Overview of links for discussion at 4/13/2021 Baltimore Avenue Connected Communities Roundtable

<u>Links</u>

- White House Overview; Public Law (March 11, 2021 signed into law)
- Potential uses:
 - Overview: Guidehouse: (March 11, 2021)
 - <u>Cities focus</u>: Brookings: (March 23, 2021)
 - o Broadband focus: CTC Technology and Energy: March 29, 2021
- <u>Eligible uses</u> (state of NY as interactive example): Rockefeller Inst. Of Government (March 24, 2021)
- MD bipartisan agreement on use of funding (March 31, 2021)
- Van Hollen ARP fact sheet (March 13, 2021)
- <u>By Programs that can support civil access to justice</u>: General; Health; Housing; Other: Justice in Government Project; American U (April 9, 2021)

<u>Dates</u>

The <u>American Rescue Plan</u> provides assistance in the areas of housing, nutrition, childcare, and healthcare to relieve Americans of the strains caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The ARP also extends unemployment benefits, provides aid to small businesses, gives fiscal relief to state and local governments, and subsidizes transportation agencies.

Aid to states & local governments:

- \$195.3 billion to all 50 states and D.C.
- \$130.2 billion to local governments
- <u>Maryland</u> to receive \$3.87 billion in direct funding and an additional \$169 million for capital projects
- Disbursed in two halves, available to spend until December 31, 2024.
 - First disbursement: no later than 60 days after the ARP's certification process [pers comm., the Deputy Finance Director, Ohio Senate]
 - Second disbursement: one year after the first disbursement
 - U.S. Department of Treasury is currently in the process of developing the <u>certification process</u>

Of potential interest:

- Infrastructure/Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
 - Federal: \$10 billion to states, territories, and Tribes for capital projects
 - <u>Maryland</u>:
 - Purple Line to receive \$106,163,373 through ARP's Capital Investment Grants program
 - \$353.6 million for Baltimore City transit systems
 - \$1.02 million for Aberdeen transit systems
 - \$1.47 million for Salisbury transit systems
 - \$1.44 million for Frederick transit systems
 - \$1.27 million for Waldorf transit systems
 - \$1.13 million for Hagerstown transit systems
 - \$441,234 for Cumberland transit systems
 - \$408,639 for Westminster-Eldersburg transit systems
 - o \$4.62 million for transportation in rural Maryland
 - Electric Vehicles:
 - <u>Biden</u> proposal to invest \$174 billion in EV market
 - To boost supply chains, retool factories, and support American battery and EV industry
 - Grant and incentive program to encourage 500,000 EV chargers by 2030
 - Goal to electrify at least 20% of school bus fleet
 - Goal to electrify federal vehicles, including United States Postal Service

Main Street Open for Business (concentrate on small business)

- Federal funding:
 - Paycheck Protection Program (PPP): \$7.25 billion for low-interest loans to hard-hit small businesses
 - State Small Business Credit Initiative: \$10 billion towards <u>Minority Depository Institutions</u> (MDIs) and <u>Community Development Financial Institutions</u> (CDFIs)
 - MDIs: Banks/savings associations (not credit unions) at least 51% owned by minority individuals or the majority of the board of directors are minorities and the community it serves is predominately minority
 - CDFIs: financial institutions that provide credit and financial services to underserved populations
 - \circ $\;$ Restaurant Revitalization Fund: \$26.2 billion to restaurant industry
 - Includes food trucks, breweries, food stands, tasting rooms
- Maryland:
 - <u>Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund</u>: \$1.1 billion to help stabilize unemployment tax rates on businesses during 2022-2023
- Baltimore: to receive \$670 million from ARP
- Broadband: (overall summary taken from CTC blog; 3/12/2021; additional information added)
 - Economic Development Administration (Department of Commerce): \$3 billion in additional funding to the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA) program through September 2022
 - Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (Department of the Treasury): \$10 billion for "capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency"; in addition to capital projects, eligible efforts include ancillary services (such as broadband mapping) to increase efficiencies of capital projects, and cost support efforts (such as subsidies)
 - Emergency Connectivity Fund (FCC): \$7.2 billion for E-Rate support to reimburse schools and libraries for provision of eligible equipment and advanced telecommunications and information services during the pandemic, including for locations other than schools and libraries
 - <u>Emergency Broadband Benefit Fund</u> (FCC): The Emergency Broadband Benefit will provide a discount of up to \$50 per month towards broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute \$10-\$50 toward the purchase price. The program has been authorized by the FCC, but the start date has not yet been established. The FCC is working to make the benefit available as quickly as possible.
 - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund: \$219.8 billion for investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure
 - Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund: \$130.2 billion for rural community development block grants (CDBG) (\$45.6 billion), rural areas (\$19.5 billion), and counties (\$65.1 billion, population-based), including for investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure
 - Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund: \$500 million (\$250 million per year for 2022 and 2023) for Tribal use only "for any governmental purpose other than a lobbying activity"
 - <u>Maryland:</u> \$300 million will be dedicated to major investments in broadband technology, including:
 - \$128 million to improve network infrastructure
 - \$75 million for service fee and device subsidies
 - \$45 million for municipal broadband grants