



STATE OF OREGON
Office of the Governor
KATE BROWN

Investment Criteria for American Rescue Plan Funds

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) offers Oregon the ability to turn around its economy from the impacts of the pandemic. With this historic relief package, we have the opportunity to revitalize and rebuild our economies — and our communities — with equity and fairness at the center. With these goals in mind, Governor Brown has laid out the following principles that will be used when making decisions regarding ARP investments.

Principles

We have an opportunity to make a big impact, and we should do that. The investment plan should be focused on big problems that we can make a dent in to help Oregon recover from the pandemic.

We should address the disparities that were exacerbated by the pandemic. Helping women, BIPOC communities, and those who were disproportionately harmed by the pandemic and the natural disasters of 2020 should drive decision-making.

We should make Oregon more resilient. The pandemic and historic wildfires showed weaknesses in our infrastructure and society that we should work to shore up.

We should maximize the economic impact these dollars have on recovery this year. If we act smart, we can narrowly target our investments, leveraging other dollars or leaning on strategies that we know will maximize our investment.

We should invest in programs where the pandemic has shown us there is a better way. We saw the deficiencies and challenges of our childcare system, our housing support network, and other parts of the safety net during the pandemic, and we should invest in innovation that can improve these critical services.

These are one-time funds. To the extent possible, investments made should not increase ongoing or roll-up costs for the state. Use some federal money to balance the budget, but don't spend down reserves on top of one-time money.

Public accountability and participation will be key. These funds are game-changing in size and scope, and the public needs to see — and inform — how these dollars will work for them.