

# Wyoming's Strategy to Survive, Drive and Thrive

December 3, 2021

Governor Mark Gordon's Strike Team



# Survive Phase

## CARES Act Spending

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# 2020 in Review

## Save Lives and Protect Livelihoods

- Small Businesses
  - More per capita on business relief than any other state.
    - Ranchers and farmers received relief and meat processing increased immensely.
- Support Education
  - Wyoming had among the most in-person learning hours in the nation.
- Health Care System Support
  - Using sideboards of CARES made significant investment in healthcare infrastructure.
- Broadband
  - Enhanced our broadband system with \$50M



# 2021 Survive Investments

## Save Lives and Protect Livelihoods

- Business Relief
  - Tax relief initiative via the Unemployment Rate credit/future rate reduction.
  
- Hospital and Long-Term Care staffing shortage mitigation
  - Hospitals are in the midst of their longest and most significant phase of COVID-19 pandemic.

# Drive and Thrive

Planning for ARPA and Other OneTime  
Funding

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# ARPA - \$534,000,000 Came to Wyoming in 2020



## Support Public Health Response

Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff



## Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss

Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic



## Water and Sewer Infrastructure

Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water and invest in wastewater and stormwater infrastructure



## Address Negative Economic Impacts

Respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector




## Premium Pay for Essential Workers

Offer additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors



## Broadband Infrastructure

Make necessary investments to provide unserved or underserved locations with new or expanded broadband access



# Governor's Charge: What could be done to better *drive* to a future where all of Wyoming can *thrive*.

## Criteria:

- Have a long-term impact or a return on investment;
- Not replenish budget cuts unless the replenishment can be sustained;
- Be sustainable and not add to the state's ongoing financial responsibilities;
- Support stimulus over relief;
- Where possible, leverage the dollars through matching or buy-in programs;
- Create capacity for the future; and
- Benefit a wide group of citizens.



# Drive and Thrive Updates

Strike Team Brought Together to Gather Input from Across the State and from a Variety of Perspectives.

- Legislators
- County Commissioners
- Municipal Officials
- Cabinet Members with connections to many stakeholders





# Drive and Thrive

Outcome: Better Planning for all Federal and One-Time Spending Opportunities

- Previous federal COVID-relief bills (CARES, etc)
- ARPA has millions of other programs
  - U.S. Economic Development Association (EDA)
  - Capital Funds Projects
  - Separate COVID response programs
  - Many others ...
- Federal Infrastructure package
- General Funds



# Wyoming Survive, Drive, and Thrive Goals

Goal 1: Retain and attract working families and young adults to Wyoming

Goal 2: Activate new economic sectors and create new job opportunities

Goal 3: Align & balance workforce, economic development, and educational opportunities; support opportunities to upskill and/or retrain Wyoming workers



# Wyoming Survive, Drive, and Thrive Goals (continued)

Goal 4: Broadband and Connect Wyoming

Goal 5: Healthcare Solutions

Goal 6: Outdoor Recreation and Wildlife

Goal 7: Food supply and food pantries

Goal 8: Infrastructure Projects

Goal 9: State Government Efficiency

Goal 10: Support Cities, Counties, Towns and Tribes



# Drive and Thrive Next Steps

- Governor will release his proposals to the Legislature via JAC December 16.
- Compiling data to justify priority proposals.
  - Need to understand what a successful proposal looks like.
- January JAC votes on proposals.
- February 14 Legislature convenes and discusses ARPA and one-time spending.



# Public Comment Next Steps

- Visit [drivethrive.wyo.gov](https://drivethrive.wyo.gov)
- Visit the goal pages
  - Click the provided link to give us feedback on this goal
- Please provide public comments by Jan. 14

Questions?

