

ARPA Advisory Committee Formation Toolkit



As the legislative bodies of towns, cities and villages across Vermont consider the ways to spend their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, many are choosing to form an advisory committee to help them gather resident input and create spending plans. If you are one of the communities choosing this approach, we have created an ARPA Advisory Committee Formation Toolkit to help ensure you and your new advisory committee have a strong start.

Your ARPA Advisory Committee will be comprised of citizen volunteers many of whom may be unfamiliar with the requirements of a public body, which your ARPA Advisory Committee will be. They must quickly become familiar with [Open Meeting Law](#) and learn how to successfully hold public meetings that are organized, productive and transparent. We have compiled the following resources to assist you and your ARPA Advisory Committee, in defining the work ahead and carrying out meetings that are open, orderly and legal:

- [ARPA Advisory Committee Formation Template](#)
- Resources for Open Meeting Law ([1 V.S.A. §§ 310-314](#))
 - [Vermont's Open Meeting Law](#)
 - [Quick Guide to Vermont's OML](#)
 - [Open Meeting Law Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - [Remote-Only Public Meetings 2022 Toolkit](#)
 - [Hybrid Public Meeting Toolkit](#)
- Managing public meetings: [Model Rules of Procedure for Municipal Boards](#)
- Information on understanding [Ethics and Conflicts of Interest](#) ([VLCT model policy](#))
- Tools for Community Engagement: scroll down on VLCT's [ARPA page](#) to "For Community Members Tab."

Should you have any questions, please email them to ARPA@vlct.org.



Disclaimer: This resource was created by Municipal Operations Support (MOS) staff of non-legal professionals with expertise of the subject matter. It is only intended to provide information and does **NOT** constitute legal advice. Readers with legal questions are encouraged to contact an attorney. The use or downloading of this resource does **NOT** create an attorney-client relationship and will not be treated in a confidential manner. Non-legal questions about this resource can be directed to MOS staff at mos@vlct.org.

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