b>\$12,233,839.00</b>

- Final rule is effective April 1, 2022, but cities can take advantage of new provisions prior to the effective date
- Allows local governments to use up to \$10 million of ARPA Recovery Funds as "lost revenue" for the provision of general government services without needing to use the Treasury revenue loss formula

**Phase I Spending:**

- I. Sagegrass Sewer Main Extension (Conway Corporation)
- II. Overnight Emergency Shelter
- III. Employee Premium Pay
- IV. Beaverfork Lake Boatdock Slips
- V. Finance & HR Software upgrade
- VI. Conway Fire Department Fire Truck Apparatus Payoff
- VII. Conway Fire Department Station #3
- VIII. Lower Ridge Road Water Project (Drainage/Stormwater Project) – Conway Corporation/Faulkner County

**Phase II Spending:**

- I. Drainage & Sewer Improvements Projects
- II. Downtown Drainage Project
- III. Conway Station Park Turf