



# American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Chatham County

August 24, 2022

# Agenda

1. Update
2. Progress Review
3. Prioritizations
4. Next Steps

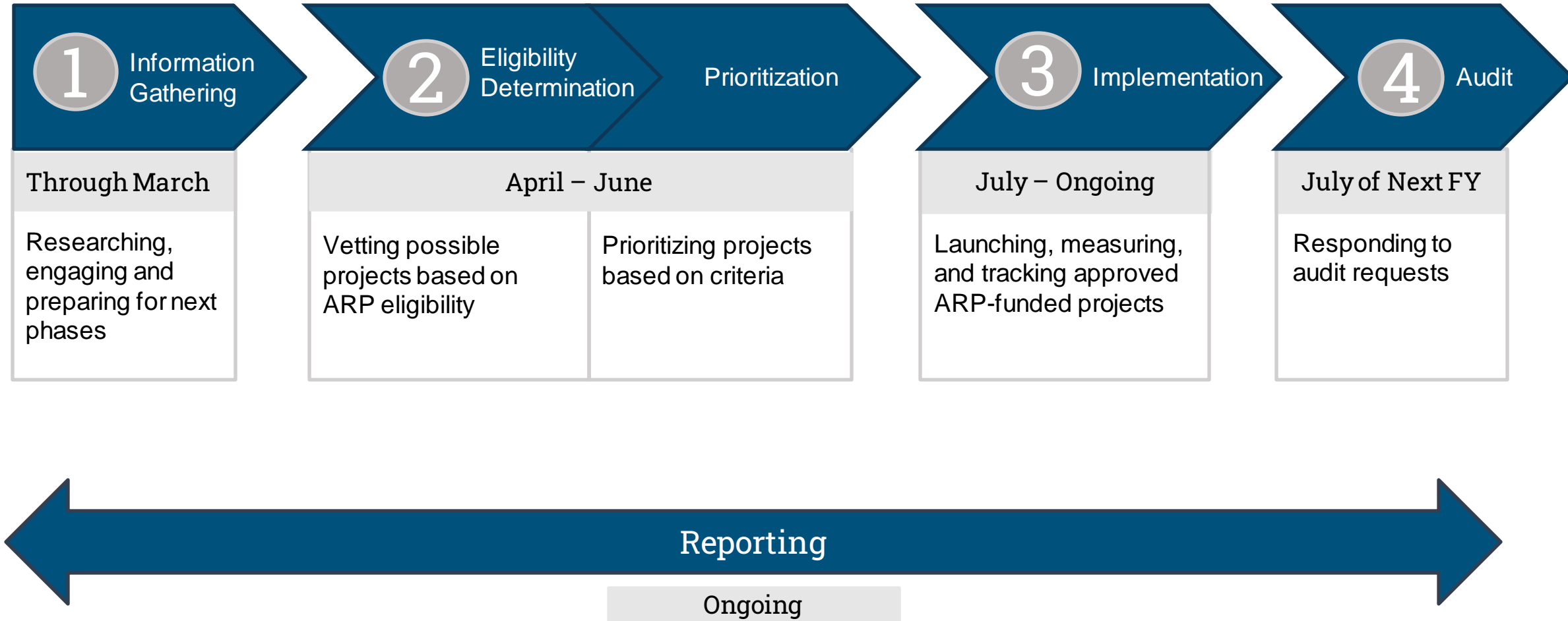
# Update

- Chatham County will receive **\$14,464,924** to **combat the COVID-19 pandemic**.
- **Obligated** (as of 7/21/22): \$5,074,281.67
  - Includes Parkers' Ridge Park, Detention COVID Renovation, Vaccine Incentives, and Community Conversations
- **Available** (as of 7/21/22): \$9,390,642.33
  - For any other projects approved

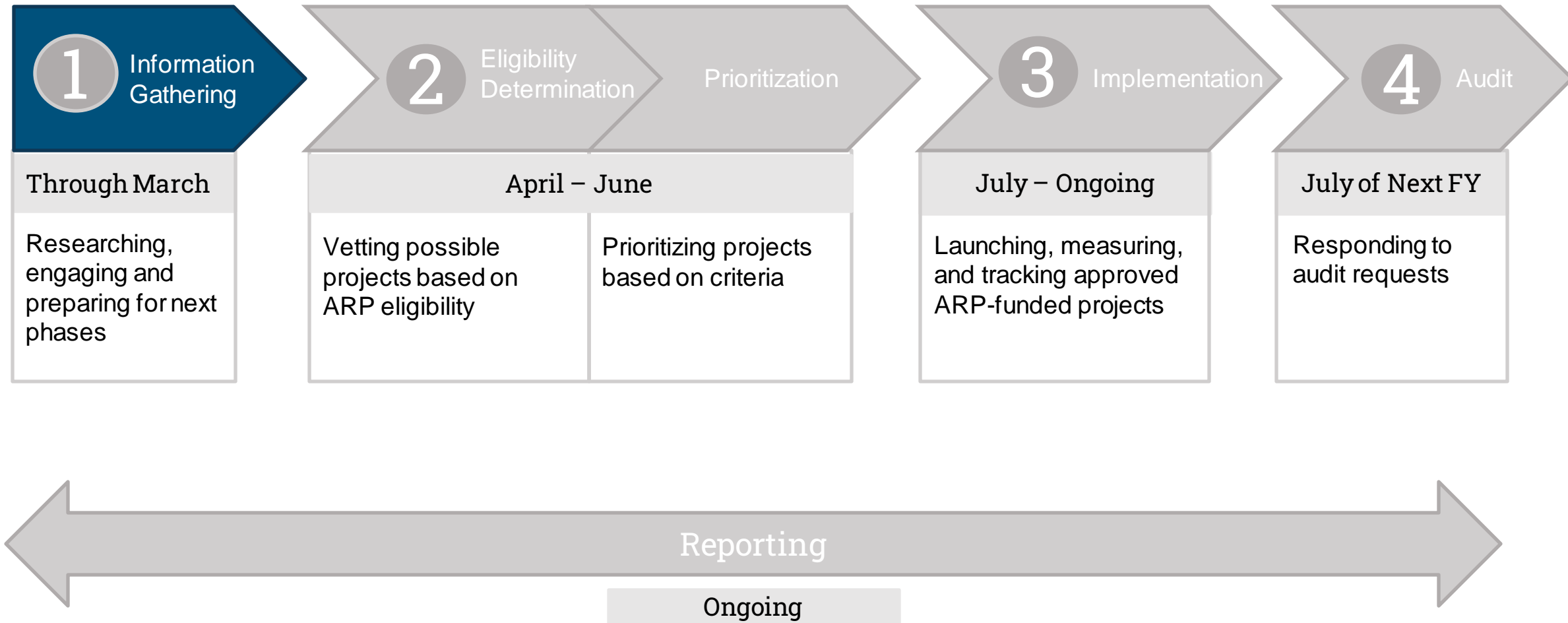
Deadline for  
**obligation:**  
December 31, **2024**

Deadline for  
**expending:**  
December 31, **2026**

# Chatham's Planning Process



# Phase 1 Recap



# 1 Information Gathering

*CARPenters (est. July 2021)*

- **Internal review team**
  - Budget, Finance, and Manager's Office
- Quarterly meetings
- Play an **important role** in the ARPA process

# 1 Information Gathering

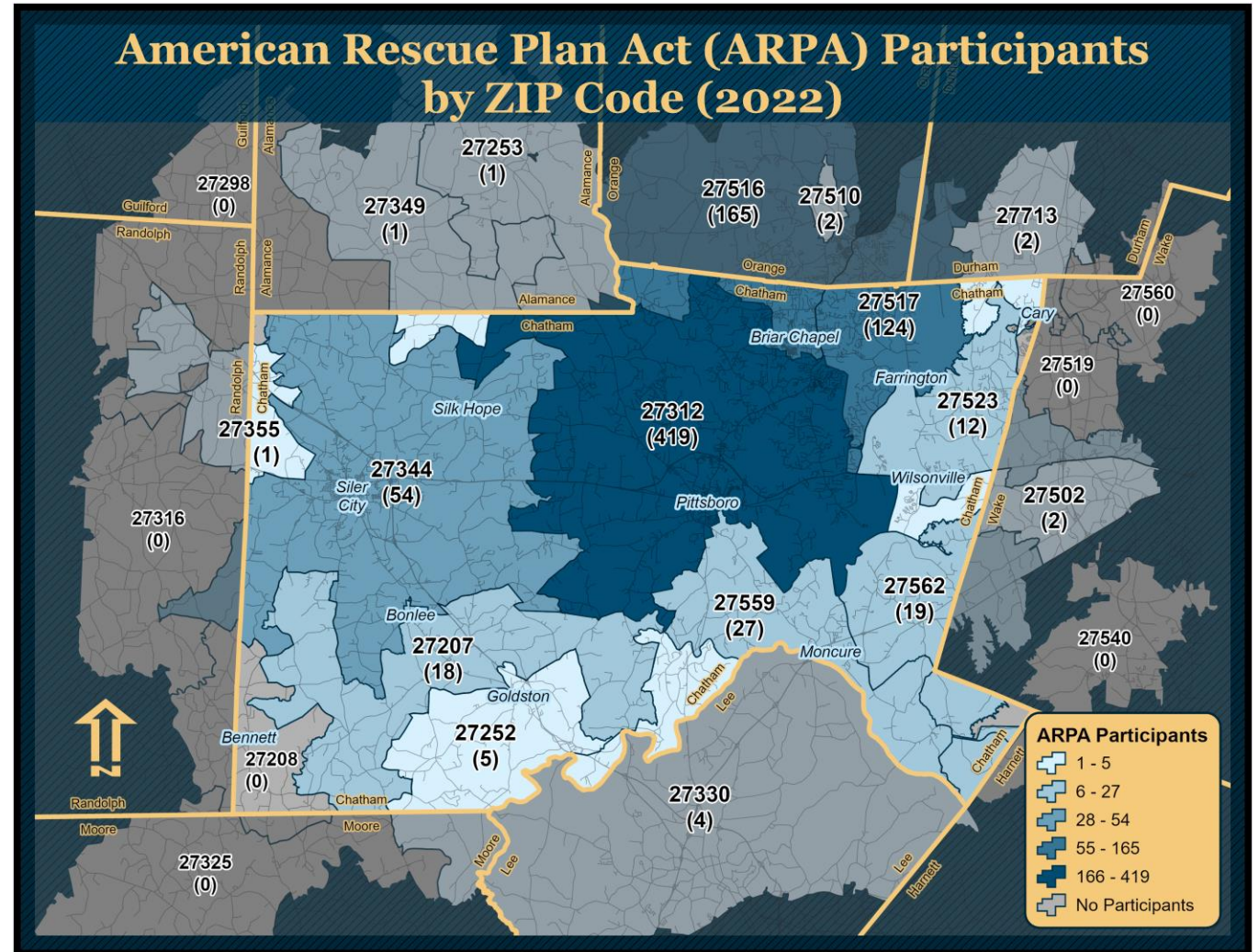
## *CIT Engagement*

- Coordinated **two meetings** to discuss ARP and brainstorm project ideas
- Submitted **10 project ideas**
  - 8 remained in the final prioritizations
- The **CIT leads also prioritized** the projects prior to bringing them to the CARPenters

# 1 Information Gathering

## Public Engagement

- **900+** participants
- All survey results and meeting notes were **reviewed and tagged by theme**
- Plan for **continued communication** about ARP progress





1

# Emerging Themes

Housing

Homelessness

Mental Health

Public Health

Education

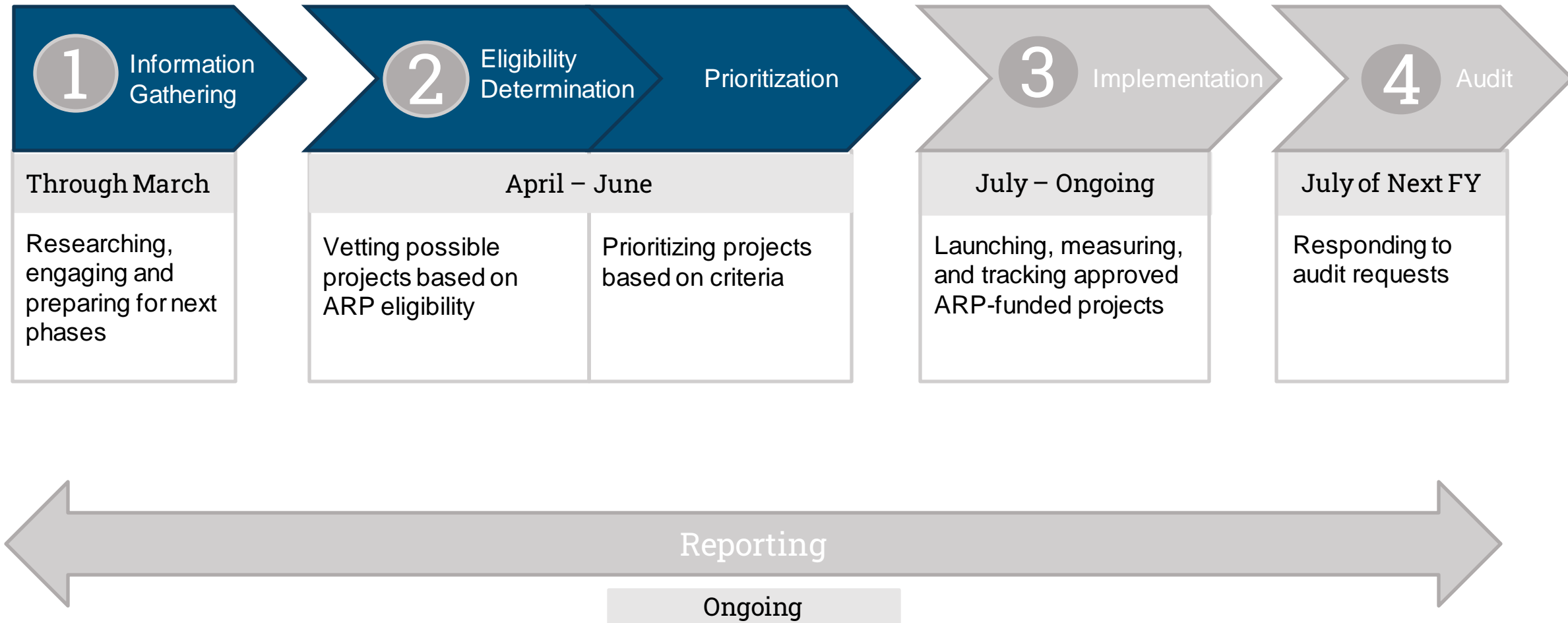
Recreation

Broadband

Water & Sewer

Small Business  
Support

# Phase 2 Recap



## 2

# Eligibility Determination

## *Allowable Uses*

- Support public health response
- Address negative economic impacts
- Replace public sector revenue loss
- Premium pay for essential workers
- Water, sewer and broadband infrastructure
  - Equity-focused services

## 2

# Eligibility Determination

Project Name	Description	E..	Areas
Affordable Housing Development	Provide funding for the creation of permanently affordable housing (long-term).	2.15 and 2.2	Negative Economic Impacts
Community Engagement for ARPA	Host 8 in-person meetings throughout the County to engage with the public about ARPA while providing free food and childcare	3.2	Public Sector Capacity
Community Resource Location	Create a "one-stop" shop for community resources - this could be supported through a position or a physical location. It could be a partnership with the Community Resource ...	2.37	
Compliance and Audit Costs	Cover the increased compliance and audit expenses due to our increased amount of	3.5	Public Sector Capacity

# 2

# Eligibility Determination

## Housing

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### Ab Top Areas of Concern

- Availability of affordable housing
- Subpar living conditions
- Household income loss

### Ab Project Ideas

- Rent, mortgage, and utility assistance programs (ARPA)
- Home repair programs (O)
- Affordable housing construction (O)
- ~~Increase resource sharing~~
- ~~Increase housing vouchers~~
- Homeowner education programs (APRA - nonprofit)

## 2

# Prioritization

- Prioritize one-time use to avoid fiscal cliffs
- Consider potential audits to mitigate risk
- Remain flexible as additional guidance and other community decisions are released

Feasibility

Transformational

Disparity  
Reduction

Fiscal Foresight

# 2

## Prioritization

### Health Services

Consider whether each project is *fiscally responsible, transformational, reduces disparities, and feasible*.

#### Priority Level Definitions:

- *High* – Project addresses all 3 prioritization criteria and is feasible.
- *Medium* – Project addresses 1 or 2 of the criteria considerations and is feasible.
- *Low* – Project addresses 1 or none of the criteria considerations and/or is not feasible.

#### 1. COVID-19 Wastewater Monitoring - \$40,000 \*

Implement wastewater monitoring or surveillance process that tests samples of wastewater for evidence of COVID viral particles in order to track trends and the impact of COVID at the community level

High

Medium

Low

Rating

#### 2. What made you choose the rating you chose?

Enter your answer

# 2

# Final Prioritizations

HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parker's Ridge Park</li> <li>• GREAT Grant Match</li> <li>• DSS Housing Assistance</li> <li>• Early Childhood Assessment</li> <li>• Emergency Housing/Homeless Service Support</li> <li>• Nonprofit Grants</li> <li>• Community Engagement for ARPA</li> <li>• Affordable Housing Development</li> <li>• Expansion of Fiber Network to Siler City</li> <li>• Vaccine Incentive</li> <li>• Detention COVID-19 Facility Modifications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic Violence Shelter</li> <li>• Critical Water Infrastructure Program: Hydrant Repair Project</li> <li>• Homeless Service Navigator/Intern</li> <li>• Public Health Response Needs</li> <li>• Transitional Supportive Housing Units/Shelter</li> <li>• Community Resource Location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Septic Tank Program</li> <li>• Justice Center A/V</li> <li>• COVID-19 Wastewater Monitoring</li> <li>• Premium/Bonus Pay for Eligible Essential Workers</li> </ul>

**REQUIRED:** Compliance and Audit Costs



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## 2

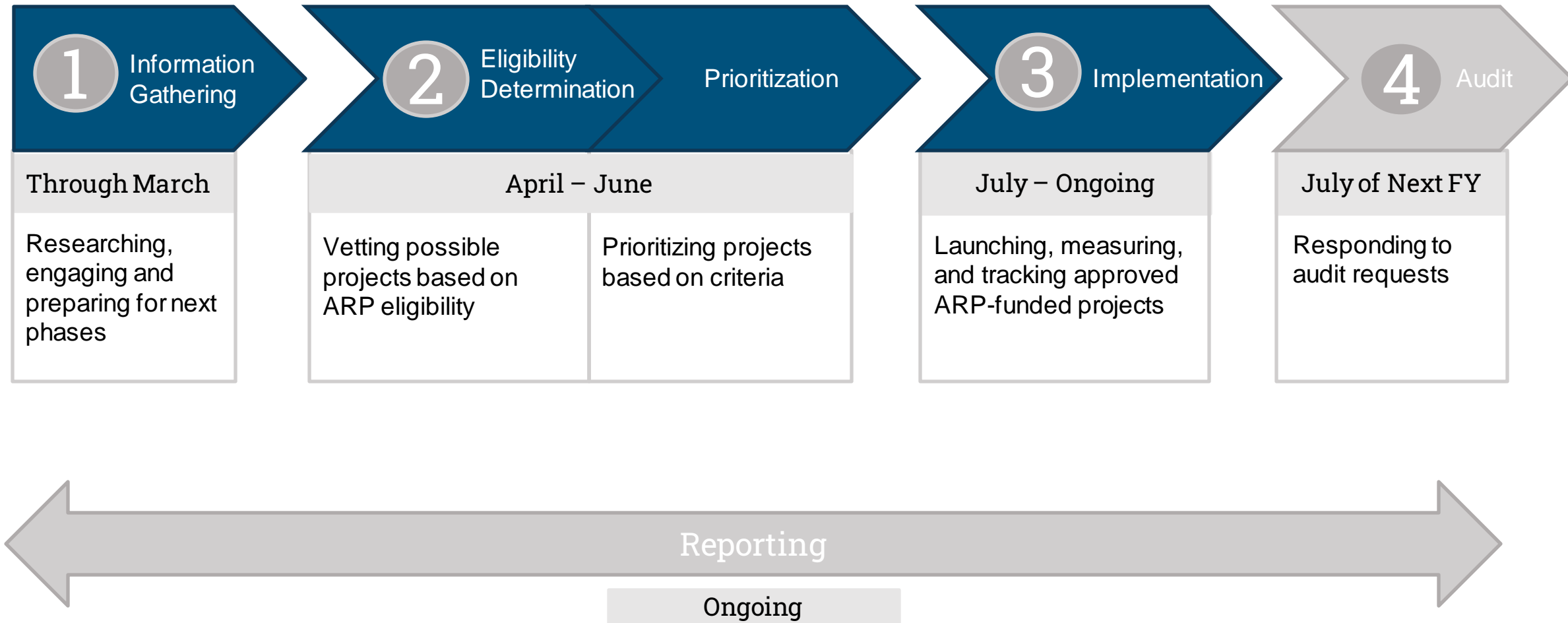
# Fusion of Housing Priorities

Create a **housing division** to support the housing- and homelessness-related projects.

Initial actions:

- Create a housing division under DSS
- Hire a division director to strategize
- Hire an assistant director
- Hire any remaining staff

# Phase 3 Preparation



# 3

## Implementation Preparation

- Final Rule was released in **January 2022**
- Revenue Replacement Update:
  - Local governments can use a **standard allowance of up to \$10 million** for government services
- Important implications the **ease** of use of these funds

## 3

# Implementation Preparation

We will still use the **full ARPA allocation (\$14.4M)** for ARPA-eligible projects.

Reporting will **reflect use of \$10M for government salaries:**

- We will use that **\$10M for ARPA-eligible projects**, without having to report to US Treasury or abide by Uniform Guidance
- These projects will be **internally tracked** and periodically **reported to the BOC** with Budget Updates

# Next Steps

- Begin Phase 3: **Implementation**
  - Transition to Budget (Will Curvin)
- **Communications strategy**
  - To the public via email and website
  - To the BOC via quarterly budget updates









## American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Updates

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with Chatham County about the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. I wanted to reach out to provide you with a brief update on the status of the public engagement around the American Rescue Plan Act Funds and additional information about broadband in Chatham County.

- **Online Survey:** Chatham County is still collecting feedback from the community about how we can best use American Rescue Plan Act funds. The survey is available **until 3/31/22** in Spanish and English. Please share this with any individuals who did not attend Community Conversations or have not completed the online survey.

## Communications Campaign

 <p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>TOP AREAS OF CONCERN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Availability of affordable housing</li><li>• Subpar living conditions</li><li>• Household income loss</li></ul> <p>PROJECT IDEAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rent, mortgage, and utility assistance programs</li><li>• Home repair programs</li><li>• Affordable housing construction...</li></ul> <p>STATUS</p> <p>100%</p>	 <p><b>Homelessness</b></p> <p>TOP AREAS OF CONCERN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of homeless shelter</li><li>• Lack of landlords willing to house homeless</li><li>• Increased rent prices...</li></ul> <p>PROJECT IDEAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build a homeless shelter</li><li>• Hire a case manager</li><li>• Host free clinics</li><li>• Create credit repair programs</li></ul> <p>STATUS</p> <p>100%</p>	 <p><b>Mental Health</b></p> <p>TOP AREAS OF CONCERN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of infrastructure for mental health needs</li><li>• Increased substance misuse and overdose rates...</li></ul> <p>PROJECT IDEAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase funding for Chatham Arts Council to support healthy outlets for youth</li><li>• Funding for Farm at Penny Lane...</li></ul> <p>STATUS</p> <p>100%</p>
 <p><b>Public Health</b></p> <p>TOP AREAS OF CONCERN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Access to medical facilities</li></ul>	 <p><b>Education</b></p> <p>TOP AREAS OF CONCERN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lags in student performance</li></ul>	 <p><b>Recreation</b></p> <p>TOP AREAS OF CONCERN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintenance of recreational facilities.</li></ul>

## Summary Gallery

# Thank you!

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