



METROPLAN

SMART PLANNING MAKES SMART PLACES.



METROPLAN

SMALL CITIES  
COUNCIL

SMALL CITIES COUNCIL

May 26, 2021 • 9:00 AM

# AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Welcome
2. Introductions & Announcements
3. Summary of Previous Meeting
4. Community Spotlight
5. Metroplan Update
6. American Rescue Plan
7. Preview of Upcoming Meetings
8. Adjourn

## SCC MEMBERS

- |                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Alexander          | 10. Lonoke        |
| 2. Austin             | 11. Mayflower     |
| 3. Bauxite            | 12. Mount Vernon  |
| 4. Cammack<br>Village | 13. Shannon Hills |
| 5. England            | 14. Traskwood     |
| 6. Greenbrier         | 15. Vilonia       |
| 7. Guy                | 16. Ward          |
| 8. Haskell            | 17. Wooster       |
| 9. HS Village         | 18. Wrightsville  |



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## INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **New faces**
- **Exciting projects**



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# SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS MEETING

March 24, 2021



## METROPLAN SMALL CITIES COUNCIL

### Small Cities Council Meeting Summary

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 | 9:00 AM  
Jacksonville Community Center  
DRAFT

Meeting recording may be viewed at  
[www.facebook.com/56041648536/videos/2815879512008094](https://www.facebook.com/56041648536/videos/2815879512008094)

#### SCC Members Attending:

1. Mayor Sammy Hartwick, President
2. Mayor Bernie Chamberlain
3. Mayor Charles Gastineau
4. Mayor Sam Higdon
5. Mayor Butch House
6. Mr. Jeffrey Reed
7. Mayor Trae Reed
8. Mayor Terry Mizer
9. Mayor Terry Don Robinson

#### Metroplan Staff:

10. Mr. Casey Covington
11. Mr. Hans Hausteine
12. Ms. Bernadette Rhodes
13. Mr. Allen Skaggs
14. Ms. La'Keshia Stewart
15. Mr. Tab Townsell

- City of Greenbrier
- City of Austin
- City of Ward
- City of Guy
- City of England
- City of Shannon Hills
- City of Lonoke
- City of Wrightsville
- City of Wooster

- Deputy Director
- GIS Planner/Performance Measure Coord.
- Community Planner
- Planning Technician
- Planner/Public Outreach
- Executive Director

#### 1. Call to Order and Welcome

Mayor Hartwick called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. He welcomed the attendees and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

**Ward:** Mayor Gastineau stated progress was being made on the improvements, which will provide Ward with its first traffic light.  
**Lonoke:** Mayor Reed encouraged attendees to try Lonoke's new Rabbit, which opened in January 2021.

#### 3. Summary of Previous Meeting

The summary of the January 27, 2021 meeting was previously emailed. Rhodes asked for comments or corrections. There were none.

**MOTION** by Mayor Gastineau, **SECONDED** by Mayor Higdon, to approve the January 27, 2021 meeting as presented. **PASSED**

#### 4. Metroplan Update

Mr. Townsell made the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) score and encouraged members to start thinking about which projects could be included in TAP funding, and issues a call for proposals once every two years for a complete streets tract, or Alternative Tract. Applications can be written to achieve the maximum number of points.

A Complete Streets Tract is not included in this funding cycle because municipalities are best suited for 2021 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding offered through both ARDOT and Metroplan this year. Metroplan receives funding in TAP funding, and issues a call for proposals once every two years for a complete streets tract, or Alternative Tract. Applications can be written to achieve the maximum number of points. In 2022, Metroplan will not issue a call for TAP proposals, so the Complete Streets Tract will be included in the STBG funding next year. Timing for application was discussed in the Executive Committee meeting.

Mr. Townsell informed members that ARDOT is offering state-wide TAP and Trails Program (RTP) funding this spring. Applications are due Tuesday, June 1st, 2021. RTP funding will cover sidewalks, bike facilities, paths, trails, safe routes to school, and street lighting to enhance safety, educational, and recreational opportunities. RTP funding will be used to cover the maximum number of points.

# SPOTLIGHT ON: LONOKE



[Home](#)

[Community](#)

[Government](#)

[Community Development](#)

[Business](#)

[Visitors](#)

[How Do I?](#)

**Welcome to the good life  
in Lonoke, Arkansas**



[CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)



[PAY YOUR WATER BILL](#)



[MUNICIPAL CODE](#)



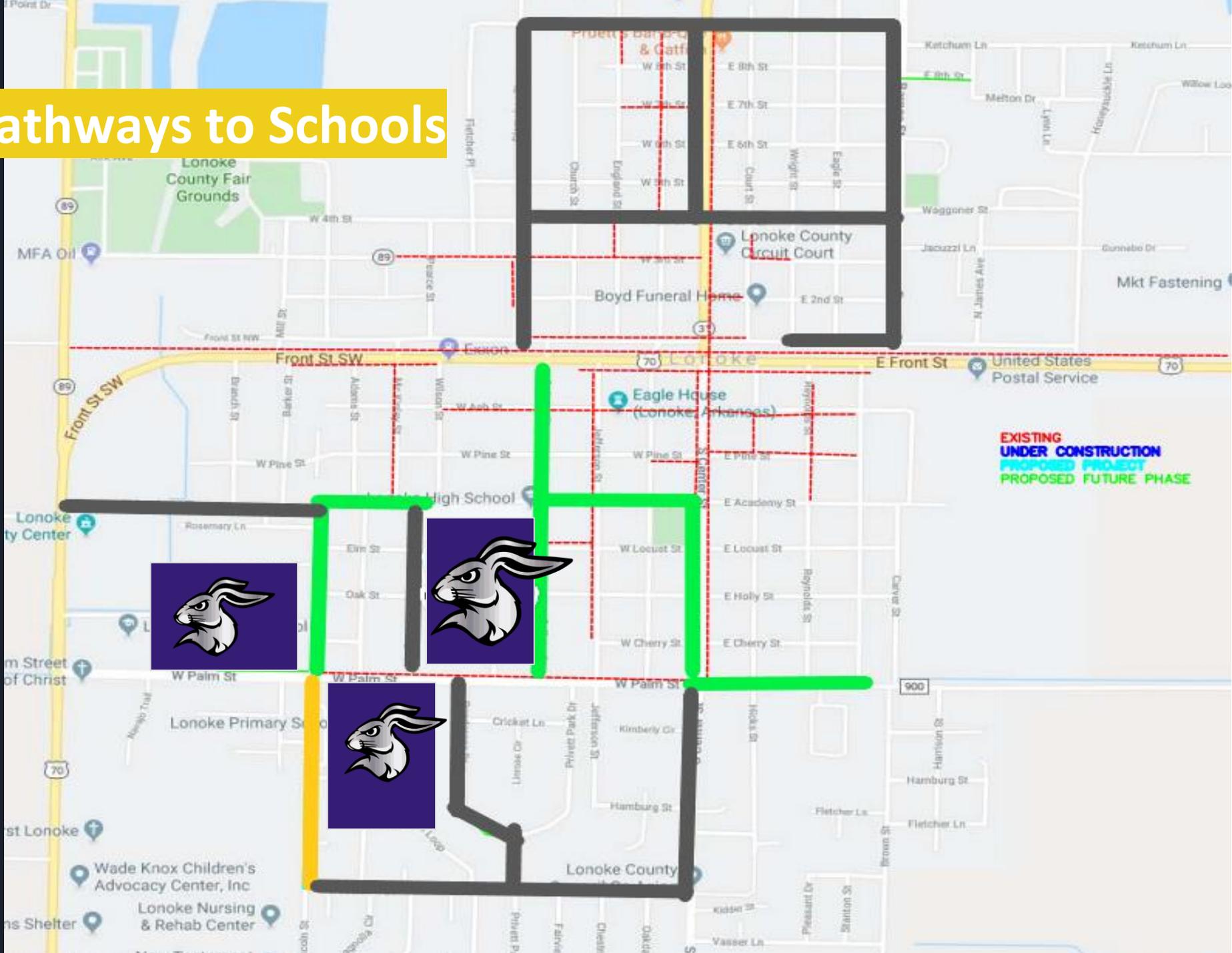
[PERMITS & LICENSES](#)



# MetroPlan'ish Talking Points

- Safe Pathways to School Sidewalks
- Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan
- Downtown Parking Study
- Shared Use Path across I-40
- Street Signs and Wayfinding

# Safe Pathways to Schools



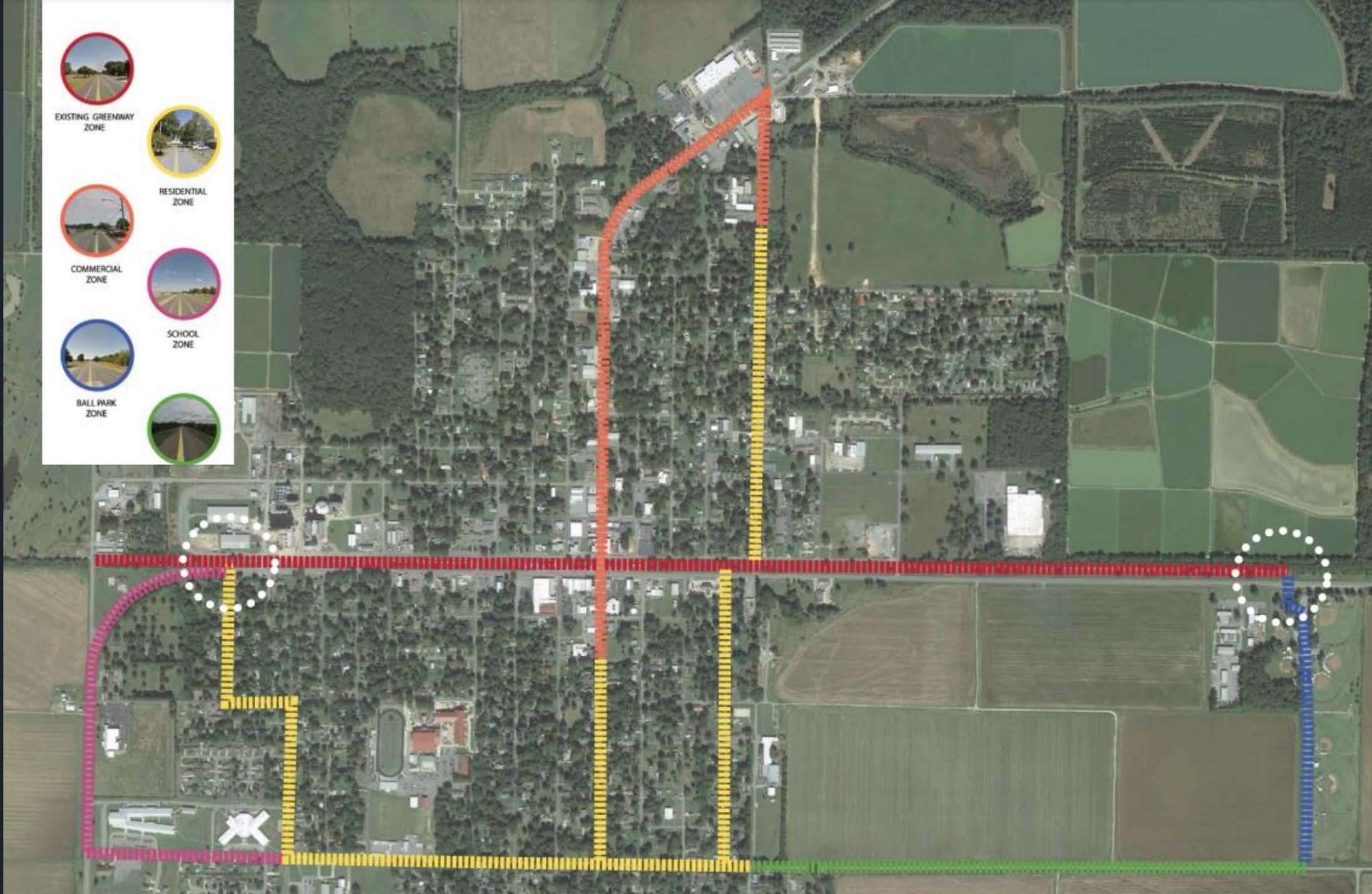


# Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan





 EXISTING GREENWAY ZONE	 RESIDENTIAL ZONE
 COMMERCIAL ZONE	 SCHOOL ZONE
 BALL PARK ZONE	



**SUMMARY:**  
 STUDY AREA: 3,023,000 SQFT | 70 ACRE  
 TOTAL PUBLIC PARKING STALLS: 703  
 PRIVATE PARKING AREA: 227,470 SQFT | 5 ACRE  
 INFERRED NON-SINGLE-FAMILY PRIVATE PARKING STALLS: 750  
 DOWNTOWN PARKING DENSITY: 21 PER ACRE



FURTHER DRAINAGE STUDY NEEDED  
 PARKING DEPTH EXCEEDS NEED FOR PASSENGER VEHICLES



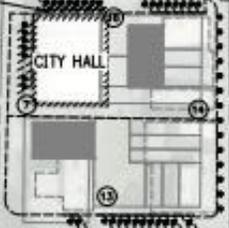
PARKING STALL MARKINGS ARE TOO SHORT FOR TYPICAL PASSENGER VEHICLES. POTENTIAL HAZARD TO MOTORISTS



WINDING STORAGE AREAS ON ONE-WAY STREET



PROPOSED TRAIL



POORLY-DEFINED PARKING LOT ACCESS



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS FOR PEDESTRIANS  
 FURTHER STUDY NEEDED



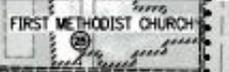
SWAMPED OR OBSTRUCTED DRAINAGE STRUCTURES. EXCESSIVE CURB HEIGHT. FURTHER STUDY OF ACCESSIBILITY AND DRAINAGE NEEDED

**LEGEND (EXISTING SYMBOLS)**

SYMBOLS	LINEWORK
	PROPERTY LINE
	EDGE OF PAVEMENT
	ROAD CENTERLINE
	EXISTING TRAIL

**SYMBOLS**

- PARKING SPACE
- INACCESSIBLE INTERSECTION
- HAZARDOUS INTERSECTION
- PARKING STALL COUNT
- NON-RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE PARKING



THIS PLAN IS FOR CONCEPT ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE AS A CONSTRUCTION DRAWING.  
 PROPERTY BOUNDARIES SHOWN ARE NOT LEGAL BOUNDARIES AND HAVE BEEN DERIVED FROM CADASTRAL DATA PROVIDED BY THE ARKANSAS DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION AND SHARED



# Shared Use Path | Hwy 31 Overpass Upgrade



New Overpass with  
Curb & Sidewalk  
(April 22', pending SUP)

Special Use Path  
through TAP Grant



Connective Path  
to Barnes St.



# Street Signs & Wayfinding







# Goat YOGA



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## METROPLAN UPDATE

- STBG funding opportunity
- County caucuses
- Model code
- Redistricting
- Board trip timing



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## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT

- \$16.8m total (estimated)
- 20% minimum cash match
- Letter of Intent due June 30
- Application due July 30, 4:00 pm
- 5 Tracts:
  - Municipal Street (\$500k-3m)
  - Rural Street (\$500k-3m)
  - Bike/Ped (\$200k-3m)
  - Jump Start (\$500k-3m)
  - Alternative (\$500k-3m)



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## COUNTY CAUCUSES

- **TODAY** at 10:00 AM:  
Pulaski County (Metroplan office)
  
- **Lonoke County Caucus will be rescheduled.**



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## MODEL CODE

- **Article 4: Development Standards**



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## REDISTRICTING

- Required if any ward is 5% or more off the mean. Otherwise, optional.
- To request assistance (if you haven't already), email Tab, Casey, and Bernadette.
- Info needed:
  - Current ward map on file at city hall
  - # of wards: maintain, increase, or consolidate?
  - Keep current council members inside their wards? (if yes, need addresses)



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## 2022 BOARD TRIP

- **Timing considerations**



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**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN:  
WHAT'S IN IT  
FOR SMALL CITIES?**

- \$350B for state and local governments
- 100% federal grant (no match)
- NEUs (Non-Entitlement Units of Local Government, i.e. cities under 50,000 residents) allocated separately from metro areas.

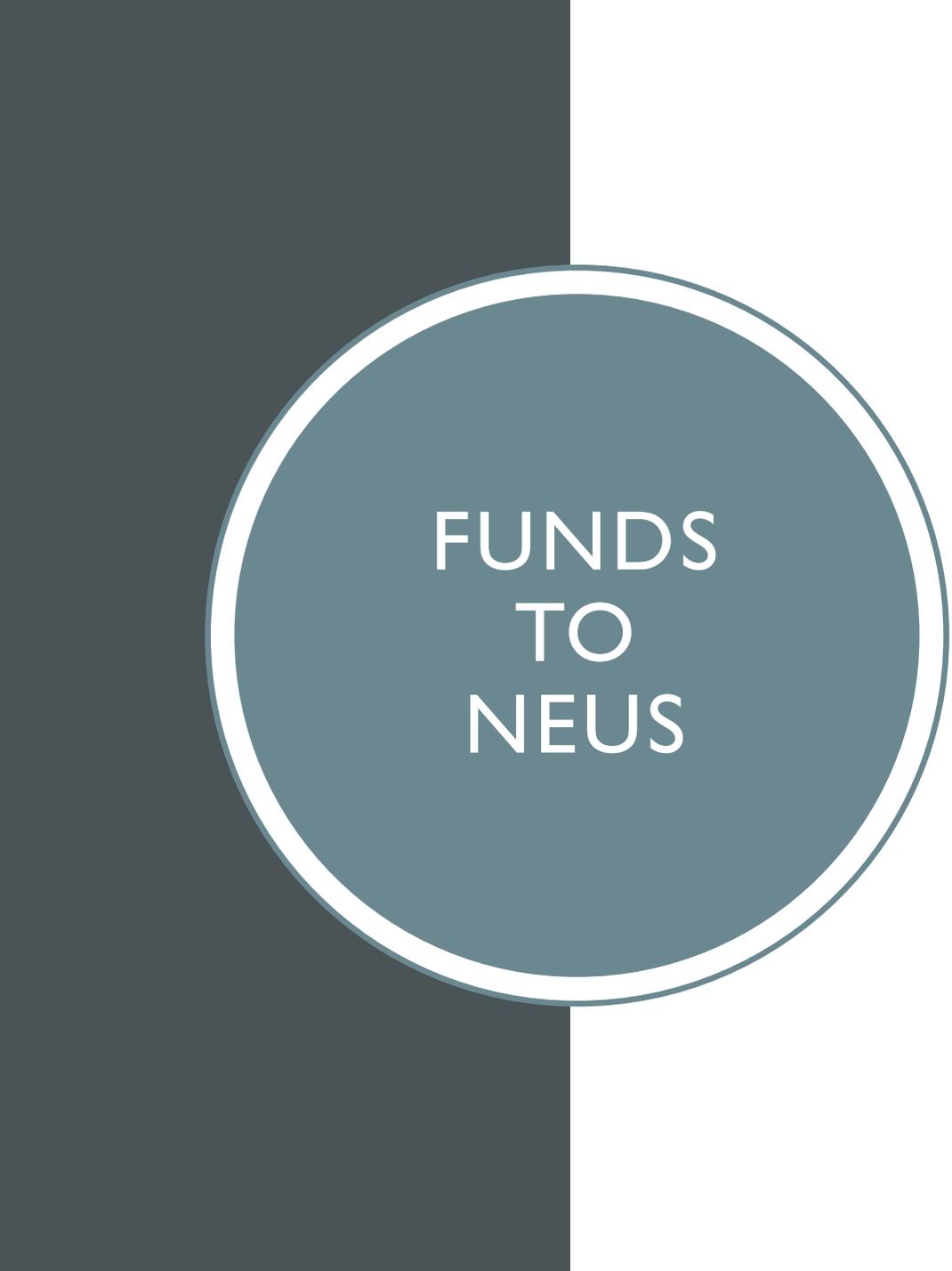
## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN IN ARKANSAS

\$425 million to cities and towns in Arkansas

- \$216 million to NEUs
- 50% this spring
- 50% one year from first payment

\$560 million to counties

< \$1B to state



## FUNDS TO NEUS

- NEUs, or non-metro cities (<50k) will receive funds as pass-through from state
- \$19.53 billion to divide by population (approx. \$150-200 pp)
- CAP: Amount per city/town may not exceed 75% of its budget for the year on January 27, 2020. (*DFA will require combine all budget documents into one PDF*)
- Reporting required quarterly by expenditure category. First report is due Oct. 31, 2021.

## EXPENSE CATEGORIES

---

Response to public health emergency

---

Premium pay for essential workers

---

Revenue loss

---

Negative economic impacts

---

Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

---

Indirect costs



## OTHER ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Transfers to special-purpose units of local government (fire, water, sewer, or mosquito abatement districts)
- Joint projects with other cities/counties
- Assistance to households (food; rent, mortgage, utility assistance; counseling and legal aid to prevent eviction or homelessness; cash assistance; emergency assistance for burials, home repairs, weatherization)
- Assistance to small business and non-profits (loans, grants, employee retention, mortgage, rent, utilities, efforts to vaccinate/combat spread of COVID)

## IMPACT ON TRANSPORTATION

***May recipients use funds to invest in infrastructure other than water, sewer, and broadband projects (e.g. roads, public facilities)?***

Under 602(c)(1)(C) or 603(c)(1)(C), **recipients may use funds for maintenance of infrastructure or pay-go spending for building of new infrastructure** as part of the general provision of government services, **to the extent of the estimated reduction in revenue** due to the public health emergency.

Under 602(c)(1)(A) or 603(c)(1)(A), a general infrastructure project typically would not be considered a response to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts unless the project responds to a specific pandemic-related public health need (e.g., investments in facilities for the delivery of vaccines) or a specific negative economic impact of the pandemic (e.g., affordable housing in a Qualified Census Tract).

- Arkansas Municipal League, American Rescue Plan FAQ, p. 9

## INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Reduction in revenue due to tax cuts/law changes
- Pension contributions
- Debt payments

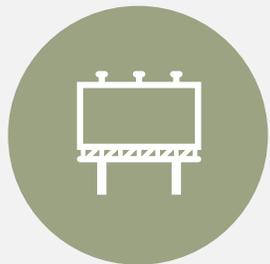
## NEXT STEPS



Format 2021 budget  
for submission to DFA  
*(merge into one PDF)*



Get purchase orders  
for equipment  
*(3 quotes)*



Start bidding contracts  
for projects



*The early bird gets the  
worm!*

AMERICAN  
RESCUE PLAN  
TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE

The Arkansas Municipal League has established an American Rescue Plan Team to support cities.

Weekly calls on Wednesdays at 2:00 PM, starting June 2nd

Webpage:  
[www.arml.org/resources/american-rescue-plan](http://www.arml.org/resources/american-rescue-plan)

Email for American Rescue Plan questions:  
[arp@arml.org](mailto:arp@arml.org)

## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN RESOURCES

- <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds>
- <https://www.nlc.org/covid-19-pandemic-response/#arp>
- <https://www.ncsl.org/ncsl-in-dc/publications-and-resources/american-rescue-plan-act-of-2021.aspx>
- <https://www.planningreport.com/2021/03/11/bruce-katz-american-rescue-plan-preparing-cities-equitable-recovery>



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## MODEL CODE WORK SESSIONS

- Individual meetings with first-round adopter cities
  - *Mayor, Council, Planning Commission, key personnel*

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:  
WED, JULY 28, 2021 @ 9AM**



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THANK YOU!

**Contacts:**

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