

# Lee County Government American Rescue Plan Act Recovery & Resilience Plan

STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS



Report Date: August 31, 2021

Lee County, Florida  
**Board of County Commissioners**  
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# American Rescue Plan Act Lee County, Florida 2021 ARPA Recovery & Resilience Plan

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## I. General Overview

### 1. Executive Summary

Lee County's American Rescue Plan Act Recovery & Resilience Plan provides the public and U.S. Treasury a summary of projects funded with State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provides \$149,675,549 in direct local funding assistance for Lee County. The first half of the County's award has been received and the second half is expected in mid-2022.

The Recovery & Resilience Plan will describe how the County will ensure that program and project outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient, and equitable manner. Key performance indicators will be provided for each project and the plan will be prominently published for public viewing. Lee County will update this document each time a project or program is approved for ARPA funding.

This initial report is current through July 31, 2021. The County will adopt a full Recovery & Resilience Plan on a rolling basis starting in the Fall of 2021. This report will be updated accordingly, and the Plan will be revisited and reallocated, as priorities require.

In conformance with the Department of the Treasury Interim Final Rule, Lee County's ARPA Plan will encompass programs and projects to address the approved areas: public health response; negative economic impacts to households, small businesses, and nonprofits; services to disproportionately impacted communities; potential premium pay for some public sector employees; core government services from replacement revenues; and infrastructure needs.

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## 2. Uses of Funds

Lee County recognizes ARPA funding as an unprecedented opportunity to support robust and equitable investments that address immediate recovery needs—especially in the most disproportionately impacted communities—as well as longer-term resiliency building.

This section of the report will identify each program and project by expense category. Lee County will use logic models and a corresponding narrative to discuss program and project inputs/resources, actions/processes, output metrics, and outcome metrics for all but infrastructure programs. As prescribed, projects will align to the categories below:



- a. Public Health (EC 1): As relevant, describe how funds are being used to respond to COVID-19 and the broader health impacts of COVID-19 and the COVID-19 public health emergency.



- b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2): As relevant, describe how funds are being used to respond to negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency, including to households and small businesses.



- c. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3): As relevant, describe how funds are being used to provide services to communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.



- d. Premium Pay (EC 4): As relevant, describe the approach, goals, and sectors or occupations served in any premium pay program. Describe how your approach prioritizes low-income workers.



- e. Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5): Describe the approach, goals, and types of projects being pursued, if pursuing.



- f. Revenue Replacement (EC 6): Describe the loss in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and how funds have been used to provide government services.

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### 3. Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Lee County Government values diversity and welcomes input from all interested parties, regardless of cultural identity, background or income level. Moreover, Lee County believes that the best programs and services result from careful consideration of the needs, and input from, it's various communities involved in transportation, public transportation, human services, and other government services.<sup>1</sup>

Thus, Lee County does not tolerate discrimination in any of its programs, services or activities. Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal and state authorities, the County will not exclude anyone from participation, deny benefits, or discriminate against anyone on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, income or family status.<sup>2</sup>

Commensurate with Lee County's active acknowledgment and promotion of civil rights and equity, each ARPA project will be designed with equity in mind. All projects will be required to define their strategic objective and operational approach to promote or ensure equitable outcomes for their service recipients.

To conform to the Treasury's specific requirement to promote equity, the required expense category projects will submit an equity plan addressing the Treasury's objectives for setting and promoting equity goals, awareness, access and distribution, and equitable processes. Furthermore, the ARPA fund sub recipients will describe and be monitored regarding their methodology for reviewing, understanding, and planning to ensure equitable access that can lead to equitable outcomes.

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<sup>1</sup> "Civil Rights Act, Title VI." *Lee County Southwest Florida*, 5 Aug. 2021, [www.leegov.com/civilrights](http://www.leegov.com/civilrights).

<sup>2</sup> "Civil Rights Act, Title VI." 2021.

## 4. Community Engagement

Throughout the response to the pandemic, Lee County engaged its community-based partners, economic development organizations and business organizations to identify pandemic related needs. An ARPA communication plan is being developed to collect additional input from the community in an equitable manner. Projects will be developed based on needs.

The examples below illustrate means by which County departments solicit and gather feedback regarding pandemic-related needs. This documentation will be evaluated and prioritized in the development of the Lee County Government ARPA Recovery & Resilience Plan.

### Human and Veteran Services Community Engagement

- Survey of nonprofits' partners;
- Personal consultation with various community based organizations including Lee Health, Salus Care, Salvation Army, CASL, United Way, Early Learning Coalition, Collaboratory, Central Florida Behavioral Health Network, and Midwest Food Bank; and
- Survey of Partnering for Result youth services providers.

### Economic Development Community Engagement

- Monthly Real Estate Research Institute surveys assessing pandemic impact on business activity;
- Regular consultation with all chambers of commerce;
- COVID -19 related regular information sharing with the Southwest Florida Economic Development Alliance, Small Business Development Centers, and U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA);
- Scheduled regular two-way information sharing with industry partners on the LeeCares program and not-for-profit sectors regarding pandemic impact on culture, housing, and human services;
- Weekly meetings with retail representatives regarding operation constraints;
- Weekly supply chain meetings with Lee Health;
- Weekly calls with hospitality industry partners to provide the latest information and assess local business conditions; and
- Regular calls to workforce training partners including Career Source.

### Visitor and Convention Bureau Community Engagement

- Weekly information sharing and gathering calls with industry partners;
- Conducted periodic "willingness to travel" consumer sentiment research in key markets.

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## 5. Labor Practices

All Lee County Government infrastructure projects (EC 5) procurement processes conform to Lee County Board of County Commissioners Procurement Ordinance 18-22. This ordinance is a high-level policy that sets forth the County's procurement regulations, including organization, controls, and accountability for procurement of goods and services. In addition, the Procurement department and end-user departments will ensure compliance with all grant and federal labor standards.

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## 6. Use of Evidence

As required for the specified expense categories, Lee County will ensure that ARPA programs and projects are either evidence-based or designed with a research agenda to study their effectiveness. Project sponsors will be required to submit project logic models and corresponding narratives that summarize their project's evidence-based model and that outlines how their program will be aligned to the principles of their chosen model. Sponsors and projects that lack sufficient evidence-based outcomes will receive technical assistance to evaluate their projects to research and implement evidence-based solutions or research agenda methodologies.

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## 7. Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

As of July 31, 2021, Lee County has not incurred any expenses or obligations for projects that should be account for in the 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	-	-
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*	-	-

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
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
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	-	-

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
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	<b>Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
6.1	Provision of Government Services	-	-
7	<b>Administrative and Other</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
7.1	Administrative Expenses	-	-
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis	-	-
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government	-	-
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)	-	-

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## II. Project Inventory

As of August 31, 2021, the Lee County Board of Commissioners has not approved projects for inclusion in this section. This report will be updated as projects are authorized by the Board of County Commissioners. Additionally, new projects will be included in all ARPA Quarterly Expense Report submissions as required.

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### III. Performance Report

As of August 31, 2021, the Lee County Board of Commissioners has not approved projects for inclusion in this section. This report will be updated as projects are authorized by the Board of County Commissioners. Additionally, new projects will be included in all ARPA Quarterly Expense Report submissions as required.