Staff Report

Date: May 3, 2022
To: City Council
From: Valerie J. Barone, City Manager
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Subject: Considering the formation of a Council Ad Hoc Committee to develop recommendations for full Council review on the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Investment Plan—specifically on spending categories, dollar allocations to spending categories, and process for allocating funds within each spending category; the Committee will exist until recommendations are made to the full Council or the end of calendar year 2022, whichever comes first.

CEQA: Not a project/exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21065, CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c), 15061(b)(3), 15262, and/or 15378.

Report in Brief
The Council, at its meeting of April 26, 2022, directed staff to schedule the creation of an ad-hoc committee to support the development of an American Recovery Act Plan (ARPA) Investment Plan on the next available Council meeting of May 3, 2022.

Recommended Action
That the Mayor appoint two Councilmembers to serve on a Council Ad Hoc Committee until recommendations are forwarded to the full Council or December 31, 2022, whichever comes first, to make recommendations to the full Council on the ARPA Investment Plan, specifically including: spending categories, dollar allocations to spending categories, and process for allocating funds within each spending category.
Background
Ad Hoc Committees
Pursuant to City of Concord – City Council Meeting Procedures Section 4.53.d, the Mayor may, from time to time, announce appointments to ad hoc advisory committees composed solely of less than a majority of the members of the City Council; the announcement of such appointments shall appear on the posted agenda, but shall not require approval from a majority of the City Council.

The use of Ad Hoc committees is permitted under the Brown Act so long as they:

- Serve a limited or single purpose that is not perpetual;
- Are comprised solely of less than a quorum of the City Council (for a five member Council as in Concord, that means two Councilmembers.);
- Have a defined purpose and timeframe to accomplish that purpose;
- Dissolve once the specific task is complete or the time has expired; and
- Are advisory.

An Ad Hoc committee is not subject to notice and posting requirements, nor to holding public meetings, if the above requirements are followed.

Analysis
The proposed Ad Hoc committee meets all the requirements of City Council meeting procedures Section 4.53.d.

Financial Impact
Creation of the Ad Hoc Committee has no financial impact; however, matters discussed may result in City Manager actions or recommendations to the City Council that have a monetary effect.

Environmental Determination
Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21065, CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c), 15061(b)(3), 15262), and/or 15378, City Council action on this item is not subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as amended, because it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and falls within the “common sense” exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), excluding projects where “it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.”

Public Contact
The City Council Agenda was posted.