

On motion of **Mr. Templet**, seconded by **Mr. Walker**, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLUTION NO. 137857

A resolution creating the American Rescue Plan Task Force, designating the composition and duties of the task force, and provided for related matters. (Parishwide)

WHEREAS, a state of emergency was declared by President Cynthia Lee Sheng on March 12, 2020 as a result of the novel coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 and the respiratory disease caused by it known as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and,

WHEREAS, this virus has had world-wide effects including Jefferson Parish being among the hardest hit communities in the State of Louisiana for residents testing positive for COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was enacted by the United State Congress to assist state, local, tribal and territorial governments to mitigate the significant negative financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, Jefferson Parish will receive \$84 million to fund costs incurred through December 31, 2024 in accordance with said Act which includes but is not limited to: Response efforts to the COVID-19 emergency to decrease the spread of the virus and to bring the pandemic under control, including vaccination efforts; Replace lost public sector revenue to extent the reduction in revenue was experienced due to the pandemic in order to facilitate and strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs; Address negative economic impacts including economic harm to households, small businesses, nonprofits, impacted industries such as tourism and hospitality, and the public sector; Provide premium pay for essential workers; and, Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet; and,

WHEREAS, the Jefferson Parish Council desires to create the American Rescue Plan Task Force to advise the Council on the appropriateness of allocating these funds to provide government services to the extent of reduction in revenue due to the public health emergency and to make necessary investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Jefferson Parish Council of Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, acting as governing authority of said Parish:

SECTION 1. *Creation and purpose.* There is hereby created the American Rescue Plan Task Force for the purpose of advising the Council on the appropriateness of allocating these funds to provide government services to the extent of reduction in revenue due to the public health emergency and to make necessary investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure.

SECTION 2. *Membership.* The American Rescue Plan Task Force shall be composed of fourteen (14) voting members as follows:

- Two (2) appointments to be made by the Parish President;
- One (1) appointment each to be made by each Councilmember;
- The Executive Director of the Jefferson Business Council, or his designee;
- The President of the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce, or his designee;
- The President of the Civic League of East Jefferson, or his designee;
- The President of the West Jefferson Civic Coalition, or his designee; and
- Director of the Jefferson Economic Development and Port District, or his designee.
- The Executive Director of the Jefferson Finance Authority, or her designee.
- The Executive Director of the Metairie Business Development District, or his designee.

SECTION 3. *Confirmation of membership.* All appointments to the American Rescue Plan Task Force shall be confirmed by resolution of the Jefferson Parish Council.

SECTION 4. *Terms of members.* The term of each voting member of the American Rescue Plan Task Force shall run concurrently with the existence of the task force.

SECTION 5. *Meetings.* Meetings of the task force shall be held on call of the chairman of the American Rescue Plan Task Force, or on call of a majority of the members. All meetings of the American Rescue Plan Task Force shall be open to the public.

SECTION 6. Quorum. A majority of the members of the American Rescue Plan Task Force shall constitute a quorum. The American Rescue Plan Task Force shall be able to adopt a motion or resolution or take other action by a vote of the majority of the quorum.

SECTION 7. Length of existence. The American Rescue Plan Task Force is established for an initial period of six (6) months, at which time the task force shall deliver its findings and recommendations to the Jefferson Parish Council, and at which time the Jefferson Parish Council shall determine if the American Rescue Plan Task Force should be continued for an additional time period.

SECTION 8. Designation of chair; office of primary responsibility. The American Rescue Plan Task Force may elect a chair or co-chairs. The Finance Department, Parish Attorney and Office of Research and Budget shall provide technical assistance and support to the task force, including publication of the notice of task force meetings as required by the Louisiana Open Meetings Law.

SECTION 9. The Council Clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution to all appointing persons and organizations.

SECTION 10. That all task forces shall sunset on December 9, 2021 unless otherwise extended by Council resolution.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: 7

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The resolution was declared to be adopted on this the **30th day of June, 2021.**

THE FOREGOING IS CERTIFIED
TO BE A TRUE & CORRECT COPY



EULA A. LOPEZ
PARISH CLERK

JEFFERSON PARISH COUNCIL