

American Rescue Plan State Fiscal Recovery Fund Recommendation Cover Sheet

Please submit this document with any recommendations for funding from Rhode Island's allocation of federal fiscal recovery funds available through the American Rescue Plan Act. This information will be made available to the public along with any detailed documents submitted that describe the proposal. It is encouraged that such documents identify clear goals and objectives and quantifiable metrics.

This is not a formal request for funds, and submission of recommendations does not guarantee a response, public hearing, or appropriation from the General Assembly.

Name of Lead Agency: **CRANSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT – Training Academy**

Additional agencies making recommendation (if applicable): _____

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Brief Project Desc.: **Noise Mitigation/Pollution Control for Police Training Academy Shooting Range which is utilized by the RI Municipal Police Training Academy and other Law Enforcement Agencies.**

Total request: \$ **1,600,000**

One-time or Recurring Expense? **One-Time**

ARPA Eligibility Category (check all that apply) – See link for further information
<https://www.rilegislature.gov/commissions/arpa/commdocs/Treasury%20-%20Quick-Reference-Guide.pdf>

- Respond to the public health emergency and its economic impacts **X**
- Premium pay to eligible workers _____
- Government services/state revenue replacement **X**
- Water/sewer/broadband infrastructure _____

Cranston Police Department – Training Academy Division

Proposal for ARPA Funds to Support R.I. Police Firearms Training

Total Fund Allocation Requested: \$ 1,600,000

Eligibility Criteria:

Address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the unequal impact of the pandemic. Impact on Public Health as a result of the noise pollution, therefore interfering with people in their homes and personal property.

Grant Proposal that meets the Eligibility Criteria

Since 1956, the Cranston Police Department Training Complex including its outdoor range has been located at 493 Phenix Ave in Cranston, RI. Since it was constructed, Cranston High School West was built directly across the street in 1958, and in 1970, Western Hills Middle School was built diagonally across the street. There are also residential neighborhoods on the south and north side of the complex, which have become more densely populated through the years including mostly single occupancy homes.

Although there is environmental buffering of rock ledge and woods on three sides of the Training Complex, its elevated position within the rock ledge causes the sound of gunfire during day qualification and nighttime qualification to echo across the city into many residential neighborhoods. Despite the Cranston Police Department's best attempts to minimize the sound by adding ceiling sound baffles and limiting its time of use as well as its overall use by other police agencies, residents repeatedly complain about the quantity of noise while the range is in use. The complaints have become increasingly elevated especially due to the COVID pandemic where more people are working from home and thus causing disruption in their work environment with the sounds of the gunfire training.

In response, the Cranston Police Department has explored several options to maintain law enforcement's increasing standards of professionalism while being good neighbors. Outside of building an entirely new structure, the best option is to extend portion of the current range from twenty-five (25) yards to fifty (50) yards then enclose the entire structure with soundproofing material. By doing so, ninety (90) percent of the patrol rifle training/qualification and one hundred (100) percent of the handgun training/qualifications would be inside the structure. This would reduce the amount of noise pollution experienced by students and residents of the area and maintain the required law enforcement standards.

This shooting range here in Cranston is used for every Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy class as well as training our own police officers to maintain optimum skill/proficiency and qualify pursuant to Rhode Island state law. This facility is a benefit to all police and use of the state to train every police officer who is hired annually.

Economic Impact to the State

Sustainable and effective mandated firearms training to increase efficiency and quality of firearms training to all Rhode Island police departments to include the Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy.