

Let's Go Better Listening Session

Arts Sector, 9/22/2021

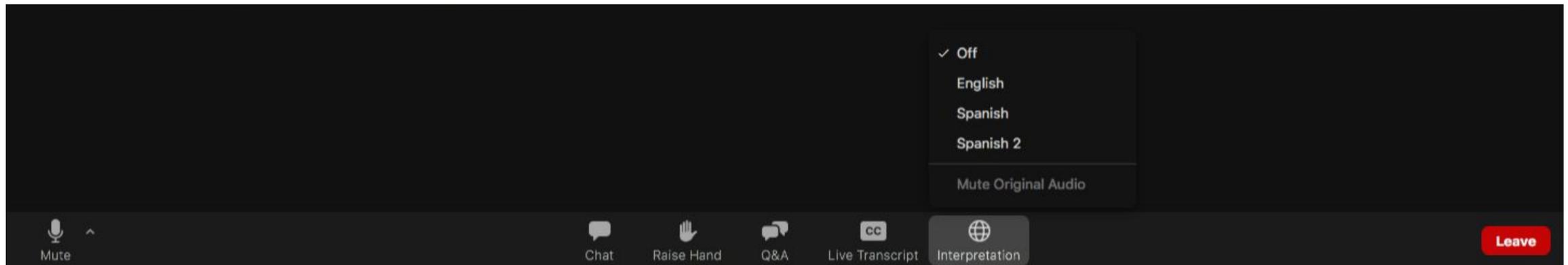


- **Language Access Orientation (3 min)**
- **Introductions (5 min)**
- **Framework for Boston's Federal Funds (3 min)**
- **Funding Overview (2 min)**
- **The Current Reality of Arts in Boston (5 min)**
- **Existing Efforts and Best Practices (5 min)**
- **Listening Session (45 min)**
- **Conclusion (5 min)**

- **Zoom Orientation**
- **Introductions**
- **Framework for Boston's Federal Funds**
- **Funding Overview & Timeline**
- **The Current Reality of Arts in Boston**
- **Existing Efforts and Best Practices**
- **Discussion Session**
- **Conclusion**

Language Interpretation Services

- Simultaneous interpretation services are being provided for this meeting in the following languages:
- To switch languages, please select the globe icon  that will appear at the bottom of your screen and select the language of your choice.



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Closed captioning is being provided. To access:

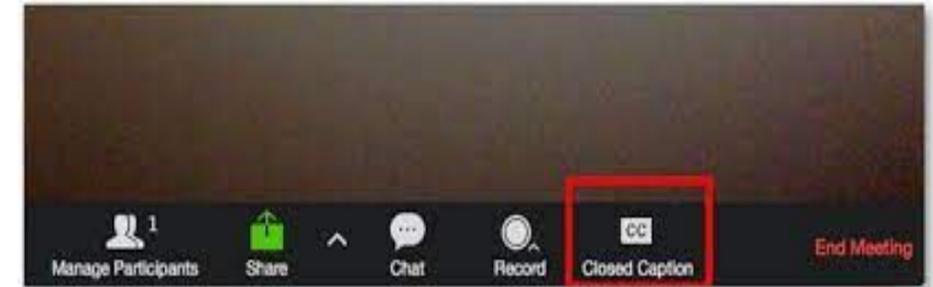
1. Find “Closed Caption”
2. Drop-down menu

Subtítulos

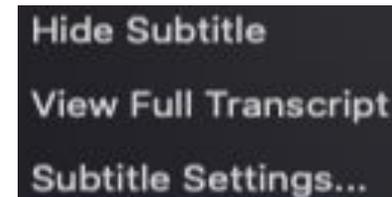
Se proporcionan subtítulos. Para acceder:

1. Busque “Closed Caption” (Subtítulos)
2. Abra el menú desplegable

1.



2.



- We will be recording the presentation and posting it on our website.
- Please ask questions by typing them in the chat. If we do not get to your question or are on a phone, you can email the recover@boston.gov and we will answer your questions in the coming days.

Participant Controls



Audio



Mute and unmute your microphone. Audio Controls (click the ^ arrow next to Mute / Unmute): Allows you to change the microphone and speaker that Zoom is currently using on your computer, leave computer audio, and access the full [audio settings](#).

Video



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Participants



Participants : See who's currently in the meeting.

Chat



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Reactions

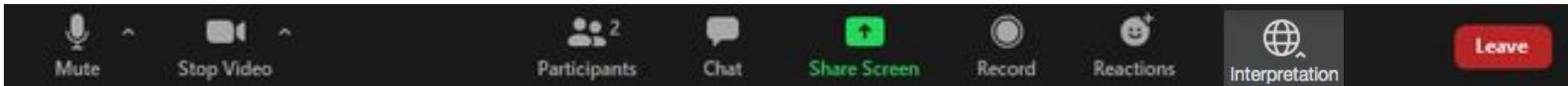


Reactions : [Meeting reactions, nonverbal feedback, and Raise Hand](#) allow you to communicate issues or feedback to the host or presenter without disrupting the meeting. These reactions are shown on your video panel and next to your name on the participants panel.

Click reactions icon and select hand icon to Raise Hand / Lower Hand

Interpretation

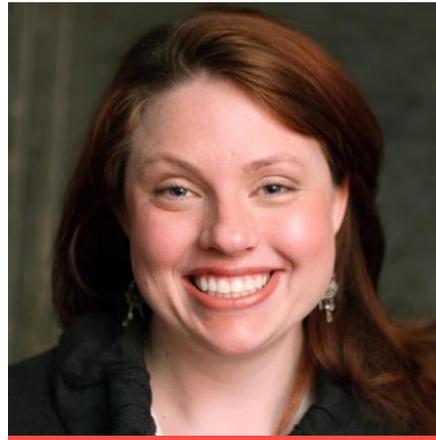
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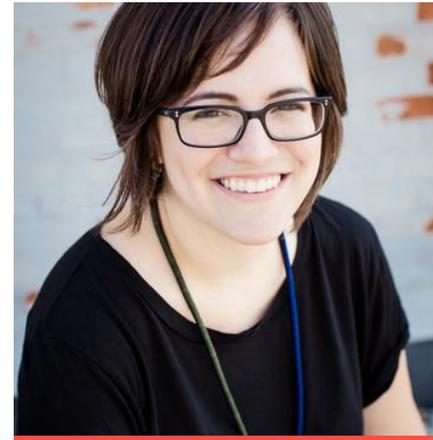
Denella Clark

*President, Boston Arts
Academy Foundation*



Emily Ruddock

*Executive Director,
MASSCreative*



Kara Elliott-Ortega

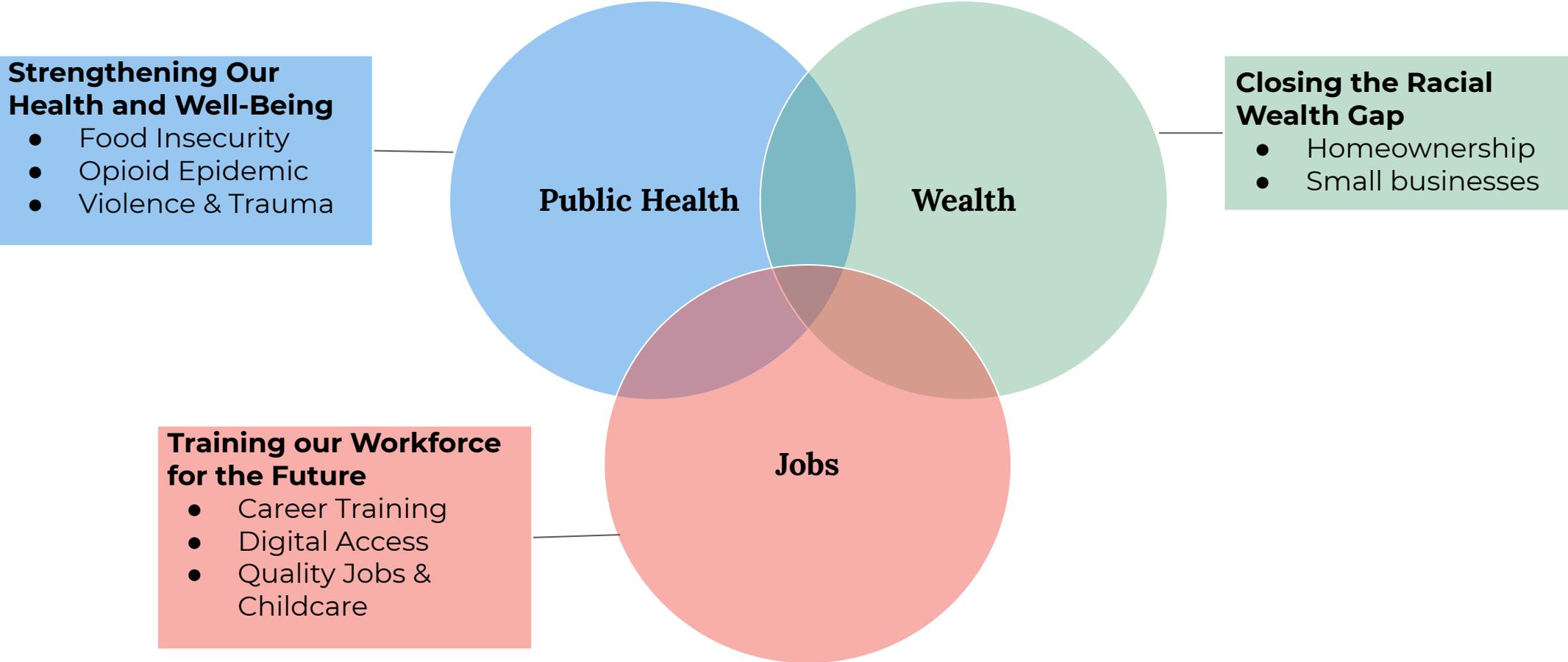
*Chief of Arts and
Culture, City of Boston*

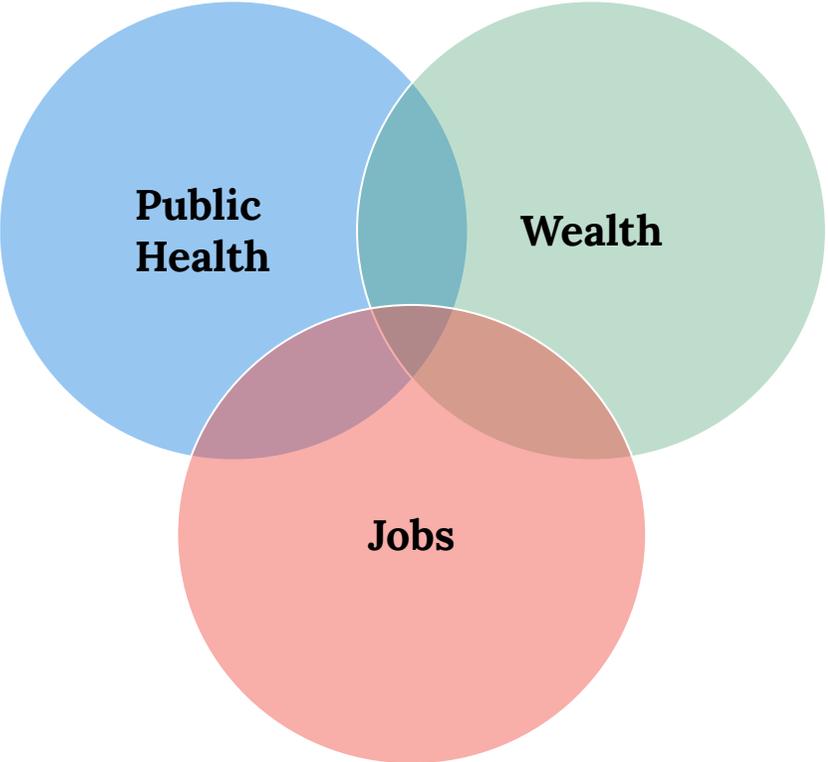


Omar Khoshafa

*Director of Key
Initiatives and
Strategic Planning,
Mayor's Office*

An Equitable Recovery for All Boston Residents



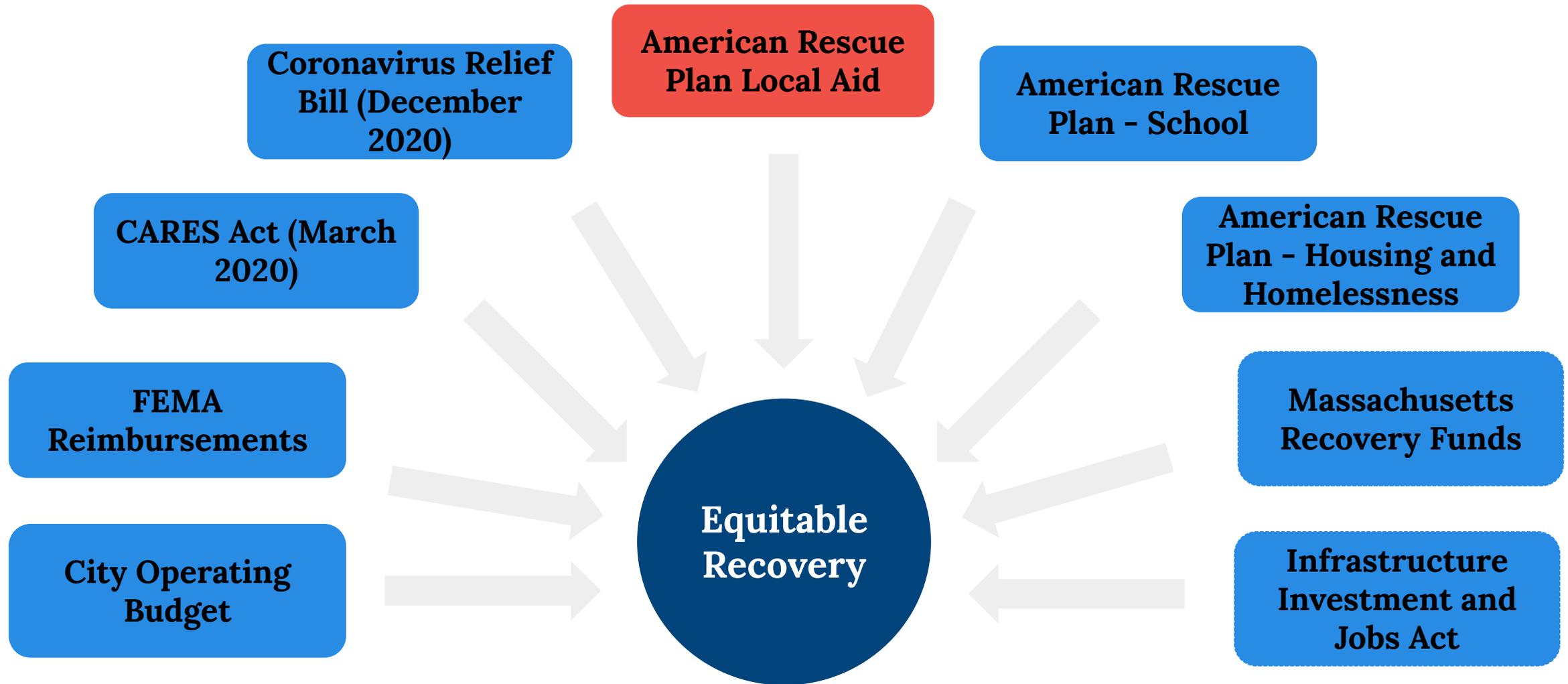


Additional Lens

*While exploring investment opportunities in these areas, there will be an emphasis on solutions that incorporate **Arts & Culture** and **Climate Resiliency***

What are Boston's available resources for recovery?

Funding Overview



What is the impact of ARPA local aid in Boston?



Total Funds

- Boston estimated to receive **\$558 Million** from ARPA, with \$424 Million coming directly to Boston and an additional \$134 Million from Suffolk County to come from the Commonwealth.
- **\$136.5 Million** has been allocated to date for emergency relief investments and stabilizing Boston's budget

Guardrails

- ARPA funding must be committed **through December 2024**
- Fit into one of the **eligible “uses” of spending** on the next slide

What are Boston's eligible uses of ARPA Funding?

Funding Overview



Support Public Health Response

- **Services to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19**, including vaccination, medical expenses, testing, contact tracing, quarantine costs, capacity enhancements, and many related activities
- **Behavioral healthcare services**, including mental health or substance misuse treatment, crisis intervention, and related services
- **Payroll and covered benefits** for public health, healthcare, human services, and public safety staff to the extent that they work on the COVID-19 response

Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss

- **Ensure continuity of vital government services** by filling budget shortfalls
- **Revenue loss is calculated** relative to the expected trend, beginning with the last full fiscal year pre-pandemic and adjusted annually for growth
- **Recipients may re-calculate revenue loss** at multiple points during the program, supporting those entities that experience revenue loss with a lag

Address Negative Economic Impacts

- **Deliver assistance to workers and families**, including support for unemployed workers, aid to households, and survivor's benefits for families of COVID-19 victims
- **Support small businesses** with loans, grants, in-kind assistance, and counseling programs
- **Speed the recovery of impacted industries**, including the tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors
- **Rebuild public sector capacity** by rehiring staff, replenishing state unemployment insurance funds, and implementing economic relief programs

Broadband Infrastructure

- **Focus on households and businesses** without access to broadband and those with connections that do not provide minimally acceptable speeds
- **Fund projects that deliver reliable service** with minimum 100 Mbps download / 100 Mbps upload speeds unless impracticable
- **Complement broadband investments** made through the Capital Projects Fund

Equity-Focused Services

- **Additional flexibility for the hardest-hit communities and families** to address health disparities, invest in housing, address educational disparities, and promote healthy childhood environments
- **Broadly applicable** to Qualified Census Tracts, other disproportionately impacted areas, and when provided by Tribal governments

Water & Sewer Infrastructure

- **Includes improvements to infrastructure**, such as building or upgrading facilities and transmission, distribution, and storage systems
- **Eligible uses aligned to Environmental Protection Agency project categories** for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

State of Arts in Boston



Arts & Culture in Boston's Economy

Why we need the arts & culture sector



The Arts and Culture Industry....

Generates **\$1.35 billion** in total economic activity.

\$763.9 million by nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and an additional \$675 million in event-related spending by their audiences including local spending at restaurants, parking facilities, and other local businesses—creating **\$2 billion in total economic impact**.

Supports **45,889 full-time equivalent jobs**, generates **\$908.9 million** in household income to local residents, and delivers **\$87.3 million** in local and state government revenue.

Museums, historical sites, and performing arts are in our top 10 sectors for location quotient and has a multiplier effect higher than education and hospitals.

Arts + Culture COVID-19 Impact

One of Boston's hardest hit industries



MA nonprofits and municipal cultural organizations reported **\$588,334,079** in lost revenue since March 2020

Individual artists, teaching artists, cited over **\$30M** in lost personal income

We surveyed creative workers and found...

- 87.1% reported cancellation of classes, residencies, gigs, performances, and events;
- 75.2% experienced closure of spaces to create and present work;
- 53.9% reported cancellation or reduction of hours and/or pay from “day jobs,” side gigs, or part-time employment;
- And 51.1% lost professional development and career building opportunities.

Of the 1530 artists and creative workers that responded to the survey, 58.8% reported not being able to make up for lost income due to COVID-19.

Arts + Culture COVID-19 Impact

One of Boston's hardest hit industries



A Cautious Return

After weeks of quarantine, respondents are eager to reconnect with loved ones and dine out, but aren't as excited to resume most cultural experiences.

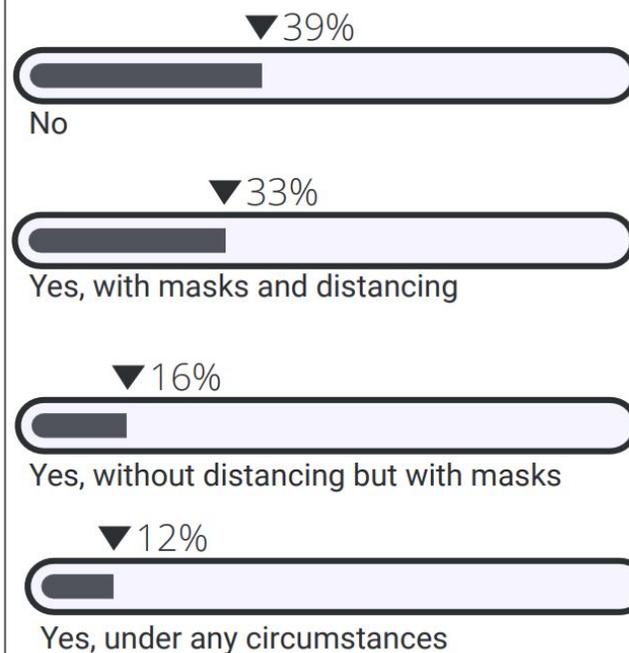
69%

had done little to no planning for future arts and culture experiences*

Culture + community in a time of crisis, LaPlaca Cohen / Slover Linett, July 2020

Indoor Events

If given the opportunity, would you attend an indoor cultural event this week, assuming that both vaccinated and unvaccinated people might be in attendance?



Outdoor Events

If given the opportunity, would you attend an outdoor cultural event this week, assuming that both vaccinated and unvaccinated people might be in attendance?



Audience Outlook Monitor, ArtsBoston + WolfBrown, August 2021

Exacerbating existing issues

- Boston lags behind other major cities when it comes to per capita government spending on the arts
- Organizations have relied heavily on governmental relief during COVID but may be approaching a funding cliff
- BIPOC renters, artists, and cultural workers are disproportionately impacted
- Boston is high rent - facilities costs are prohibitively high and create barriers for new organizations and for those systematically shut out from capital
- Nonprofits struggle with sustainable and equitable work environments

What we hear from communities/audiences

- The value of arts and culture, especially local artists and emerging talent
- Searching for equity and advocacy in our sector
- Digital isn't everything
- Loss of sense of place, the need for self expression

Existing programs + practices

Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture



- **Opportunity Fund:** Allocated \$200,000 grants for individual artists in FY21
- **Radical Imagination for Racial Justice:** Supporting artists of color working toward racial justice
- **Boston Artists-in-Residence:** Supporting artists embedded in City government
- **Boston Cultural Council Grants:** Distributed \$490,000 to 146 arts and cultural organizations

- **Convenings:** Sharing learnings, building networks with arts + culture leaders, organizations, and teaching artists
- **Transformative Public Art Program:** Over \$1 million allocated for murals and other short-term public art projects/activations this year.
- **Facility Readiness Program (coming soon):** Technical assistance program for individuals and groups taking on physical spaces; capital grants.

Larger grants for artists to really be able to pursue projects

Required % of grants for well being

Artists as a part of the process and solution, integrated into decision making and imagining futures

Process that is *for us, by us*

Smaller organizations receiving larger % of funds

Supporting projects in most impacted communities

Building long term infrastructure + capacity for local artists and groups to take advantage of opportunities

Existing programs + practices

Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture



COVID response:

- \$1 million Arts and Culture COVID-19 Fund
- Boston Artist Relief Fund - \$330k to over 600 artists
- BIPOC Arts Organization Funding - \$450k to 17 local BIPOC orgs
- Artist and Creative Worker Survey



- **Direct financial support for artists + creative workers**
- **Unrestricted support for BIPOC arts orgs, funders working together**
- **Deeper dive on economies and needs of workers**

ARPA to date:

- \$3M Reopen Creative Boston
- \$500k workforce development for creative workers
- \$500k employment opportunities and economic relief for artists



- **Equity-based application developed by Boston Cultural Council**
- **Centralize and build on existing TA/PD**
- **Artists hired as part of recovery and renewal**

Creative Workers

- Guaranteed income for creative workers
- Pay equity study and standards
- WPA-style projects
- Multi-year contracts with BIPOC artist-led LLCs
- Launch an artist census
- Hire arts organizers / ambassadors for on the ground connection to civic/City initiatives
- Start up capital for projects

Creative Youth Development / Arts Education

- Grants for CYD orgs tied to fostering youth leadership
- Commission youth artists for events and artworks
- Create more tools for youth and families to understand creative pathways for youth
- Support deeper connection between in-school, afterschool, and summer arts programs

Cultural Organizations

- Multi-year grants for organizations
- Cultural facilities/venue grants
- Grants specifically tied to increasing compensation for staff
- Contracts with orgs to activate City properties and spaces in n'hoods
- Cultural equity study / funding tied to equity reporting

Increased place-based cultural strategies: cultural districts, marketing, local markets for arts/culture, cross-sector partnerships with small business / main streets / CDCs.

Discussion Session

Breakout Rooms



3 breakout groups:

- Cultural Organizations
- Creative Workers
- Youth Dev & Arts Education

Your experience and feedback

- Which of the points/gaps from the presentation resonate with you? What did we miss?
- What are the main barriers to access for existing programs and services?

Your Ideas

- Are there any City-run or other programs that we should consider expanding?
- Are there any arts support programs you have seen or heard about that you wish Boston would implement?

Share Out Session



Conclusion - Next Steps



- **Fill out our survey:** bit.ly/gobetterbos
- You can also **email us** any follow up questions at recover@boston.gov