



# American Rescue Plan State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Community Engagement Nash County Results

**Survey Ranking Results (Total Respondents: 219)**

On a scale of 1 (highest) to 4 (lowest), how would you rank the following categories as least important to most important to be invested in?

Category	Responses					Score	Rank
	1 (Highest)	2	3	4 (Lowest)	No Response		
Address Negative Economic Challenges	74	35	34	38	38	2.20	2
Affordable Housing	52	46	38	66	17	2.58	3
Water & Sewer	64	46	62	10	37	2.10	1
Stormwater	20	63	50	61	25	2.78	4

On a scale of 1 (highest) to 5 (lowest), please rank which general government program and service areas you believe should be prioritized for ARPA funding.

Category	Responses						Score	Rank
	1 (Highest)	2	3	4	5 (Lowest)	No Response		
Reduce Violent Crime	97	31	28	8	11	44	1.89	1
Community Development	31	42	39	31	28	48	2.90	3
Economic Development	41	37	58	35	16	32	2.72	2
Public Works & Infrastructure	29	50	29	45	26	40	2.94	4
Parks & Recreation	18	32	31	50	50	38	3.45	5

**Town Hall Comment Summary (Comments Received: 100)**

Top Categories

Rank	Category	Mentions	Rank	Category	Mentions
1	Affordable Housing	6	6	Small Business Support	3
2	Neighborhoods	5	7	Economic Development	3
3	Pickleball	5	8	Mental Health	3
4	Housing Rehabilitation	4	9	Employment	3
5	Speed Bumps	4	10	Dilapidated Housing	3

Survey Comments - Nash County

**Other Comments to Q3: "On a scale of 1 (highest) to 4 (lowest), how would you rank the following categories as least important to most important to be invested in?"**

ALL OF THESE THINGS ARE VERY IMPORTANT AND SHOULD BE EQUALLY PRIORITIZED ESPECIALLY IN AREAS WHERE THESE TOPICS WERE NEGLECTED AND NECESSARY WORK HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED. PRIORITIZE ALL NEEDS BEGINNING IN AREAS WHO MOST NEED THEM
Also create Jobs opportunity 2nd chance opportunities for individuals
City wide trash clean up (streets,neighborhoods and businesses) and campaign against littering
City-wide severe weather warning system,
Create safe greenways along Stoney Creek/Tar River
crime
downtown redevelopment = 1
Education/Imperial Center
Electric, while rates are reasonable, I heard from one of the past meetings on where to spend some of this money that residents Don't have electric.. I urge the City to have Solar, particularly SmartFlower Solar in the Parks, museums, let's take advantage of Federal tax credit, and help move the City towards the future, which I believe is All of the above.. By having Electric cost even lower, that Helps bring everyone up.. Cost are only going to rise, and hopefully pay and service's
Employee pay bump/better raises to retain qualified employees.
Englewood Elementary's Playground Equipment
Funding allocated to electricity so the cost of the consumer's monthly electric billing is deceased. (1)
Healthcare most important!
I think the most important thing right now is Housing and Business Development
Imperial Centre Planetarium
Improve electric grid, substations
Job training
Keeping the community and grounds clean on a more regular schedule is important as well
Loss of Childcare for PreSchool Age
Maintenance of current facilities
Making it easier for the people to receive help.
Meeting and recreational facilities in Ward 7
Mental health Human trafficking (social issues) Homeless issues
New equipment so City can get its work done
Pickleball, Senior activity
Provisions for below poverty level
Public Safety and Mental Health initiatives should be on the list.
Quality of life infrastructure such as parks and trails to recruit and retain talent to Rocky Mount (see Wake County).
Residential street paving in the little easonburg area
Safety/crime/murder prevention
Same percentage of funds to offset utility bills which for most is second to the cost of food. This is especially true for seniors whose only source of income often times is from social security. While that is true for most seniors still everyone should get the same help and it does not have to be in the form of cash payouts; just implement the aid in such a way to offset the high cost of utilities in our city monthly. PLEASE and Thank You in advance for considering this matter.
Soccer Association
Stormwater and other infrastructure projects should get funding from the Infrastructure Improvement fund and NOT use ARPA money.
Vehicles for departments that were not purchased by RST's regime.
We need to improve the infrastructure which will impact every citizen and business in Rocky Mount.

Survey Comments - Nash County

<p><b>Other Comments to Q4: "On a scale of 1 (highest) to 5 (lowest), please rank which general government program and service areas you believe should be prioritized for ARPA funding."</b></p>
<p>ALL OF THESE THINGS ARE VERY IMPORTANT AND SHOULD BE EQUALLY PRIORITIZED ESPECIALLY IN AREAS WHERE THESE TOPICS WERE NEGLECTED AND NECESSARY WORK HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED. PRIORITIZE ALL NEEDS BEGINNING IN AREAS WHO MOST NEED THEM</p>
<p>City public works and police fleet vehicles...</p>
<p>don't have a great grasp on need to update infrastructure but if significant that'd certainly be the priority</p>
<p>Education Design downtown for more businesses, jobs, creative outlets, better restaurants, broaden use of the Impetial Centre Theatre</p>
<p>Education/Imperial Center</p>
<p>Englewood Elementary's Playground Equipment</p>
<p>For community development, repairing and installing sidewalks, increasing green spaces (planting trees, perennial/native plants, zero tolerance of litter/garbage, and improving lighting all need to be stressed as well as programs to help low to mid income folks make repairs and energy upgrades to their homes.</p>
<p>Help repair old homes inside and out</p>
<p>Home less shelter - UCM</p>
<p>Honestly you can place in a hat the 5 topics listed above and draw each out and they all need addressing.</p>
<p>Imperial Centre Planetarium</p>
<p>Need more public works employees</p>
<p>Our Public Schools need new playground equipment!</p>
<p>Public Safety and Mental Health initiatives should be on the list.</p>
<p>recreation in ward 5 like walking and bike trails</p>
<p>Rrplace worn out equip</p>
<p>Save Northgreen Golf Club</p>
<p>See above comments #3</p>
<p>Soccer Association</p>
<p>Specifically road repavement More police funding</p>
<p>There wasn't enough to rank the 5th, which would be community development (no funds towards affordable housing)</p>
<p>We need to work on infrastructure!!</p>
<p>We need to work on projects the will benefit all citizens of Rocky Mount</p>
<p><b>Q5: Are there any specific projects, initiatives, programs, or ideas that you would like to see invested in through ARPA funds?</b></p>
<p>Above. Thanks!!!</p>
<p>Add additional officers to help the crime issue</p>
<p>Affordable housing, affordable housing affordable housing!~!!!</p>
<p>An Outreach development program where teens and adult can spend time together learning skills to be residents skills like computer , carpentry, plumbing , electrical, also addiction prevention programs</p>
<p>Any ideas that center around helping cushion the common household from this economic recession.</p>
<p>As a retired educator I can see the importance of having The Children's Museum, the Art Center and the theater here in Rocky Mount. It has so much to offer for our community and the surrounding area. One of the biggest draws for the museum is having a Planetarium. It helps to bring field trips from schools in surrounding counties. These facilities need to be maintained, especially keeping the planetarium in great working condition. Please consider updating the equipment that is needed to continue to provide unique opportunities for children.</p>

Survey Comments - Nash County

Assistance programs to help with reduction of utility bills, help to bring in better internet providers, more quality affordable housing for working families
Attracting and Bringing large corporations to our area with higher paying jobs. Also addressing our litter problem. We have a dirty looking city.
Better and more improved homeless shelters. Also more kid friendly activities and places like parks need to be revitalized.
Bring more diversity into the organization. Both in government and business. Make RMT a city o. The rise again with sustainable inferstructure for downtown and small businesses. Make people see RMT as a whole and not a city divided by a railroad Trax. One side is just as important as the other. Please clean up and make safe ALL OF OUR BEAUTIFUL TOWN
Bulk of money should be invested in small business to help people start, and maintain small businesses. If we help people start making their own way, we help the whole area to become a thriving community. Handouts are not sustainable. We need to focus on building a great small business infrastructure in this area to help individuals use their brains and talents to improve their standard of living. There is a lot of untapped talent in this area that could be utilized to help improve the community. Don't give us fish to eat, teach us how to fish, and help us to get started. This is a great opportunity to use the \$5M to really have a dynamic impact on this area by helping people to get started making their own way. Please use this money to plant a seed that will grown into something worthwhile for this community. Handing out this money only uses up the money, and doesn't plant a seed to grow into something that helps to improve our community. I know you will hear a lot of views to hand out this money to those in need. But, a lot has already been given out, and there are other programs to continue to do this. Let's use the \$5M to help grow something good. Rather than waiting for the next check to be given, let's help people start something that they can make a living doing, which helps to provide products or services for this area, provides jobs, and helps us to become the thriving area that we should be. This is "seed" money. Let's invest it in our community in the best way possible to create long-term benefits for this area by helping the residents, those that can, get to work for themselves.
Children's Museum
Children's Museum Planetarium
City purchase Northgreen Golf Course and Country Club Speed bumps to slow speeders down or the machines that let you know how face you are going (i.e., Pinetops)
City wide trash clean up (streets,neighborhoods and businesses) and campaign against littering
Clean up the pot holes everywhere over the city
collaboration among existing non profits, investing in youth opportunities and the achievement gap with local schools, retaining teachers in local public schools -
Community development needs more funds in the department
Consider purchasing and rehabilitating Northgreen Golf Course
Continue to improve Battle Park! Lower property taxes and abolish the 2% sales tax the city imposes
Create an investment fund for businesses to apply for, similar to downtown redevelopment grants, that aid in the creation and sustainability of businesses in the same downtown overlay district that applies to downtown redevelopment grants.
Create safe greenways for walking and bicycling within the city.
crime and the litter problem !
Dealing with Human Trafficking should receive some investment
Deteriorating Buried Infrastructure Management..fix the pipes!
Develop youth programs Senior programs
Development of a well paid and well trained police department .
Do not waste money on downtown development
Downtown is supposed to be a priority. In economics you build from the center out. Downtown is our center. 2mil is not enough. Fix downtown and businesses and residents will come. Then the surrounding areas will follow. Look at the mills and their now surrounding area.

Survey Comments - Nash County

Downtown redevelopment would seem to be key to many of the other above-stated goals by improving community pride and introducing new tax revenue. I will pretty much always position that goal above most others.
Electric grid upgrades to handle electric vehicles
Englewood Elementary Playground update (& safety update)
Englewood Elementary's Playground Equipment
Fishing piers in Battle and Sunset Parks need to be replaced. Maintain the new nature paths and the greenway.
Fix up dilapidated storefronts downtown to encourage small businesses to open there
food banks. Elder care , rehabilitate activity facilities for children/teens such as the roller skating rink or construct a indoor amusement center like a David buster/ Apex entertainment/ Flippers McCoy's, etc
Free school tutoring programs to help children overcome loss of educational milestones due to the pandemic.
Funding for restaurants, particularly downtown.
Funding for the nonprofits that serve the community such as United Community Ministries and My Sister's house so they can stay open.
Give a portion to the citizens of the city like other cities and states have done!!
Give your people a lump sum of money like every other place in the United States
Grants and low interest rate loans for the revitalization of downtown and businesses Matching grants for housing rehab House Incentive funds to erase blight and create affordable housings
Grants for New ChildCare Business/NonProfits. We lost a lot of spots with closing of DayCares during Covid. This effects businesses, families, child development, crime, and also every other area that is related to our cities future. This help Children have a safe place to go, It helps parents to be able to provide for their families, It help business by making people able to reenter the work force. It is a benefit for all of us.
Group Homes & other Assisted Living Homes, Small Businesses, Youth Organizations, Help with Utilities. Why are City workers the ONLY people getting "Covid Premium Pay"?? Plenty other workers deserve that way more! How much is Andre getting??
hire more police officers. buy more trash trucks. hire more sanitation workers. pay police, fire, and sanitation workers more.
How about an interest bearing account to help reduce the burden on citizens for all this special for special interest nonsense funded out of the utilities revenue.
I propose the creation of sidewalks along Candlewood Road (it is a 1 mile stretch). Candlewood Road is the only marked road in this neighborhood and there is no shoulder to safely walk on or push a stroller, nor are there any speed bumps to help enforce the 25 mph speed limit. Perhaps un-curbed paving (similar to what was recently done in Battle Park) could be considered!
I really wish we could have pet-friendly, affordable housing geared toward older, disabled adults. Something like the Thomas St. Apartments.
I would like the city to invest money into the youth sports programs. For example allowing parks and rec to use the complex for football practices, due to it being well lit and in a safer area than where we have practice now. This will also allow them to purchase more and better training equipment such as sleds, tackling dummies so we can have the kids prepared for the next level as in school football
I would like to see funds invested in housing programs to help low and moderate income families as well as families in housing and utility crisis.
I would love to see more care and growth being encouraged in neighborhoods in South Rocky Mount.
I'd like to invest in market rate housing development in downtown RM.
Imperial Centre Planetarium

Survey Comments - Nash County

Improving the sports complex, specifically the soccer side of it!! Wilson has a beautiful soccer side of their sports complex which brings in millions, if we could improve the soccer side here there's potential for exponential revenue growth, especially with the baseball side, and basketball side (Event Center) being as big as they are, you could easily pull more of the big tournaments from Wilson's complex if an effort was made to improve the soccer side of the complex, along with bringing more revenue for the local travel team.
Increase compensation for police officers and staff
Infrastructure in general is old and antiquated, destined to fail. It's constantly in the news of cities having water, sewer, bridges, and roads failing. If this is not addressed now, we as a city will fail to serve and make safe the citizens of Rocky Mount. Do not wait for a failure as other cities have done. Be proactive!
Job training Downtown
Job training, mental health access
Keep making battle park nicer
Let downtown die from natural causes if you can't do something's to lower the crime rate. Read in paper today of assaults in downtown establishments 2 places
Lighting for all the fields for parks and rec
Making sure departments have working appropriate vehicles and infrastructure equipment repairs
Mental health increased Human trafficking awareness and prevention Homelessness Small business (nonprofit) relief Opportunities to address these issues that are listed, perhaps partnering with these nonprofit organizations
More lighting at the soccer fields at the soccer complex in Rocky Mount.
More lights at the soccer complex. The sport is getting larger and making sure we can use the entire field in the afternoon would be wonderful. The children enjoy playing under the lights.
More small buinness in the downtown area, look what Wilson/Selma have been able to accomplish so quickly. I believe Rocky Mount can grow and invest in small buinesses in the downtown district and make that AND the Mills a great and fun place to be in the evening
More sports fields, turf field, indoor courts on the Nash county side of rocky mount.
More support for mental health in the communities.
Nash County and Rocky Mount are quickly becoming bedroom communities for the Triangle. Both can embrace, plan and shape development in a manner that is beneficial to all or have developers make these decisions for us. The City of Raleigh and Wake County started using parks and greenways in the 1970's to guide/focus development. They are now moving this trend to eastern Wake County <a href="https://www.wakegov.com/news/residents-invited-help-shape-new-wake-county-nature-preserves">https://www.wakegov.com/news/residents-invited-help-shape-new-wake-county-nature-preserves</a>
No
Northgreen Golf Club and Workforce Training
Other cities have this program and use it to increase business development. Invest into these business for sustainability!
Our city's infrastructure needs top priority, as well as updating sanitation vehicles and compensating city workers (sanitation dept and all emergency personnel...those doing the actual labor work, not city hall "title holders".) NO MORE FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING.
Parks and Rec for our youth sports programs including a stadium little league field
pay down debt on event center. also, if the \$ must be spent and not allocated to an emergency fund, pay down debt, etc... then a marketing initiative to make RM appear attractive to naysayers would be good.
Planetarium at the Imperial Center
Playground equipment for Englewood Elementary School. The students have no outside equipment to play on. Please consider this investment for the students and families in our community.
Please fix the planetarium at the Imperial Centre. Knowing \$5 million has already been dedicated to housing (\$3 million) and downtown (\$2 million), some of the remaining \$5 million should be used for maintenance and upkeep of what we have, i.e. the planetarium and infrastructure improvements.
Please take care of our infrastructure so that Rocky Mount is seen as a City that cares for its residents.

Survey Comments - Nash County

POLICE MORE ON CRIME AND TRAFFIC SPEEDING
PRODUCE STRUCTURE THAT THE COMMUNITY IS NOT HEAVILY IMPOVERISHED, UNDERPAID, UNDER EMPLOYED, UNDER INSURED. MOST SOCIAL ISSUES WOULD DIMINISH IF PEOPLE WEREN'T TRYING TO SURVIVE FROM DAY TO DAY
Programs that address the mental and physical challenges caused by individuals who experienced Covid-19 and continue to struggle with "long covid."
Provide better assistance to seniors.
Provide more lighting at soccer fields. Bathrooms closer to fields at sports complex
Public Safety, Mental Health initiatives and support of the homeless, children and the elderly.
Purchase and operate Northgreen Golf Course as a meeting and recreational facility for the entire community; it would also generate income for the City. It should include outdoor pickleball courts.
Purchase Northgreen Country Club
Purchase Northgreen golf course and make it like wedgewood in Wilson
Raise fire and police salaries replace worn out equip save some for rainy day
Recreation, Parks for West Rocky Mount. We pay the majority of taxes and need our fair share. Downtown is a waste of funds.
Redevelop downtown Rocky Mount on both Nash and Edgecombe County. Help trade businesses and economic growth opportunities specifically.
Reduction in Crime
Repairing and installing sidewalks, increasing green spaces by planting trees and perennial/native plants, zero tolerance of litter/garbage, and improving lighting all need to be stressed as well as programs to help low to mid income folks make repairs and energy upgrades to their homes. Programs to educate/assist public on "greening" their homes and yards and using less water and energy.
re-paving city streets
Safe venues for our teenagers to hang out.. Christian centered programs.
See above comments#3
Senior programs, green areas, walking paths
Shelters need to be funded so are sustainable
Sidewalk in Candlewood
SmartFlower Solar Ground system, mimics a Sunflower by tracking the sun. Closes at night, by doing so it not only cleans the panels, but also protects them.. They close at winds at 40 miles a hour, and with the SmartFlower plus allows energy storage.. They are functional works of Art.. Young and old will be inspired
Soccer facility
Solicit companies with good paying jobs.
Spend money improving the science center and replacing the bulb in the planetarium
Spend money to make downtown vibrant. If doing affordable housing, renovate Bldgs downtown to make livable to solve two problems at one time
Sporting events bring so much money to this area. I thing we need to capitalize on this by improving our soccer facilities. Wilson and surrounding counties are years ahead in this area. Spend the money where you see a financial return on your investment.
Stopping our streets (main drag in residential area) from becoming a dangerous raceway!
Street lights should be brighter Downtown revitalization Sidewalks repairs and installed
Sunset Avenue traffic, need cameras and speed bumps, all seniors living there
Supplement LIHEAP energy funds and CIP energy funds for seniors on fixed incomes who are trying
Support for a business tax free zone to recruit businesses and market the benefits state wide!
Support our police with higher pay and advancements

## Survey Comments - Nash County

Tear down the old run-down houses that are beyond repair, and spend the money upgrading and revitalizing the houses that can be repaired.

The RM children's museum needs a lot of work. The art displays and things to do have been the same for years. The planetarium needs an upgrade. More opportunities for the public to engage in activities at the museum would be a wonderful asset to our community. We also need more lighting and cameras around the museum, library, sports complex to deter criminal activity.

UCM

United Community Ministries/McDonald Street Shelter/Basset Center needs significant funding to continue operating even at a minimum level

Whatever is needed for infrastructure/public works

Yes attention to the police officers and fire department and less downtown development