

Opportunity Knocking: Leveraging the American Rescue Plan to advance inclusive growth

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National Association of Counties
LUCC Symposium
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Overview

- The opportunity in ARP
- How local governments are responding thus far
- A call to action

Economically successful regions achieve growth, prosperity, inclusion



GROWTH

*Expanding
opportunities*



PROSPERITY

*Increasing
average value*

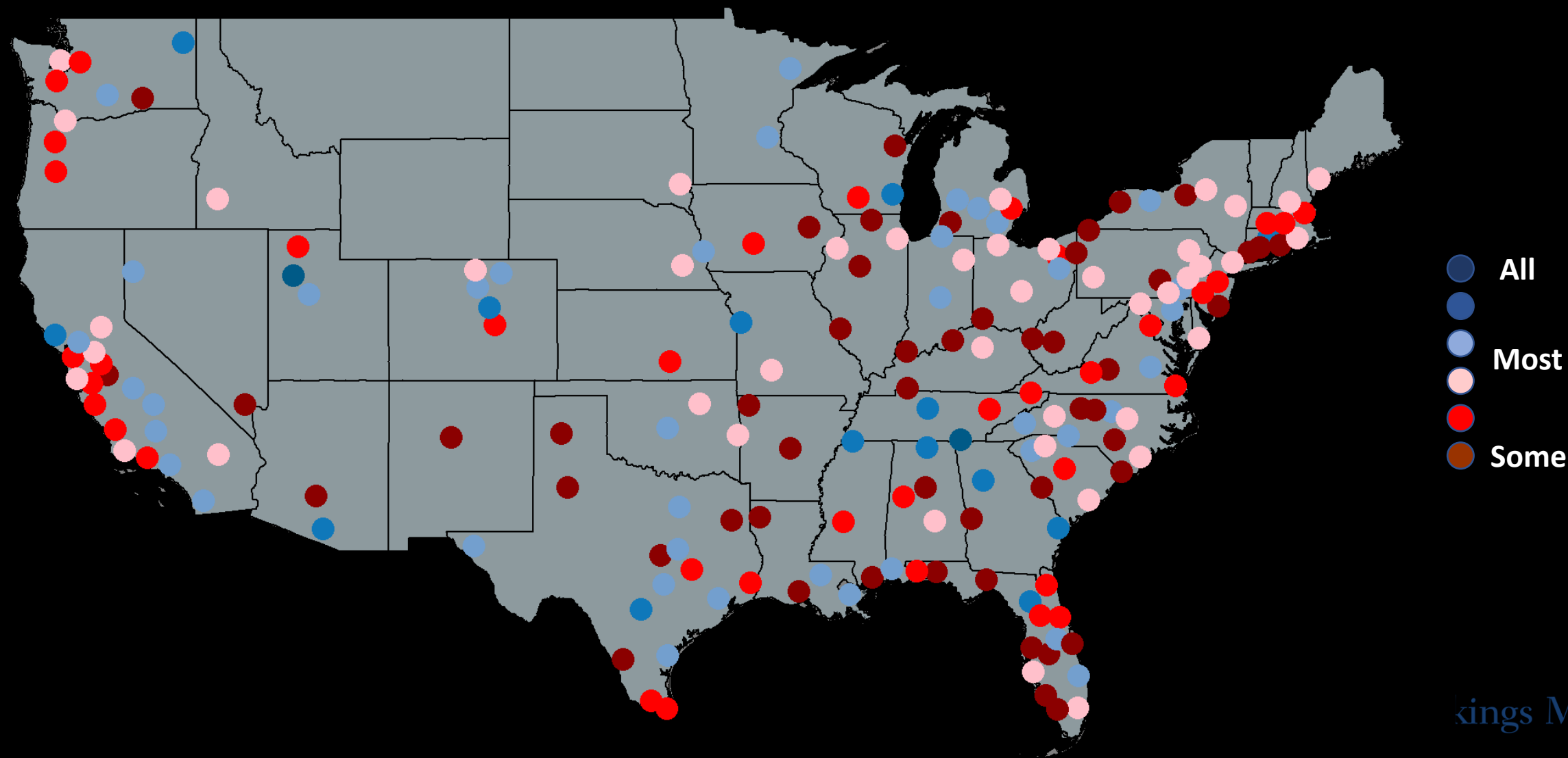


INCLUSION

*More broadly
shared benefits*

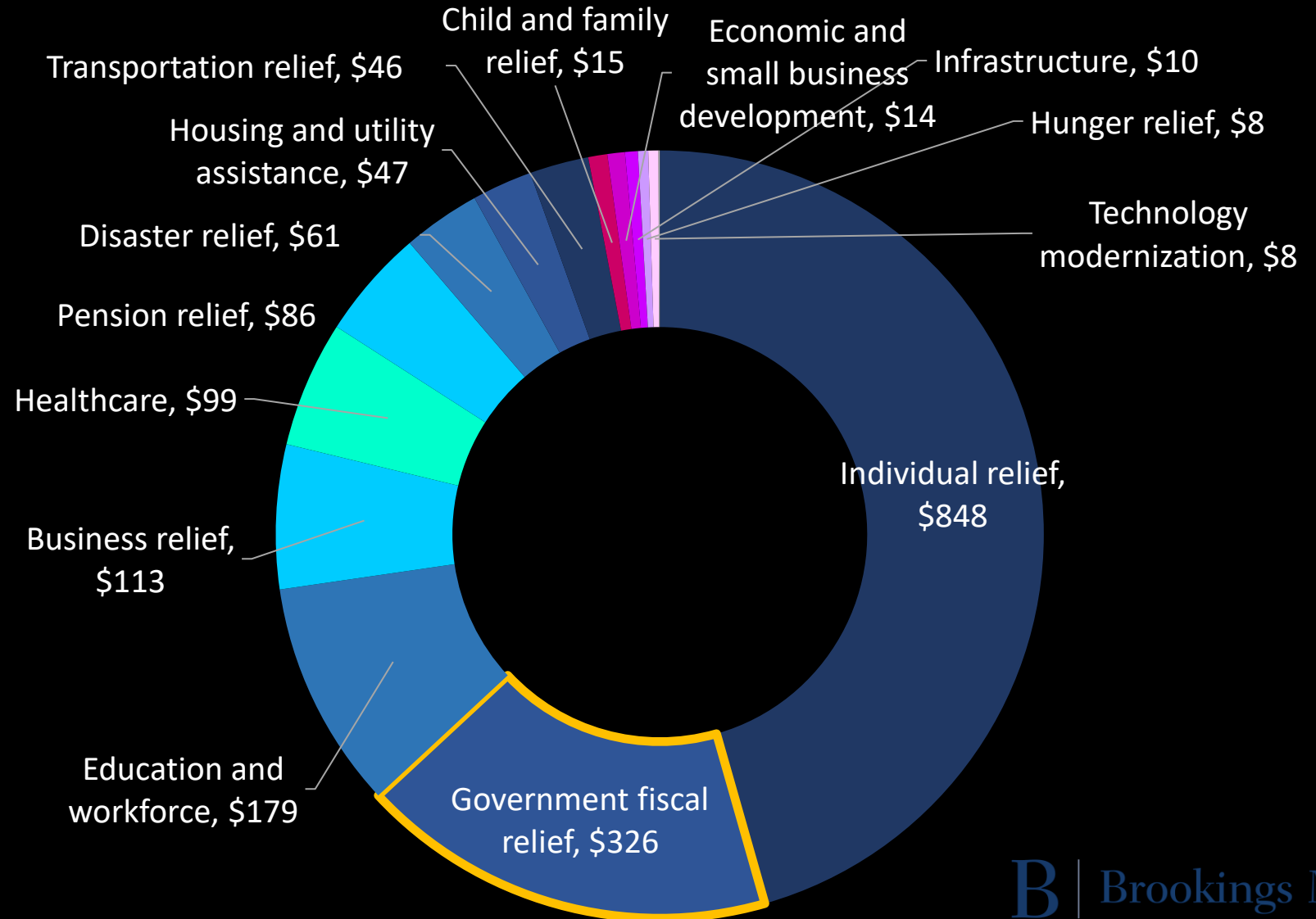
Very few regions achieved truly inclusive growth last decade

Number of Metro Monitor indicators showing positive progress, 2009 to 2019



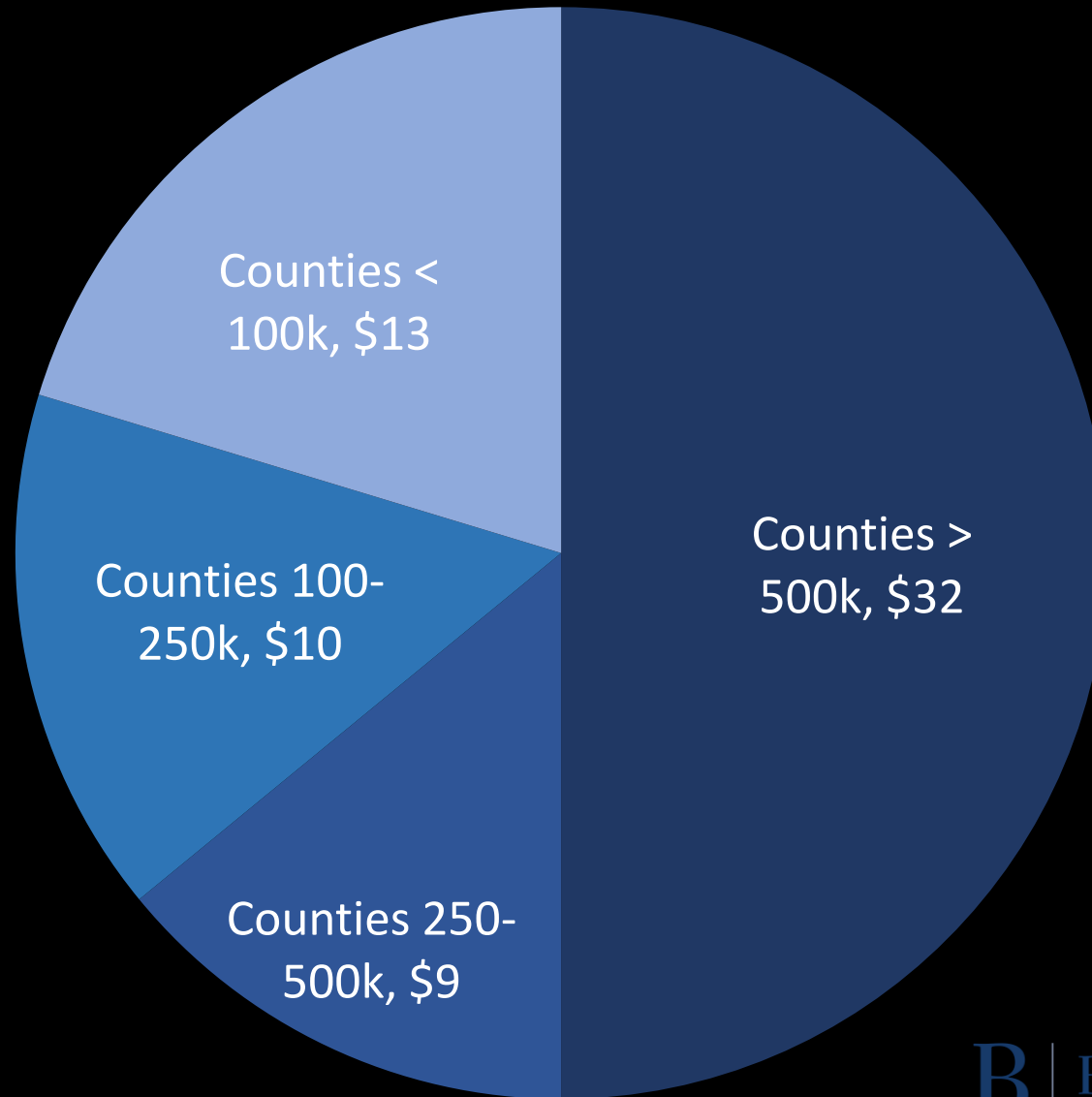
ARP provides \$1.9T in individual and community investments

**American
Rescue Plan
March 2021**
(billions)



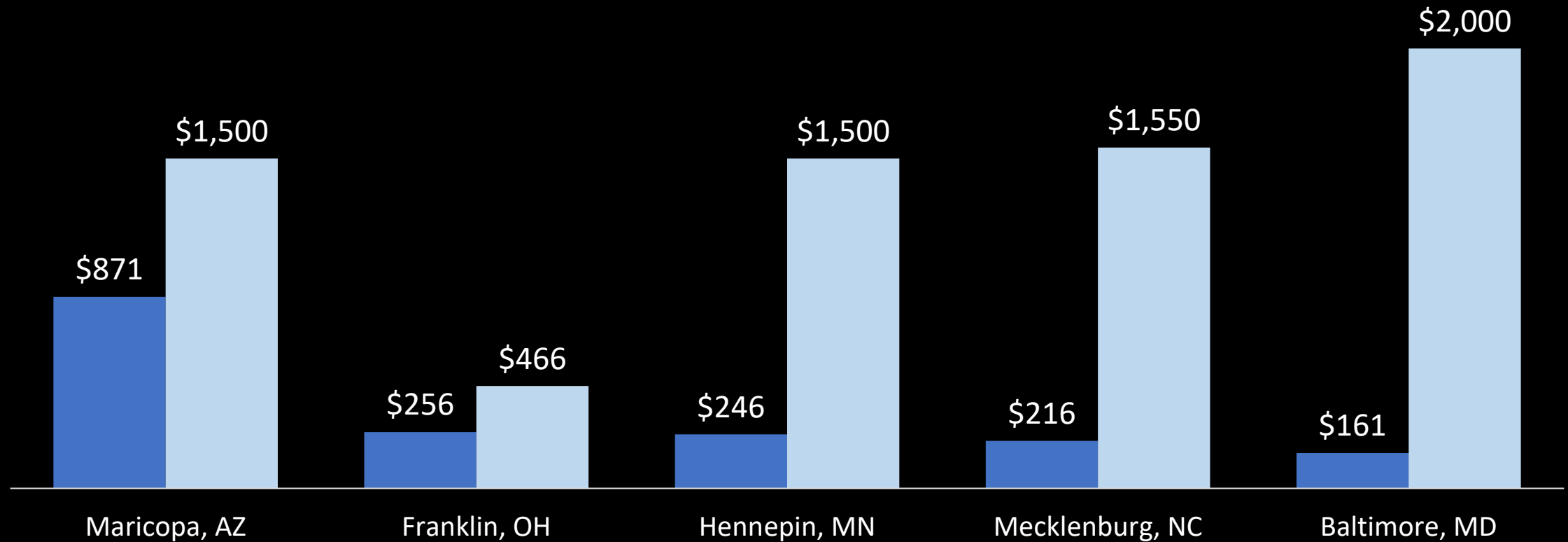
Large urban counties receive half of total county allocations

**Fiscal Recovery
Funds to
Counties**
(billions)



Allocations are scaled to population, but represent differing shares of county budgets

Fiscal recovery fund allocation (dark blue) and FY19 general fund budget (light blue) (millions)

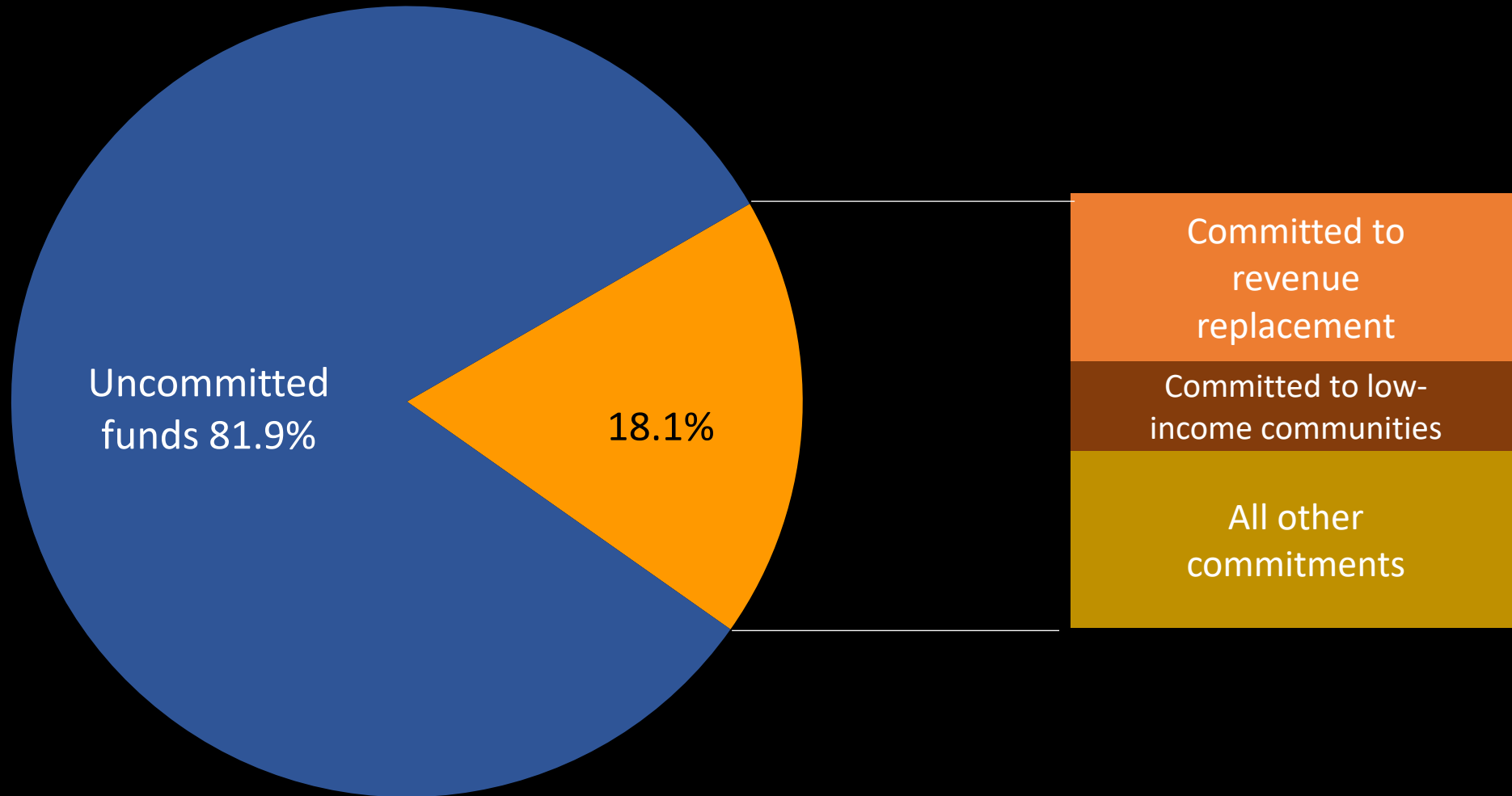


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Most local governments are taking their time

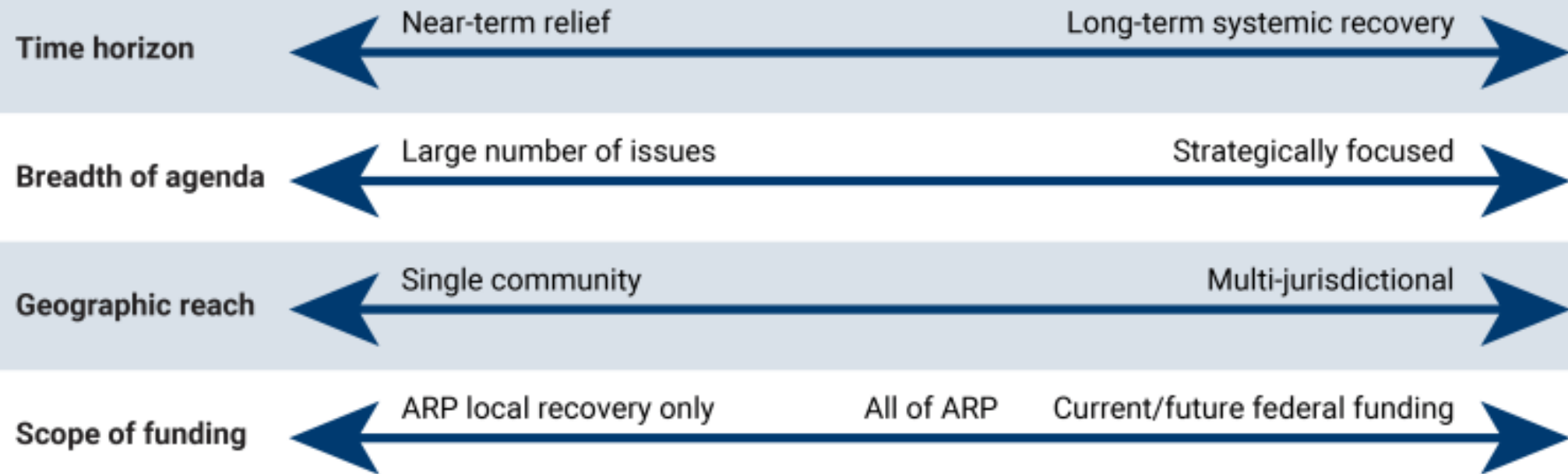
How 20 cities report using their \$7.4 billion in Fiscal Recovery Funds



Source: Berube and Byerly-Duke, "Cities are taking it slow with American Rescue Plan funds" (2021)

Early emphasis on relief through ARP, not larger transformation

Figure 2. Dimensions for ARP planning

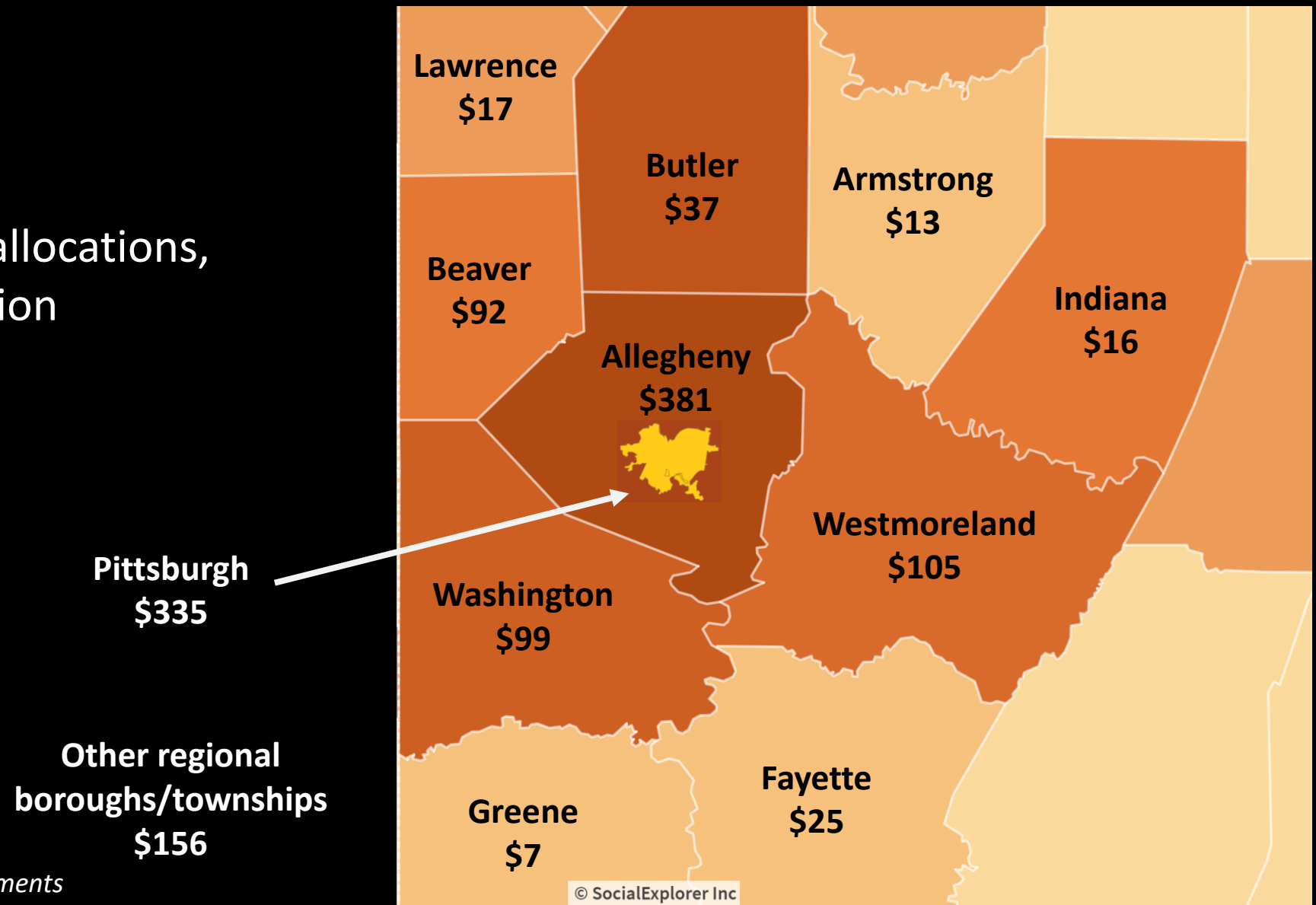


Source: Brookings authors

B | Brookings Metro

Not much regional coordination—authority, complexity as barriers

Fiscal Recovery Fund allocations,
Pittsburgh region



Source: U.S. and Pennsylvania treasury departments

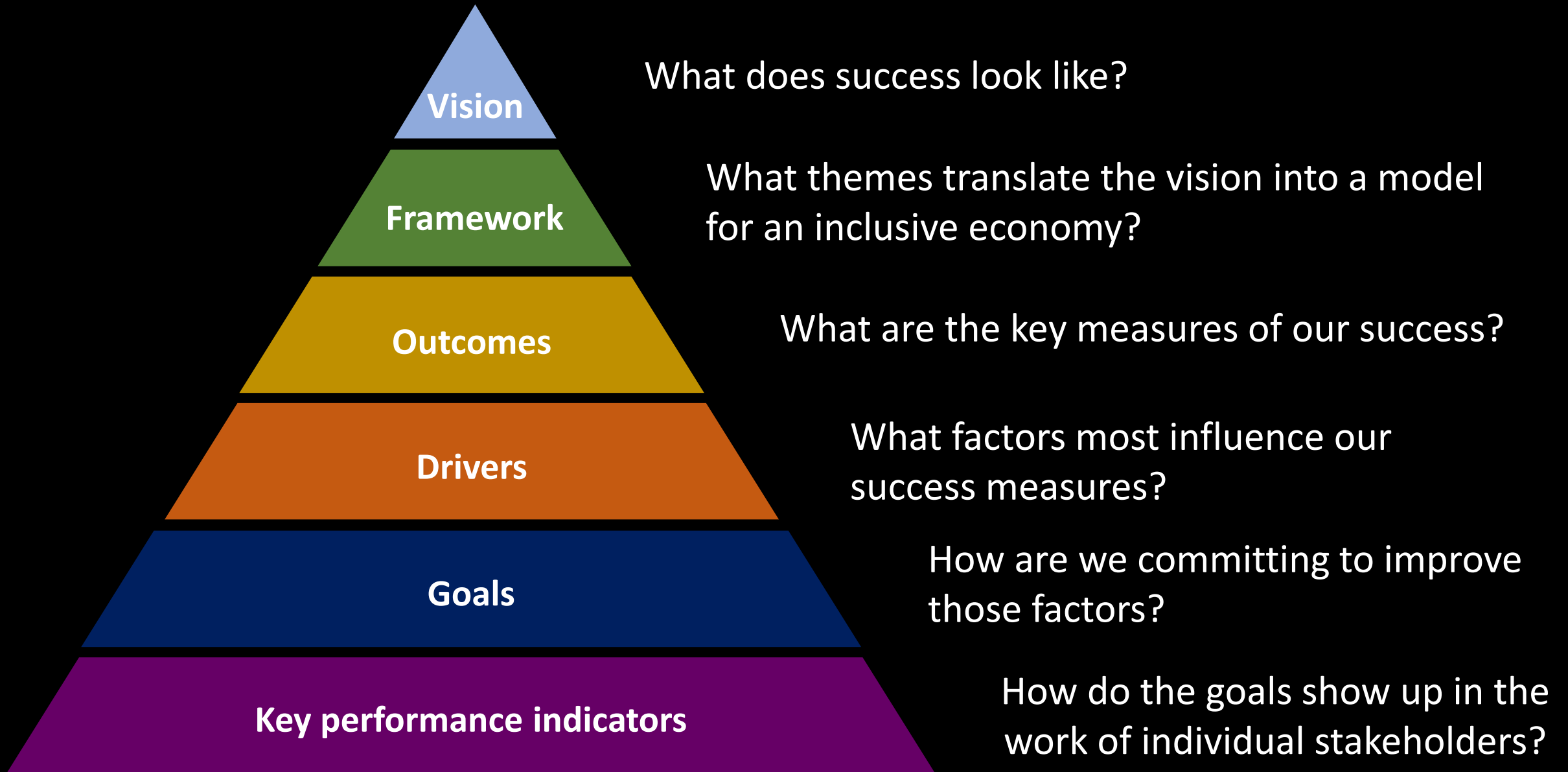
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A call to action

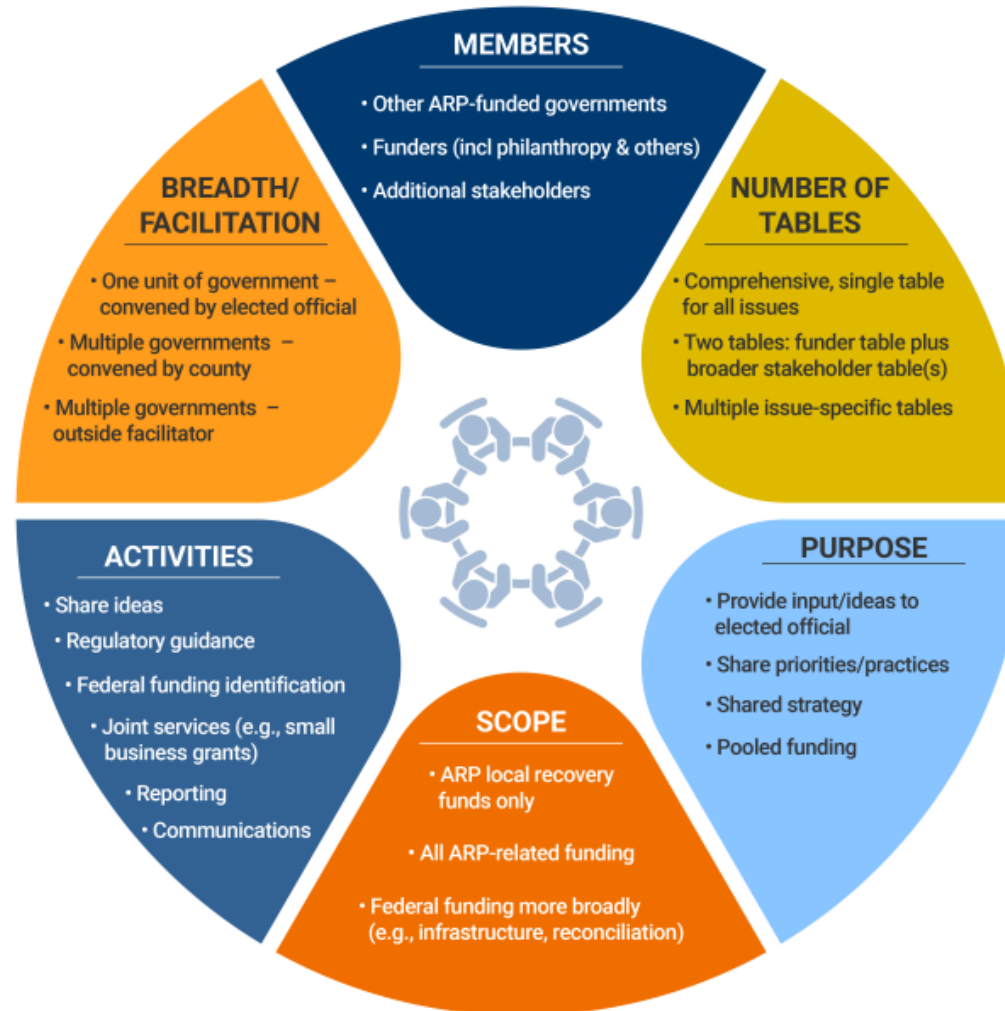
1. Take the time to do it right and be explicit
2. Treat ARP allocations as a potluck, not room service
3. Construct a funding GPS
4. Don't try to fit 10 lbs. of flour in a 5 lb. bag
5. Establish a hub

1. Take the time to do it right and be explicit



2. Treat ARP allocations as potluck, not room service

Figure 4 . Choices for ARP tables



Source: Brookings authors

3. Construct a funding GPS

Example priorities	Sources of support		Program type	Eligible recipients
Workforce training	ARP Fiscal Recovery	ARP other		Government
Small business support	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act		Formula	Special purpose agency
Affordable housing	Build Back Better (reconciliation)		Competitive	NGO
Place-based development	Private/ philanthropic			

4. Don't try to fit 10 lbs. of flour in a 5 lb. bag

City of Detroit offers neighborhood associations Land Bank property and \$15M in flexible grants

Neighbors/block clubs can get Land Bank property and get city grants to create neighborhood parks



5. Establish a hub

Possible functions for a recovery “hub” entity





The American Rescue Plan opportunity is knocking for local governments. Will they answer?



REPORT

The American Rescue Plan opportunity is knocking for local governments. Will they answer?

Brad Whitehead, Isaac Velez, and Eli Byerly-Duke · Tuesday, November 30, 2021



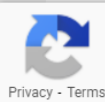
Love it or hate it, one cannot deny the [American Rescue Plan](#) (ARP) and the potential additional federal legislation to follow represent a generational opportunity to change the trajectory of city economies, improve the prospects for suffering citizens, and address long-festering economic and social disparities.

Opportunity is knocking at the door, yet most local governments are struggling to seize the moment. Challenges include a lack of



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