

Anoka County, Minnesota
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2021 Report

Anoka County, Minnesota
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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

On March 11, 2021, the President of the United States signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to provide continued relief from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of ARPA, \$350 billion of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) were allotted to assist governments in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on their communities. Anoka County was allotted just over \$69.8 million of SLFRF to assist its community in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts. Under ARPA, the funds provided are planned to support Anoka County's community broadly in accordance with The US Department of the Treasury Guidelines by:

- Providing support for public health expenditures
- Addressing negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency
- Replacement of lost public sector revenue
- Providing premium pay for essential workers
- Investing in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

Anoka County recognizes the significant impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had within our community and is taking a very proactive approach in developing the uses for these funds that address the impact and serve all the county's residents:

- On August 24, 2021, the County Board by resolution officially accepted receipt of these funds pledging to follow the guidelines as set forth by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.
- On August 24, 2021, the County Board by resolution established budget allocations for ARPA Funds in the following broad categories:
 - ✓ Public health - \$12 million
 - ✓ Negative economic impact – to be determined
 - ✓ Services to disproportionately impacted communities - to be determined
 - ✓ Infrastructure - \$3.1 million
 - ✓ Revenue replacement - \$18.6 million
 - ✓ Grant administration - \$1 million
 - ✓ Unallocated - \$35.1 million
- Budget allocations will be adjusted by County Board resolution within the above categories as projects are identified and approved.
- The county administrator has developed an ARPA Governance Task Force that includes a cross-section of leaders from various departments throughout the county. This task force will meet as needed and review all requests prior to submission to the County Board for approval.
- Additionally, all projects will be vetted for compliance with ARPA guidelines prior to submission to the ARPA Governance Task Force by a compliance team, consisting of County Administration, Finance & Central Services, and the County Attorney's Office.

- ARPA information on the county’s plan will be provided on the county’s ARPA Web page located at - <https://www.anokacounty.us/AnokaCountyAnnualRecoveryPlan>

Anoka County is still in its first phase of planning and has not obligated or spent any of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) under ARPA as of July 31, 2021. Preliminary discussions with the County Board have identified some needs and options that will be pursued. This fall, the county will continue to lay the foundation for developing priorities and community outreach in relation to the uses of SLFRF.

Uses of Funds

The Anoka County Board in an informational workshop, identified the following as initial priorities for consideration. Some funding has been allocated; however, it continues to be subject to modification as specific projects are identified and approved by the County Board.

Public Health

Anoka County plans to designate funds to mitigate COVID-19 by supporting public health initiatives throughout the county. Currently, the Anoka County Board has allocated \$12 million for this category, in which the following options are being considered:

- Continued support for our Public Health and Public Safety workforce that are involved with the COVID-19 related activities.
- Support for healthcare costs related to the community and employees that have been directly impacted
- Continued prevention and mitigation of COVID-19 through ongoing purchases of personal protective equipment and needed facility modifications.
- Enhanced behavioral and mental health care programs for both employees and citizens
- Improved and re-designed execution of health and public programs to serve citizens
- Address health disparities within our county

Negative Economic Impacts

Anoka County intends on addressing the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic within the community as follows:

- Assisting small business and non-profits with technical support resources
- Providing assistance to unemployed workers through our Career Force Center
- Addressing park maintenance issues related to overuse from the community that has and continues to occur.
- Addressing public safety response to increased community violence
- Addressing court service backlogs that are related to the pandemic

Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Anoka County intends on servicing communities that have been more severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by providing:

- Services and programs directed towards working with populations who are homeless
- Development of community outreach programs, targeting mental health and other needs
- Increased maintenance and updates to areas such as parks that serve impacted communities
- Developing a strategic plan to identify and address community resources and economic development needs of the communities disproportionately impacted

Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure

Anoka County has currently allocated \$3.1 million to provide a matching grant opportunity to our cities and township for projects that provide Broadband expansion to unserved and underserved areas of our community. The matching grant process is currently under development.

Revenue Replacement

Anoka County has suffered an economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic and intends on claiming the revenue lost due to the pandemic (in accordance with the treasury guidance) to invest into the community. Potential areas where Anoka County would invest the funds from the revenue loss include upgrades to cybersecurity and the construction of new public safety buildings. Anoka County is currently estimating this category will provide \$18.6 million over the four-year calculation period, however, the 2020 final loss that can be captured is expected to be around \$3.85 million. This category will be adjusted as final numbers become available throughout the reporting period.

Unallocated

With the continued changing dynamic of the impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners will continue to evaluate and engage the community as it determines how to allocate the remaining \$35.1 million in funds.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Projects related to promoting equitable outcomes are under development.

Community Engagement

Anoka County received some feedback from some non-profit groups at its Finance Committee meeting in July. Currently, the county is planning some outreach through its Human Services Division and is exploring the development of a community survey to gather a fair cross-section of citizen input. Anoka County recognizes it is vital that community feedback remain a central

theme throughout this process and continues to consider additional methods for obtaining feedback throughout the performance period.

Labor Practices

Projects for infrastructure will address labor practices within their plans as they are adopted and in accordance with U.S. Treasury Guidance.

Use of Evidence

Projects in categories that require an evidence-based approach will be provided in the project plans during Anoka County Board adoption of the plan.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health	\$0	\$0
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination		
1.2	COVID-19 Testing		
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing		
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)		
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment		
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)		
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency		
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)		
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19		
1.10	Mental Health Services		
1.11	Substance Use Services		
1.12	Other Public Health Services		
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts	\$0	\$0
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs		
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers		
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs		
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention		
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers		
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)		
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*		
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)		
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations		
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality		
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries		
2.13	Other Economic Support		
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff		
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	\$0	\$0
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning		
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts		
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services		
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services		
3.5	Education Assistance: Other		
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care		
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting		
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System		
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other		
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing		
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons		
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance		
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other		
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators		
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation		
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions		
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay	\$0	\$0

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
4.1	Public Sector Employees		
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers		
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure	\$0	\$0
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment		
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance		
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater		
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows		
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure		
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater		
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation		
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation		
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source		
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment		
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution		
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation		
5.13	Drinking water: Source		
5.14	Drinking water: Storage		
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure		
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects		
5.17	Broadband: Other projects		
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement	\$0	\$0
6.1	Provision of Government Services		
7	Administrative and Other	\$0	\$0
7.1	Administrative Expenses		
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis		
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government		
7.4	Transfers to Non entitlement Units (States and Territories only)		

PROJECT INVENTORY

No Projects have been started as of July 31, 2021.

Performance Report

Goals, measures, outputs, and outcomes will be prepared during project development and tracked as the projects are implemented. As of July 31, 2021, no projects have been implemented.