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Dear Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council:

The staff's recommendations are grossly unfair, unwise, and completely misguided. Congress intent that these funds be used for programs that lift up our poor and marginalized residents. PLEASE

AUG 16 PM 4:07  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PASADENA

- Reject staff's recommendations
- Tell City staff to organize a forum where community members and experts can provide valuable input on how these funds should be used to ensure a strong, equitable recovery.

Our City received \$26 million this year through the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). The Treasury Department's guidance sets forth numerous eligible uses for these funds and specifically states "these resources lay the foundation for a strong, equitable economic recovery, not only by providing immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, but also by addressing the systemic public health and economic challenges that may have contributed to more severe impacts of the pandemic among low-income communities and people of color."

Eligible uses include

1. Assistance to households facing negative economic impacts due to COVID-19, including food assistance, rent/mortgage assistance, and job training.
2. Uses that address the disproportionate impacts of the pandemic on low-income communities and people of color, who faced higher rates of infection, hospitalization, death, and unemployment, such as
  - Programs that facilitate access to health and social services;
  - Programs that address housing insecurity and lack of affordable housing;
  - Programs that address the impacts of COVID-19 on education and child health; and
  - Evidence-based community violence intervention programs to prevent violence and mitigate the increase in violence during the pandemic.

The City Council directed staff to prepare a comprehensive strategy for spending the remaining \$25 million of these funds. Instead of prioritizing funds for programs to benefit the marginalized and those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, staff's recommendations include

- \$9.8 Million: to the General Fund to backfill revenue losses and to facilitate the continued bailing out of the Rose Bowl Operating Company ("RBOC") (which received \$22.5 million from the General Fund reserves for FY 21 and FY22). Giving this money back to the General Fund does little for social programs. The Housing and Public Health Departments receive very little from the General Fund;
- \$8.539 million: for sidewalk improvements, traffic signals, bridge enhancements and other capital improvements; and
- \$2 million: to remodel Fire Station 38.

In contrast, City staff's recommendations for our poor and marginalized residents comprise only 7.8% of the remaining \$25 million. They include

- Only \$400,000 for bridge housing (limited to students of Pasadena City College experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity);
- A mere \$150,000 for eviction prevention legal services; and
- Only \$200,000 for community violence prevention/intervention efforts.

Thank you.

Tyesa Morey  
Pasadena Resident

08/16/2021  
Item 18

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** KristinOckershauser  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 4:00 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** comment on Agenda Item 18

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Pasadena City Council

Dear Councilmembers,

I heartily support Sonja Berndt's letter requesting that you reject the staff recommendations for the use of the remaining \$25 million ARPA monies, specifically directed by Congress for the use in recovery from the COVID crisis of low income and minority communities.

The staff recommendations amount to a grab for federal funds for purposes that do not address the compelling and documented needs of such communities.

You earlier promised to make an opportunity for discussion with Pasadena's impacted community on the use of these funds. This calls for scheduling such a meeting, with adequate notice.

Do not be a party to this underhanded scheme to basically steal these funds that are so badly needed for the communities in greatest need.

Sincerely,

Kris Ockershauser

08/16/2021  
Item 18

## Martinez, Ruben

---

**From:** Barbra McPheeter  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 3:54 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Barbra McPheeters  
Pasadena Resident  
91103

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Stella Pulliam <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 3:54 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Stella Pulliam  
Pasadena Resident  
91104

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Katy Townsend  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 3:55 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Item 18

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Thank you.

Katy Townsend  
Pasadena Resident  
91103

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Chris Morey  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 3:58 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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08/16/2021

Item 18

Thank you.

Chris Morey  
91103

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** China Spratling <[china.spratling@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:china.spratling@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Thank you.

China Spratling  
91103

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Elizabeth Ellis n>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 4:02 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Elizabeth Ellis  
Pasadena Resident  
91103

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Linda P. Wright <[linda.p.wright@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:linda.p.wright@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 4:00 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Pasadena Resident  
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2021 AUG 16 PM 4:48  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PASADENA

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08/16/2021  
Item 18

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Anthony Manousos <  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 4:07 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** ARPA Funds Item #18

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Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

I am deeply concerned about the staff report's recommendations about how to spend ARPA funds. The Treasury Department's guidance specifically states "these resources [should] lay the foundation for a strong, equitable economic recovery, not only by providing immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, but also by addressing the systemic public health and economic challenges that may have contributed to more severe impacts of the pandemic among low-income communities and people of color."

The City Council directed staff to prepare a comprehensive strategy for spending these extraordinary funds. Instead of prioritizing funds for critical programs to benefit the marginalized and those disproportionately impacted in our City, staff allocated

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In contrast, City staff's recommendations for our poor and marginalized comprise only 7.5% of the \$26 million.

The proposed allocations do little to address the urgent needs of those most vulnerable and hardest hit by the pandemic. In contrast, Seattle devoted 38% of its ARPA funds housing and homelessness. It devoted another 32% to "community well-being." It devoted 18% to small business recovery. In other words, Seattle prioritized urgent community needs while our city is prioritizing buildings, capital improvement and recreation.

I urge you not to approve this budget and instead engage the community and find out how we your constituents want to see this money spent. As a person of faith, I believe that budgets are moral statements, and this budget does not live up to the high moral values of our city.

Sincerely

Anthony Manousos  
District 1

08/16/2021  
Item 18

## Seattle Rescue Plan

# \$128 MILLION



Housing & Homelessness

**\$49.2**  
MILLION



Community & Small Business Recovery

**\$23**  
MILLION



Community Well-Being

**\$41.5**  
MILLION



Community Assistance & Programming

**\$7**  
MILLION



Reopening City Programs & Services

**\$7.6**  
MILLION

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Our City received \$26 million this year through the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). The Treasury Department's guidance sets forth numerous eligible uses for these funds and specifically states "these resources lay the foundation for a strong, equitable economic recovery, not only by providing immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, but also by addressing the systemic public health and economic challenges that may have contributed to more severe impacts of the pandemic among low-income communities and people of color."

Eligible uses include

1. Assistance to households facing negative economic impacts due to COVID-19, including food assistance, rent/mortgage assistance, and job training.
2. Uses that address the disproportionate impacts of the pandemic on low-income communities and people of color, who faced higher rates of infection, hospitalization, death, and unemployment, such as
  - Programs that facilitate access to health and social services;
  - Programs that address housing insecurity and lack of affordable housing;
  - Programs that address the impacts of COVID-19 on education and child health; and
  - Evidence-based community violence intervention programs to prevent violence and mitigate the increase in violence during the pandemic.

The City Council directed staff to prepare a comprehensive strategy for spending the remaining \$25 million of these funds. Instead of prioritizing funds for programs to benefit the marginalized and those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, staff's recommendations include

- \$9.8 Million: to the General Fund to backfill revenue losses and to facilitate the continued bailing out of the Rose Bowl Operating Company ("RBOC") (which received \$22.5 million from the General Fund reserves for FY 21 and FY22). Giving this money back to the General Fund does little for social programs. The Housing and Public Health Departments receive very little from the General Fund;
- \$8.539 million: for sidewalk improvements, traffic signals, bridge enhancements and other capital improvements; and
- \$2 million: to remodel Fire Station 38.

In contrast, City staff's recommendations for our poor and marginalized residents comprise only 7.8% of the remaining \$25 million. They include

- Only \$400,000 for bridge housing (limited to students of Pasadena City College experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity);
- A mere \$150,000 for eviction prevention legal services; and
- Only \$200,000 for community violence prevention/intervention efforts.

Thank you,

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CITY OF PASADENA

Rosalinda Spratling  
Pasadena, CA

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Eleanor Lee <cel...>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 4:14 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Dear Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council:

I am asking you to please not accept the staff's recommendations regarding the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") \$26 million received. Staff's recommendations are grossly unfair, unwise, and completely disregard Congress' intent that these funds be used for programs that lift up our poor and marginalized residents. PLEASE

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Thank you.

Eleanor Lee  
Pasadena Resident  
91104

## Martinez, Ruben

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**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2021 4:33 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations - Agenda item #18

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Gloria yourse  
Pasadena Resident  
91103