

City of Alexandria, Virginia
FY 2023 Proposed Operating Budget & CIP
Budget Questions & Answers

March 29, 2022

Question: On page 8.3 of the proposed budget, we're allocating \$200,000 in ARPA funds for "City-Wide Cleaning Supplies." Given that surface transmission of COVID-19 seems to be very rare and that most of "deep cleaning" done in response to the pandemic is sort of theater, my question is are these funds for specifically anti-COVID cleaning operations, or are we covering existing maintenance/janitorial/cleaning expenses with these dollars?

Response:

The funding reserved for City-wide cleaning supplies is intended to support a wide range of anti-COVID cleaning operations, including:

- Supply of hospital grade cleaning supplies and materials for facilities;
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) for employees;
- Detailed cleaning and disinfection services when COVID cases occur in employee work areas to prevent further spread as recommended by CDC; and
- Air filters or air duct cleaning services for facilities.

These cleaning expenses and COVID-19 mitigation expenses were funded in the City's tranche #1 allocation. Staff recommend continuing to reserve funding for these expenses in the City's tranche #2 allocation. It is unclear how long FEMA reimbursement will be available for the City's COVID-19 response expenses. It would be prudent to have this allocation available for future COVID-19 cleaning needs and mitigation measures depending on the course of the pandemic over the next year.