



**U.S. SENATOR
GARY PETERS**

The American Rescue Plan Act: Supporting Our State and Communities

Communities across Michigan have been devastated by this health and economic crisis and are facing dire financial challenges through no fault of their own. Failing to properly support towns, cities and localities could have a crippling impact for Michigan, potentially forcing our state and communities to cut vital services and harming families and workers, including firefighters, law enforcement and health professionals. We must ensure cash-strapped communities can continue vital functions, including public safety and emergency services, but also give them the flexibility to pay for lost revenue and provide them with additional resources for the ability to safely re-open.

Support for States and Communities:

- Provides \$350 billion to States, territories, Tribes, and local governments.
- Includes a new \$10 billion Critical Infrastructure Projects program.
- Creates a new \$2 billion county and Tribal assistance fund.
- Adds \$300 million in relief for our nation's brave firefighters across two FEMA grant programs – Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG) and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program.
- Includes \$100 million for FEMA's Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program.

\$350 billion for State, Local and Tribal Governments: Many states, including Michigan, have sustained massive revenue shortfalls and face a host of increased spending needs. The American Rescue Plan Act includes \$350 billion to States, territories, Tribes, and local governments to be used for responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency, to offset revenue losses, bolster economic recovery and to provide premium pay for essential workers. These state and local fiscal relief funds can be used for local economic recovery purposes, including assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, assistance to hard-hit industries like tourism, travel, and hospitality, and infrastructure investment. According to the most [recent data](#), Michigan is slated to receive approximately \$5.9 billion and Michigan cities, counties, and localities will receive approximately \$4.4 billion, totaling \$10.3 billion in relief.



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Critical Infrastructure Projects: The American Rescue Plan Act creates a new \$10 billion Critical Infrastructure Projects Program to help States, territories, and Tribal governments carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to COVID-19. Michigan will receive \$250 million to carry out these new capital projects.

County and Tribal Assistance Fund: The American Rescue Plan Act includes a new \$2 billion county and Tribal assistance fund established in order to make payments to eligible revenue-sharing counties and Tribes. This is in addition to the \$20 billion specifically set aside for Tribal governments within the \$350 billion included above, which represents a \$12 billion increase from the \$8 billion received in the CARES Act.

AFG and SAFER Grants: The American Rescue Plan Act delivered \$300 million in relief for our nation's brave firefighters across two FEMA grant programs – [Assistance to Firefighter Grants \(AFG\)](#) and the [Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response \(SAFER\) grant program](#). These critical funds will help ensure these heroes have access to PPE, are able to be paid for sick leave and overtime, and fire departments have the support they need in the face of revenue shortfalls due to the pandemic. Eligible applicants can contact the FEMA AFG Program Help Desk toll-free at (866) 274-0960, or email firegrants@dhs.gov for more information.

Emergency Management Performance Grants: The package included \$100 million for FEMA's [Emergency Management Performance Grant \(EMPG\) program](#), which supports efforts by emergency managers across the country to prepare for all hazards – a critical effort as we address the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic along with any other threats that may arise. Eligible applicants can contact the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) at (517) 284-3745 or with the form located [here](#) for more information.