

Brevard County Board of County
Commissioners, Florida

Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2021 Report

Brevard County Board of County Commissioners, Florida
2021 Recovery Plan

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Executive Summary

The American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) was passed by Congress on March 10, 2021 and signed into law on March 11, 2021. It augments programs started by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) in 2020 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act in 2021 and created new programs to address the continuing pandemic-related crises, and fund recovery efforts. Brevard County received the initial tranche of ARPA funding in the amount of \$58,460,088 from United States Department of the Treasury (Treasury) on May 19, 2021.

These funds may be used for (a) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to Coronavirus Disease or its negative economic impacts, (b) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers, (c) revenue replacement for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of the county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, or (d) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Brevard County's ARPA Recovery Plan takes into consideration the Board of County Commissioners allocation of and expenditures related to CARES funding Brevard County received on April 23, 2020 for Public Health and Safety programs as well as other federal funding the County received related to COVID-19. The County is able to address many different aspects of the economic recovery while ensuring that public health and other community needs remained a key focus. The chart below provides details on additional COVID-19 related funding and how it has been allocated to serve the needs of the community:

CARES ACT – Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) \$125,406,711

County's Allocation \$105,037,237		
Public Health Programs	\$64.8 million	Supported Brevard County Agencies, Charter Offices, Municipalities, School Board, and Hospitals by providing for personal protective equipment, disinfecting, COVID-19 testing, Emergency Medical Transport Services, social distancing, Families First expenses, and public safety payroll expenses
Economic Support Programs	\$40.5 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Business and non-profit grants • Stop-gap employment • Individual mortgage and rental assistance • Food stability programs

Agencies Received Additional CARES Funds Beyond the County's Allocation \$20,369,474		
Transit Services	\$18.0 million	Continued operating full services while suspending bus fares and maintaining social distancing
Housing and Human Services	\$1.7 million	CRF, through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, for emergency roof, HVAC, and septic repairs
Fire Rescue	\$462,474	Funds assisted with the County's emergency medical transportation services
Valkaria Airport	\$30,000	Aid to local airports
Sheriff's Office	\$177,000	Funds used to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency

**Ongoing Community Programs Administered by the Housing and Human Services
\$45,456,431**

Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA)	\$32.6 million	Rental Assistance, utilities, home energy costs, and other expenses related to housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERA1, \$18.2 million • ERA2, \$14.4 million
Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Programs	\$6.6 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home-ARP, \$4.5 million for the creation of affordable housing and services for people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness • CDBG-CV3, \$1.3 million for health services, child/adult day care, community nutrition, education services, substance abuse services, transportation services, case management, mortgage assistance and security deposits • CDGB-CV1, \$848,028 for health services, community nutrition, educational services, substance abuse services, childcare

HHS Additional Funding and Programs	\$3.2 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LIHEAP-CV, \$1.2 million to assist income qualified families with home heating and cooling costs • LIHEAP-ARP, \$1.6 million to assists income-qualified families with home heating and cooling costs • Community Services Block Grant, \$408,403 intended to address the consequences of increasing unemployment and economic disruption
Transit Services	\$3.0 million	Operation of the County’s public transit services

Uses of Funds

Brevard County Board of County Commissioners initially approved their ARPA Recovery Plan on July 20, 2021. Complying with Treasury’s guidelines, this plan is practical and effective in protecting the public health and the region’s economy.

The outline below provides the broad categories of Brevard County’s initial allocation of ARPA funding for the allocation of \$58,460,088 of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CLFRF) under ARPA:

Brevard County ARPA Recovery Plan Funding Categories

1. Investment in Water, Sewer Infrastructure, and Stormwater, \$40.0M

This initial plan invests \$40 million of ARPA funds for water, wastewater, and stormwater projects, which are designed to improve water quality and address water pollution, enabling the County to address and prioritize the needs of the citizens. Projects include constructing, improving, and repairing wastewater treatment plants, controlling non-point sources of pollution, improving resilience of infrastructure to severe weather events and protecting the County’s waterbodies from pollution.

Categories of eligible projects include treatment, transmission and distribution, source rehabilitation and decontamination, storage, consolidation, and new systems development. Eligible projects also include: construction of publicly owned treatment works, nonpoint source pollution management, national estuary program projects, decentralized wastewater treatment systems, stormwater systems, water conservation, efficiency and reuse measures, watershed pilot projects, energy efficiency measures for publicly-owned treatment works, water reuse projects, security measures at publicly-owned treatment works, and technical assistance to ensure compliance with the Clean Water Act.

2. Public Health, \$2.0M

In order to provide for the health and safety to the community we serve, Brevard County allocated \$2 million for an employee vaccine incentive program. This program incentivizes fully vaccinated County employees who are providing essential services during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

3. Revenue Replacement Opportunities, up to \$18.5M

The County anticipates approximately \$18.5 million will be available for use for revenue replacement projects. Of this amount, currently \$8.5 million has been dedicated to the Fire Rescue program to support the County's public safety operations. Up to an additional \$10 million in revenue replacement funds may be allocated towards critical priorities in the county. As provided by Treasury guidance, this revenue loss can be used for maintenance of infrastructure including roads, modernization of cybersecurity, protection of critical infrastructure, health services, environmental remediation, school or educational services, and the provision of police, fire and other public safety services.

4. Other Eligible Programs, Funding Levels To Be Determined

Brevard County is in the process of assessing the needs of our community and the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency to determine how to most effectively allocate remaining ARPA funds. Eligible programs being considered include but are not limited to: addressing negative economic impacts in recognition of disproportionately impacted communities and economically disadvantaged; programs that provide workforce readiness training; promoting healthy childhood environments.

Promoting equitable outcomes

As Brevard County moves forward with implementing the ARPA Recovery Plan, initiatives are being established to measure equity including developing goals to provide benefits across various groups, awareness for residents and businesses, and equitable access and distribution of programs and services.

This initial plan calls for investing the majority of ARPA funds in water, wastewater and stormwater projects. These are community projects that will provide citizens with clean water, additional capacity, and resiliency to climate change. While developing this plan, careful consideration has been given to ensure that projects will be completed timely to benefit the community.

Developing a vaccination incentive program has encouraged essential employees to get vaccinated in order to provide a safe working environment, as well as reduce public health risk to the community. Research shows that vaccinated employees are less likely to transmit the COVID-19 virus, and therefore are less likely to infect their families,

coworkers, and the general public that they serve. This program protects employees and citizens while mitigating the risk of reduced public services that could result from excessive sick leave of essential workers.

The initial ARPA Recovery Plan allocates a portion of revenue replacement funds to support the operational needs of the Fire Rescue Department, ensuring that public health and safety needs are well served. These resources allow for key investments in personnel, capital equipment, and infrastructure to effectively respond to our citizenry.

The County is currently evaluating the community's needs and further COVID-19 impacts to determine how remaining funds will be expended. Opportunities include but are not limited to: addressing negative economic impacts of disproportionately impacted communities and economically disadvantaged; addressing educational disparities exacerbated by COVID-19, including educational services and workforce training; promoting healthy childhood environments; and additional provisions of government services to benefit and serve the community through revenue replacement opportunities.

CLFRF under ARPA provides identical parameters for counties and how separately provided for funding to Brevard's municipalities funding can be utilized. Careful consideration is being taken to ensure that programs created by the Board of County Commissioners do not duplicate programs that municipalities may implement. Various municipalities may be interested in partnering with the County to leverage additional dollars into programs both the County and municipality may be interested in funding together. Waiting to see how such programs unfold on the federal, state and municipal levels may be desirable to assure resources are allocated in a way that best serves Brevard's community minimizing duplication of efforts and/or taking advantage of partnership and leveraging opportunities with municipalities or other agencies.

Community Engagement

All programs must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners at a public meeting where the community has an opportunity to provide input in a public forum. Commissioners engage with the citizens on a daily basis to understand the local needs, priorities, and pressures facing the County.

Prior to advertising and solicitation of projects, Brevard County will look for opportunities to engage local contractors and workforce through community outreach.

Labor Practices

The County will ensure that as projects are selected to utilize SLFRF funds, that all procurement contracts using such funds are consistent with the procurement standards set forth in the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR 200.317 through 2 CFR 200.327, as applicable, as well as local procurement policies. The Uniform Guidance requires

competitive bidding and contractor oversight and maintaining written standards of conduct and prohibitions on dealing with suspended or debarred parties.

Brevard County will strongly encourage the use of local workforce to promote efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting the economic recovery efforts. The County will report on community benefits agreements, workforce wages and local hiring achieved through these agreements.

Use of Evidence

Performance measures are being developed to ensure that the County complies with the requirements of the Act and ensure a speedy, equitable, transparent and accountable recovery plan.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative Obligations to date (\$)	Cumulative Expenditures to date (\$)
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.10	Mental Health Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.11	Substance Use Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.12	Other Public Health Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid	\$0.00	\$0.00

Category		Cumulative Obligations to date (\$)	Cumulative Expenditures to date (\$)
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.13	Other Economic Support	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning	\$0.00	\$0.00
3.5	Education Assistance: Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	\$0.00	\$0.00
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	\$2,952,964.23	\$0.00
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.13	Drinking water: Source	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.14	Drinking water: Storage	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	\$0.00	\$0.00

Category		Cumulative Obligations to date (\$)	Cumulative Expenditures to date (\$)
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$8,500,000.00	\$0.00
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	\$0.00	\$0.00