

STATE OF KANSAS

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 241 SOUTH
TOPEKA, KS 66612



PHONE: (785) 296-3232
GOVERNOR.KANSAS.GOV

GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

For Immediate Release:

December 21, 2022

Contact:

Cassie Nichols

cassie.nichols@ks.gov

State Finance Council Approves \$374 Million in COVID-19 Relief Funds

TOPEKA – Today the State Finance Council approved a total of \$374 million in COVID-19 relief funds for broadband infrastructure and adoption, the modernization and improvement of government services, economic development, and health and education initiatives recommended by the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) Executive Committee.

“The funding approved today will accelerate the work my administration is doing to expand broadband, attract new businesses and create jobs, and strengthen the state’s information security,” **Governor Kelly said**. “I want to thank the bipartisan State Finance Council and everyone who participated in the SPARK process for helping ensure these relief dollars are invested as effectively and efficiently as possible.”

The SPARK Executive Committee met on December 20 to consider program design proposals for [COVID-19 relief funding recommended by the committee in September](#). The Executive Committee reviewed the proposals and recommended programming to distribute \$374 million in federal coronavirus relief funds allocated to Kansas through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of March 2021.

“The programs approved today will make catalytic investments in critical areas of need that will position Kansas for future success,” **Kansas House Speaker Ron Ryckman said**. “From broadband to economic development these programs will provide funding to Kansas communities that will be impactful for years to come.”

The portfolio of approved funding includes investments in competitive grant programs in the four SPARK Advisory Panel areas: Connectivity, Efficiency and

Modernization, Health and Education, and Economic Revitalization.

An overview of approved programming is available [on the Office of Recovery's website](#).

“I’m thrilled that the program details are finalized and these dollars can begin flowing to Kansas communities and businesses,” **Lieutenant Governor and Commerce Secretary David Toland said**. “The competitive opportunities available will be transformative for the Kansas economy and substantively improve the quality of life for all Kansans. I commend the Executive Committee and Advisory Panel members for their diligent work in shaping the recommendations approved today and helping put Kansas on a path to future success.”

Additional details on these competitive grant programs will be forthcoming from administering agencies by the end of February.

For more information about ARPA, the SPARK Executive Committee, or the Office of Recovery, please visit <https://covid.ks.gov>.

###