

NEWS FROM THE ULSTER COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

March S. Gallagher, Esq.
Comptroller



Charles Dinstuhl, CPA
Deputy Comptroller

For release: Immediately
Contact Dafne DeJesus 845-331-8774

Comptroller Releases Comprehensive American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Report Through Q3 2025 Expenditures

Kingston, NY (December 10, 2025) – Ulster County Comptroller March Gallagher today released a comprehensive report on all of Ulster County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) expenditures through the third quarter of 2025. Ulster County received \$34,491,474 in ARPA SLFRF funds. U.S. Treasury guidance on ARPA SLFRF specifically identified the types of expenditures that could be paid with ARPA SLFRF funds. Municipalities also had the option to use a portion of their funds for revenue replacement which could be expended on any governmental purpose, not just those covered by ARPA SLFRF. Ulster County identified \$14 million in lost revenues.

ARPA SLFRF funds were required to be fully obligated by December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026. The Comptroller's review identified \$6,384,980.50 in unspent ARPA funds as of September 30, 2025. Two of the largest projects with unspent funds are grant programs for Ulster County municipalities for water/sewer and parks projects. As of September 30, 2025, there remained \$3,391,851.03 in unspent water and sewer grants, more than half of the total unspent funds. Some of remaining \$6.4 million may be fully or partially expended by the required expenditure date. Those funds not expended by the deadline will be required to be returned to the U.S. Treasury Department.

ARPA SLFRF Budgeting & Spending Through 9/30/2025			
Project Name	Budgeted	Spent	Unspent
Ulster County Community College	7,628,421.13	7,628,421.13	-
Local Water and Sewer Grants	6,979,440.00	3,587,588.97	3,391,851.03
Housing Related Projects	4,030,871.59	3,234,579.98	796,291.61
County Payroll	3,162,130.81	3,162,130.81	-
Crisis Stabilization Center	2,999,999.18	2,978,674.18	21,325.00
Rail Trail Improvements	2,100,000.00	2,100,000.00	-
Local Park Improvement Grants	1,543,865.00	1,118,780.04	425,084.96
Non-Profit Grants	1,466,749.46	1,466,749.46	-
Small Business Grants	925,973.83	925,973.83	-
Agricultural Crisis Relief Grants	889,702.00	155,684.56	734,017.44
Mental Health in Schools	750,000.00	750,000.00	-
Children's Mental Health Clinic	730,000.00	222,900.13	507,099.87
Security for the Center for Well-Being	378,190.00	126,049.52	252,140.48
Food Security Grant Program	275,000.00	178,395.44	96,604.56
Ellenville Assistance Payment	178,116.00	178,116.00	-
Behavioral Health Needs Assessment	158,015.00	61,616.00	96,399.00
Emergency Wireless Access Program	130,000.00	90,834.00	39,166.00
Green Energy Job Training	90,000.00	90,000.00	-
Food Security and Access	75,000.00	49,999.45	25,000.55
Total	34,491,474.00	28,106,493.50	6,384,980.50

Guidance to municipalities for expending their ARPA funds were to fund one-time and not recurring expenditures. The Comptroller's review identified \$4.6 million of personnel and programs that were originally funded with ARPA that have now shifted to County taxpayers, including \$2 million in the 2026 Ulster County budget.

"ARPA funds were a significant boon to County finances during the most challenging period of COVID-19," said County Comptroller March Gallagher. "I am pleased to be able to bring this level of transparency to how these funds were used. These resources allowed the County to support local businesses, nonprofits, and municipalities, while also advancing several important County initiatives. However, some of these funds were also used to create new positions and launch programs that carry ongoing financial obligations. While ARPA dollars initially shielded taxpayers from these costs, the long-term responsibility for sustaining these positions and programs will ultimately fall to County taxpayers. Ulster County and its subrecipients now must work to fully expend the remaining \$6.4 million to ensure that none of these funds are returned to the U.S. Treasury, especially as the County faces federal cuts and an uncertain economy."

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