



The City of Wilmington is receiving \$54 million from the American Rescue Fund. President Biden has made it clear that these funds are meant to address the impact of the COVID public health crisis and the underlying social and economic inequality that has been exposed by the pandemic.

H.O.M.E.S. Campaign believes housing is a human right. Stable housing and neighborhoods are vital for good health. The City of Wilmington must listen to and work with residents, community leaders, community-based organizations and use its American Rescue Fund dollars to improve housing and stabilize neighborhoods.

RECOMMENDATIONS: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The H.O.M.E.S. Campaign recommends put 48% of the city's American Rescue Funds into improving housing and neighborhoods:

- Home-Owner Repair Grants: \$5 million**
Help low-income home-owners maintain their homes by providing grants for necessary repairs
- Down-Payment and Settlement Assistance: \$2 million**
Help renters become home-owners through grants to help cover down-payment and closing costs
- Water Bill Assistance: \$1.5 million**
Ensure access to clean water with grants to low-income families to pay water bills
- Subsidies to Repair Vacants: \$5 million**
Bring vacant properties back into use by providing grants for renovations
- Loan Program for Small Landlords: \$5 million**
Improve the quality of rental housing by making low-cost loans and grants available to small landlords to pay for needed repairs to rental properties to address code violations
- Fix and Lien: \$5 million.**
Improve the quality of rental housing by making needed repairs to rental properties to address code violations and putting a lien on the property for the cost of repairs, as enabled by City Code.
- Rent Relocation: \$500,000**
Help renters displaced by code enforcement actions pay for the costs of relocation
- Stabilize Vacant Properties: \$2 million**
Keep vacants from deteriorating and becoming nuisances by putting roofs and securing windows and doors
- Local Hire**
Require that 80% of the contracts go to minority-owned small businesses, creating jobs and wealth for community residents.

Total Investment: \$26 million

Total Impact: 2,000 houses improved + 1,650 households stabilized