



**TO:** Mayor & Council Members  
**FROM:** Greg Canally, Deputy Chief Financial Officer *JCC*  
**DATE:** November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
**SUBJECT:** October 2010 City of Austin ARRA Status Report

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It has been a year and nine months since the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was signed into law. During this time, the City has made a substantial investment in seeking out, acquiring, developing, implementing and managing ARRA funding and activities; and to date the City has been awarded \$82.9 million in stimulus funding. As you know, it has taken some time to get many of these programs ramped up; there has been a large learning curve from the Federal agencies on down. While the some grants have already been successfully completed, such as the Community Services Block Grant, others are only at their mid-point, with completion not scheduled until the end of 2012.

To keep Council up to speed on the City's ARRA activities we will be delivering monthly updates highlighting significant milestones and issues, as well as overall expenditure information. These will be generated from information gathered through our continued monthly oversight meetings we conduct with department staff responsible for the projects.

Status updates on each ARRA grant are available on the City's stimulus website, [www.cityofaustin.org/stimulus](http://www.cityofaustin.org/stimulus) (link is on City's homepage), under the projects tab (<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/stimulus/projects.htm>). In addition, the *Federal Stimulus Tracking List* is also updated monthly and has been expanded to include expenditure and encumbrance information, as well as grant start/end dates and job creation estimates. This tracking log can be found here: <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/stimulus/downloads/arra%20status%20report.xls>.

Since the last stimulus update, we have received several notifications on awards.

- An Advance Funding Agreement for \$0.8 million from TxDOT was approved by Council on September 23, 2010. These funds will be in addition to the \$0.6 million authorized by Council on June 24, 2010 and will increase the number of uninterruptible power supply systems to be installed at intersections throughout the city from 200 to approximately 500 (the actual number will be determined by the after bids have been received and costs calculated).
- TxDOT also provided the City with an additional \$325,000 in ARRA funding for the Loop 360 Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Project. However, these funds do not represent additional funding overall to the City since TxDOT only replaced already identified funding sources, Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), with ARRA funding. The change in funding does not impact the project and was approved by Council in the FY11 Budget Document.

- The Library has been named a subgrantee under the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. They will be receiving \$63,152 to fund a Computer Training and Job Search Center at the George Washington Carver Branch Library. Council will be accepting the grant before the end of the year.
- Austin Energy was awarded \$17,500 as a subgrantee under the Railroad Commission of Texas to promote the use of propane vehicles and improve related infrastructure. The grant is expected to be renewed annually for the next 3 years for a total award of \$70,000.

The City has also completed several projects in the last few months.

- The Health Department's Community Services Block Grant ended on September 30, 2010. This program spent \$1,430,692 to address the needs in low-income communities through neighborhood centers and community partners. In total, 230 households actively participated in the case management program; a total of 1,274 households received rent and utility assistance of which 1,119 households are unduplicated; 467 individuals received some level of workforce development services, including 94 individuals either securing employment or experiencing an increase in employment income; and 20 children received childcare services.
- Public Works has completed the Street Overlay Project for which the City received \$1.5 million. This project provided mill and overlay for East 7th Street from east of Tillery Street Bridge to Levander Loop, Barton Skyway from Lightsey Road to Barton Hills Drive, East Riverside Drive from Montopolis to Ben White, Pleasant Valley to Grove Boulevard, Kinney Drive from Virginia to Lamar, South Lamar from Treadwell Street to Cinco Street, and Stassney Lane from Williamson Creek Bridge to Pleasant Valley Road South.
- A \$53,000 ARRA grant received through the Governor's Office allowed the APD to host training to improve the knowledge and skills of law enforcement personnel, sworn and civilian, within our ten-county CAPCOG region.

There have been a number of notable benchmarks as well.

- PeopleFund's Center for Economic Opportunity opened its doors October 27, 2010. Construction was funded as part of NHCD's Community Development Block Grant-ARRA (CDBG-R) allocation. The new two-story facility will provide comprehensive services to local small businesses and low- to moderate-income homebuyers. In addition, the facility will allow small businesses to rent affordable office space traditionally outside their reach. Twenty jobs were created as part of this construction project.
- The East Austin Sidewalk Project, also funded through CDBG-R, created connectivity of sidewalks between 10 different East Austin Neighborhoods. This project created 17 jobs for the Austin Community.
- As of the end of October, AE's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reported 232 units completed to TDHCA; for the month of October, AE completed 105 units, exceeding our goal of 100 units.
- WAP also received a Sustainability Leadership Award at the ICLEI Local Action Summit 2010.
- Tobacco-free campus policies, including rail platforms, transit centers and campuses, have been approved by the Boards of Capital Metro and Integral Care.
- The LED installations at parking garages for City Hall, One Texas Center and Town Lake Center have been completed and work has begun on the Technicenter Building.

- The Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant upgrades are on schedule and proceeding smoothly. The compost pad is approximately 80% complete while two of the 10 sludge holding/digester tanks have been cleaned.

Overall, \$47.9 million, or 58% of the total funds awarded, have been either expended or encumbered through 10/31/10.

There are also several stimulus-related items on upcoming Council agendas:

- On November 18, 2010, Council will be authorizing the construction contract for structural stabilization, partial demolition and lead and asbestos abatement for the Dedrick-Hamilton House, and will be awarding the contract to provide equipment and services to retrofit Prius vehicles with alternative power.
- On December 9, 2010, Council will be authorizing the construction contract for Loop 360 Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Program and authorizing the negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Manor ISD for HHSD's Tobacco Prevention Program for the development and implementation of youth education and engagement programs in tobacco prevention.

I look forward to providing you current updates on the City's stimulus efforts. We are pleased with overall progress, but will remain committed to completing this program. Please let me know if you have additional questions.

xc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager  
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