

# THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

## MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

February 21, 2023

Sent Via Email

Representative Brian Ashe State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 160 Boston, MA 02133

Representative Angelo J. Puppolo State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 122 Boston, MA 02133

Representative Bud Williams State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 236 Boston, MA 02133

Senator Jacob Oliveira State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 416-B Boston, MA 02133 Representative Carlos Gonzalez State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 167 Boston, MA 02133

Representative Orlando Ramos State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 236 Boston, MA 02133

Senator Adam Gomez State House 24 Beacon Street, Room 413-B Boston, MA 02133

## Dear Springfield Delegation:

As you begin the 193<sup>rd</sup> General Court of the Commonwealth, I am writing to respectfully request that as your legislative year and session continues, if you could keep the city of Springfield in mind as you file your budgetary earmarks and other fiscal amendments. As you know, my administration has utilized our local allocation of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support and implement many successful programs and initiatives to continue to provide much-needed relief and assistance for our residents, businesses and nonprofits.

These programs have seen an overwhelming response and my administration has awarded millions to help our constituents. However, more is needed and the city of Springfield cannot continue to do this alone.

That is why I am respectfully asking If you can help to secure a some of the states allocation of ARPA funding or an earmark(s) and/or amendment(s) either through your fiscal budget process, a supplemental budget or by any other means to help boost the funding to these local programs and initiatives so that we can continue to help potentially hundreds of more residents and businesses.

A list of some of the various programs and initiatives created by my administration with a short description is listed below for your reference when filing.

#### **Small Business Program**

- Funding supports and provides relief to Springfield small businesses
- Approximately 92% of funding as been awarded to minority owned businesses

### Nonprofit Program

• Funding supports local nonprofits and the various programs that serve and support the community

#### **Household Direct Cash Assistance**

• Direct cash assistance to Springfield households; up to \$1,400

#### **Healthy Homes Repair Program**

- Designated to rehabilitate homes in low-income neighborhoods
- Address health issues including lead paint and asthma triggers

### Exterior Home Repair Program

- Provides up to \$40,000 to fund exterior home repairs, including roofs, windows, porches, siding and painting
- Available citywide

#### Build Back Springfield

• Focuses on recognizing the economic, environmental and cultural value of preserving older and locally significant landmark buildings and structures

• The city seeks to encourage adaptive reuse plans to revitalize buildings that complements the neighborhood while providing for new economic growth and employment opportunities

### Neighborhood Economic Recovery and Relief Fund

• Ensures that neighborhood businesses and institutions, which are at the core of neighborhood life, have the resources to not only recover from the adverse impacts of the pandemic but to work together with the city towards ensuring our neighborhood centers and the surrounding area include sufficient amenities for residents and the business community to flourish with a focus on disproportionately impacted communities, equity and inclusion

If this request is something you believe is possible and would benefit your respective districts along with the city of Springfield, please follow up with my Chief Development Officer Tim Sheehan at tsheehan@springfieldcityhall.com, and Chief Administrative and Financial Officer TJ Plante at tplante@springfieldcityhall.com if you need additional information to seek state funding.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request and for your continued leadership on behalf of the Commonwealth and the city of Springfield.

Good health & Gelbless. "

Respectfully,

Domenic J. Sarno

Mayor