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February 16, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) to amend Fiscal Committee item #FIS 21-198 approved August 3, 2021, and G&C item #47B, approved on August 4, 2022 by reallocating \$132,633 for better utilization of funds, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023. **100% Federal Funds**

03-022-022- 221510 – OSI Division of Planning as follows:

03-022-022-221510-24890000 <sup>1</sup> ARP REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT		FY2022	FY2022	FY2022
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	ORIGINAL BUDGET	REQUESTED CHANGE	ADJUSTED BUDGET
040 - 501487	Indirect Costs	\$ 13,750		\$ 13,750
041 - 500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$ 539	\$ 133	\$ 672
072 - 500574	Grants Federal	\$450,000	\$132,500	\$582,500
102 - 500731	Contracts for Program Svcs	\$ 75,000		\$ 75,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$539,289</b>	<b>\$132,633</b>	<b>\$671,922</b>
SOURCE OF FUNDS				
000-400338	Federal Funds	\$539,289	\$132,633	\$671,922
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>\$539,289</b>	<b>\$132,633</b>	<b>\$671,922</b>

03-022-022-221510-24890000 <sup>1</sup> ARP REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT		FY2023	FY2023	FY2023
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	ORIGINAL BUDGET	REQUESTED CHANGE	ADJUSTED BUDGET
040 - 501487	Indirect Costs	\$11,250		\$ 11,250
041 - 500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$461	(\$ 133)	\$328
072 - 500574	Grants Federal	\$450,000	(\$132,500)	\$317,500
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$461,711</b>	<b>(\$132,633)</b>	<b>\$329,078</b>

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SOURCE OF FUNDS		ORIGINAL BUDGET	REQUESTED CHANGE	ADJUSTED BUDGET
000-400338	Federal Funds	\$461,711	(\$132,633)	\$329,078
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$461,711</b>	<b>(\$132,633)</b>	<b>\$329,078</b>

*<sup>1</sup>All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2203A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2203Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services Division of Accounting Services.*

### **EXPLANATION**

The Regional Housing Needs Assessment program will provide specific housing needs information for each region served by the nine Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs). Understanding the housing needs for each region will be critical in advancing the statewide vision and planning needed to solve New Hampshire's housing shortage. Affordable housing, regardless of where someone lives, is a necessity and there needs to be options to serve residents throughout various stages of their lives. This program will also support implementation of the State's Council on Housing Stability's Strategic Plan 2021-2024.

The Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) is requesting an adjustment to the budget that would allow the RPCs to have access to additional funds in FY22. The additional FY22 funds will allow the RPCs to continue working on the project without a gap in funding. As of mid-February, more than half of the RPCs have already utilized 30 to 50 percent of FY22 funds due to a larger percentage of the project being completed in FY22 with only six months of the project remaining in FY23.

For the last several years, adequate affordable housing has been a challenge for New Hampshire. That challenge has been exacerbated by the pandemic. These assessments will provide critical regional information needed to determine where and what types of housing development activities are needed in each region of the state, so that municipalities can meet regional housing needs in a coordinated and unified manner.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell  
Commissioner

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July 29, 2021

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a VI, authorize the Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) to accept and expend \$1,001,000 in American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) to fund the Regional Housing Needs Assessment Program, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. **100% Federal Funds**

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2022 in the following new account:

03-022-022- 221510 – OSI Division of Planning  
24XX0000 – ARP Regional Housing Needs Assessment as follows:

03-022-022-221510-24XX0000 <sup>1</sup> ARP REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT		FY2022	FY2023
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET REQUEST	BUDGET REQUEST
040 - 501487	Indirect Costs	\$13,750	\$11,250
041 - 500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$539	\$461
072 - 500574	Grants Federal	\$450,000	\$450,000
102 - 500731	Contracts for Program Svcs	\$75,000	
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$539,289</b>	<b>\$461,711</b>
SOURCE OF FUNDS			
000-400338	Federal Funds	\$539,289	\$461,711
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$539,289</b>	<b>\$461,711</b>

<sup>1</sup>All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2203A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2203Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services Division of Accounting Services.

Funds are budgeted as follows:

- Class 040 - Indirect Costs – Indirect Costs paid to SWCAP and internal cost recoveries
- Class 041 - Audit Fund Set-Aside - .001 of federal funds payable to DAS for audit fees
- Class 072 - Grants Federal – Grants funds in support of local governments
- Class 102 – Contracts for Program Services - Contractor to perform population projections

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Fiscal Committee of the General Court

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#### EXPLANATION

The Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) is requesting to accept and expend of American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF), through the Office of Planning and Development (Planning), to support the Regional Housing Needs Assessment Program.

This program will provide grants to Regional Planning Commissions (RPC) to complete assessments of the regional needs for housing for persons and families at all levels of income. Each RPC receiving a grant shall also complete a Fair Housing Equity Assessment to identify and describe factors that might be barring people from accessing adequate housing in the region.

This program will provide specific housing needs information for each region served by the nine RPCs. Understanding the housing needs for each region will be critical in advancing the statewide vision and planning needed to solve New Hampshire's housing shortage including affordable housing, so that adequate housing options to serve the needs and choices of NH citizens throughout their lifespans are available throughout the state. This program will also support implementation of the State's Council on Housing Stability's Strategic Plan 2021-2024.

Planning will also contract for the updating of population projections based on 2020 Census data and develop agreed upon Regional Housing Needs Assessment methodology in partnership with RPCs.

Each RPC will receive a grant in the amount of \$100,000 and Planning will utilize \$75,000 to administrate the program and engage in the population projections and methodology development.

For the last several years, adequate affordable housing has been a challenge for New Hampshire. That challenge has been exacerbated by the pandemic. Completing Regional Housing Assessments at this time will provide critical regional information needed to determine where and what types of housing development activities are needed in each region of the state. This program will provide that information so that municipalities can meet regional housing needs in a coordinated and unified manner.

This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell, Commissioner  
Department of Business and Economic Affairs