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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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FOR INFORMATION CALL

July 27, 2021

Ald. Cavalier Johnson  
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## **Council approves amended process for allocation of ARPA funds**

Today the Common Council adopted an amended motion detailing the allocation process for a portion of the more than \$394 million in funds Milwaukee will receive from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). The motion was introduced by **Alderman Cavalier Johnson**.

Approved under immediate adoption, File #**210576** establishes a process for the allocation of the first tranche of funds (more than \$195 million) to be received under the ARPA, and it is patterned after that used by the Common Council for the deliberation of the annual city budget.

Under simple amendments approved on the motion, a deadline date and time will soon be determined by Common Council members for specific requests for ARPA allocations (the original motion listed a deadline of no later than 5 p.m. on August 20<sup>th</sup>, but members indicated a desire for more time). Also, members approved adding a review component for allocation requests to be handled by the Office of Equity and Inclusion.

Additionally, Council members will hear Mayor Barrett's summer ARPA spending plan during a special meeting in early September.

**-More-**

## **Allocation process/ADD ONE**

The Finance and Personnel Committee will submit its recommendations to the Common Council, and the Council will then also consider any amendments which were submitted for consideration to the Finance and Personnel Committee but were not recommended for adoption by the committee, provided they were submitted to the City Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the Council meeting (in order by budget item affected).

Alderman Johnson said he appreciated today's robust discussion of the measure on the Council floor, noting that members expressed a desire to be prudent, recognizing that COVID-19 is morphing and the future course of the pandemic is unpredictable. "Members rightly expressed the need to be cautious with the ARPA funding, to make sure that we don't expend the entirety of the allocation so that we have some flexibility be able to address issues as they may arise in the months and years to come," he said.

"It is evident that the ARPA represents an immense opportunity for our community, and what we passed today will ensure a transparent process to allocate funding, and make a significant impact for our residents," Ald. Johnson said. "I would also like to thank my colleagues for supporting this motion as we all work to make sure the Council leads the way on this critically important issue."