

Madison County, Alabama

Recovery Plan Performance Report

Madison County Commission

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report



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2025 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The Madison County Commission was awarded \$72,433,202 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The first installment of \$36,216,601 was received on June 17, 2021, followed by the second and final installment of \$36,216,601 on June 21, 2022. In accordance with federal guidelines, all funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026.

The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide a substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

The goal is to equitably distribute the funds to restore government services to the same level of operation prior to the pandemic. We are successfully meeting this challenge through inquiry, observation, and application. We have identified several qualifying beneficiaries through this process.

The Madison County Commission is committed to building a better Madison County, and we are proud to have successfully obligated 100% of the funds received—supporting a total of 65 projects.

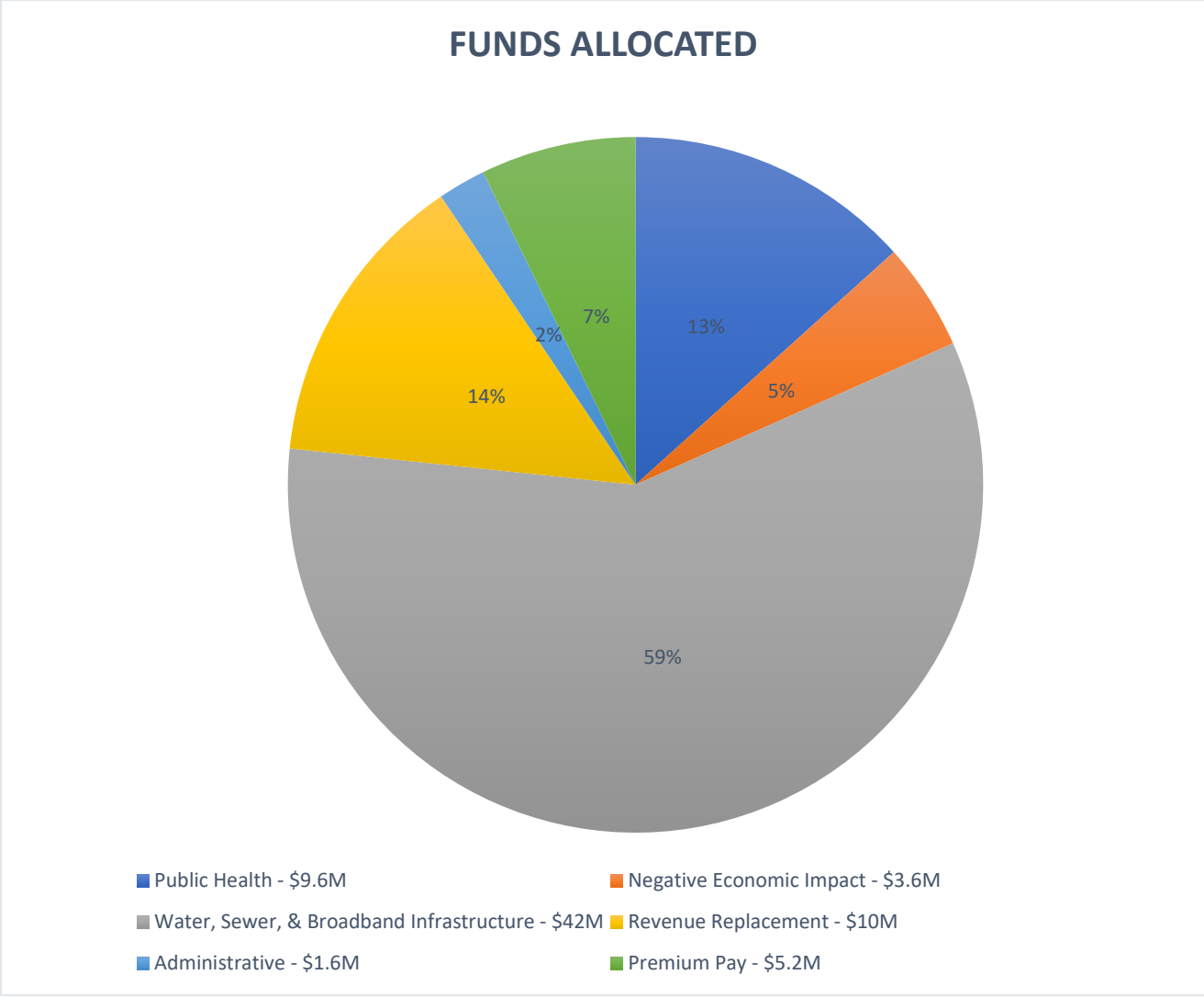
To date:

- Approximately 5% of the funds have been allocated to support organizations negatively economically impacted by the pandemic.
- About 13% has gone toward strengthening the public health sector.
- 59% has been allocated for critical water and infrastructure improvements.

The remaining funds are allocated for revenue replacement and administrative costs.

Through the county budget process, Madison County developed the following budget priorities and allocation amounts beginning in the 2021 fiscal year:

- ***Public Health: \$9.6 Million***
- ***Negative Economic Impacts: \$3.6 Million***
- ***Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure: \$42 Million***
- ***Revenue Replacement: \$10 Million***
- ***Administrative: \$1.6 Million***
- ***Premium Pay: \$5.2 Million***



One of our greatest challenges has been ensuring full compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 200) and the U.S. Treasury’s Final Rule. Given the size of Madison County and the number of projects funded, it has been a complex task to monitor each initiative closely and ensure that all established milestones are met in a timely and compliant manner.

There are 7 expenditure categories outlined by the Department of Treasury under which ARPA funds may be used. The following is the Madison County’s expenditure category breakdown:

Public Health: \$9.6M

- \$1M** – Mental Health
- \$5M** – Safety Patrol Equipment
- \$3.6M** – Emergency Vehicles

Negative Economic Impact: \$3.6M

- **\$3.1M** invested in tourism and non-profit organizations
- **\$459K** to help create a community garden serving disproportionately impacted citizens



Premium Pay: \$5.2M

- **\$5.2M** Madison County Recovery Plan Employee Premium Pay

Infrastructure: \$12M



Revenue Replacement: \$9M

- **\$5M** Sanitation trucks & carts
- **\$2.6M** Volunteer Fire Departments equipment
- **\$475K** Madison City Public Safety Annex
- **\$1M** Tourism & nonprofits



Administrative: \$1.68M

Uses of Funds

Within the categories of eligible uses, Madison County has broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of our communities.

Supporting the public health response

Mitigating the impact of COVID-19 continues to require an unprecedented public health response from local governments. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide resources to meet these needs through the provision of care for those impacted by the virus and through services that address disparities in public health that have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Madison County recognizes the importance and necessity of supporting public health and the severity of the impact the pandemic has brought on the environment. We have used this funding to address a broad range of public health needs across COVID-19 mitigation, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and public health resources.



We purchased a new medical emergency vehicle for the Madison County Rescue Squad and assisted in procuring a second emergency vehicle for Madison Hospital. We have purchased lifesaving medical equipment for HEMSI-Huntsville Emergency Medical Service, Inc., which is a business that provides ambulance services for citizens of Madison County. These projects total over \$970,000.

In addition, we have provided \$1,000,000 to help with mental and behavioral health as a result of the effect of the pandemic.

We have expended \$7.5 million for law enforcement equipment, which includes vehicles, tasers, cameras, etc. to better equip, serve, and protect our community.

Addressing the negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency

The COVID-19 public health emergency resulted in significant economic hardship for many Americans. As businesses closed, consumers stayed home, schools shifted to remote education, and travel declined precipitously. To help alleviate the economic hardships caused by the pandemic, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds enable local governments to provide a wide range of assistance impacted industries, in addition to enabling governments to rehire public sector staff and rebuild capacity.

We have allocated \$3.6 million to non-profit organizations that were negatively impacted by the pandemic. As a result, these non-profit organizations will be able to continue in operation and

serve and revitalize the community. A portion of these were aid to tourism and cultural and recreation.

Also negatively impacted was our Alabama Office of Courts, AOC, which we designated \$415,000 to reduce the backlog of court cases.

Serving the hardest-hit communities and families

While the pandemic has affected communities across the country, it has disproportionately impacted low-income families and has exacerbated systemic health and economic inequities. Low-income and socially vulnerable communities have experienced the most severe health impacts.

Investing in water and sewer infrastructure

Madison County is using this funding to invest in an array of drinking water infrastructure projects, such as building or upgrading facilities and transmission, distribution, and storage systems, including the replacement of lead service lines.

Madison County has allocated approximately \$7.6 million for an improvement in water tank distribution and \$22 million in water infrastructure. The improvements will yield the following benefits within the community: stability of distribution pressure and flow, reduction of high system pressure, redundancy of storage for other service areas, and redundancy of supply for the community.

In addition, \$14.5 million is allocated for surface transportation projects to improve road conditions and to provide more efficient fiscal mobility of products and people. And \$1 million for broadband improvements for better connectivity in low-income areas.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Madison County's programs are intentionally designed to promote equitable outcomes, with a strong emphasis on supporting underserved communities and vulnerable populations. The County evaluated data from Qualified Census Tracts and the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index to guide its strategy. Efforts were focused on delivering targeted services and programs to address the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of this initiative, Madison County conducted a comprehensive assessment and issued a county-wide announcement inviting nonprofit organizations affected by the pandemic to apply for funding. We received over 50 applications from a diverse group of economically and adversely impacted organizations. To ensure fairness and equal opportunity, all applicants were required to complete the same application form. Several organizations have been selected to receive funding from the nonprofit allocation.

Community Engagement

Madison County is committed to meaningful community engagement and utilized a variety of methods, including interest forms, collaboration with longstanding community organizations, meetings with elected officials, department heads, staff, and other public forums, to develop a plan that effectively addresses the County's needs.

To further support this effort, Madison County partnered with the Alabama County Commission Association (ACCA) to help identify community priorities and ensure the equitable distribution of remaining funds. ACCA brings extensive experience in managing federal funds efficiently and effectively, making them a valuable partner in maximizing the impact of this investment.

Labor Practices

Madison County is committed to strong labor practices that foster safe, effective, and efficient work environments for all employees. All infrastructure projects will be staffed with workers who meet or exceed local, state, and federal standards, ensuring high-quality employment opportunities across the region.

To support these efforts, the County has allocated \$42 million to fund major infrastructure projects. Additionally, a consultant has been engaged to oversee compliance with all applicable labor standards, including adherence to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), further reinforcing our commitment to fair and lawful employment practices.

Use of Evidence

Madison County's commitment to an equitable economic recovery includes the use of evidence-based interventions in situations where program evaluations are not conducted. If applicable, detailed evidence information will be provided for each project in the Project Inventory section below.

Performance Report

Projects are currently being tracked and monitored using performance reports. Performance reports will be made available once the projects have made progress on their key performance indicators.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Law Enforcement Projects

Funding Amount \$7,471,159

1.11 Public Health – Community Violence Intervention

- Patrol Vehicle Fleet Improvements- \$1,966,158
 - Adding new patrol vehicles and enhancements to the equipment inside of the patrol vehicles will allow for more deputies to be seen across the county and aid in our Community Oriented Policing initiatives. The equipment in these vehicles will assist deputies in finding unlawfully possessed weapons in vehicles in an effort to reduce the number of stolen or unlawful weapons used while committing crimes. This initiative will help to foster a safer community and will have an impact on the level of violent crimes committed with firearms.
- Law Enforcement Tasers- \$5,505,000
 - Respond to the public health emergency by purchasing equipment for preventing and responding to violence due to the increase in violent domestic and gun crimes.
 - Upgrade current equipment in order to respond to violent crime timelier.

Premium Pay

Funding Amount - \$ 5,236,618.35

4.1 Public Sector Employees

- Premium Pay for Eligible Workers: to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers who are performing such essential work.

Non-Profits

Funding Amount - \$3,661,000

2.22 Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Feature that Promote Health & Safety

2.34 Assistance to Non-Profits

2.35 Aid to Impacted Industry

- The Madison County Commission (MCC) approved a set amount of ARPA funding to be made available as grants to nonprofits that have faced economic hardship resulting from the public health emergency. Such grants could include funds to cover a loss of earnings, decline in revenues, or impacts of cancelled fundraising events during periods of closure or limited operations due to public health orders; unexpected expenses related to an increased demand for services or mitigation efforts to contain the spread of COVID; and/or other necessary expenditures related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Public Health

Funding Amount- \$415,000

3.5 Public Sector Capacity

- Alabama Office of Courts
 - The Madison County Commission approved funds for ongoing monitoring and reliance on reports that demonstrated the backlog of cases. There are noted shortages in judgeships that have been identified by state officials detailing the need for additional assistance in this area.

Medical Equipment

Funding Amount - \$748,059

1.14 Other Public Health Services

- The County has purchased certain equipment to aid it in responding to the public health emergency pursuant to the terms and conditions provided in the American Rescue Plan Act, as well as Treasury Department regulations pertaining to the use of SLFRF Funds; the lease of the equipment will benefit the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Wellstone Behavioral Health

Funding Amount - \$1,000,000

1.12 Mental Health Services

- The County desires to provide and the Beneficiary desires to receive grant funds from the County to aid in its negative economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and to support the Beneficiary's mission of providing behavioral health services to the citizens of North Alabama.

Infrastructure

Funding Amount - \$42,300,000

5.11 Drinking Water, Transmission, & Distribution

5.14 Drinking Water Storage

5.19 Broadband “Last Mile Projects”

9.2 Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving funding from DOT

- Madison County has identified 21 water projects aimed at improving the transmission and distribution of safe, reliable drinking water to residents across the county. These projects are strategically located to enhance the overall water system and ensure consistent access to clean water. The planned upgrades will help prevent service disruptions and strengthen the long-term resilience of the County’s water infrastructure.
- The Madison County Water Department performed a hydraulic simulation of its water system to ascertain the effect certain improvements within the distribution system may have. The results of that simulation were used to plan the proposed water tank and related appurtenances in a manner that will yield the following benefits within the community: stability of distribution pressure and flow, reduction of high system pressure, redundancy of storage for other service areas, and redundancy of supply for the community. The County has identified and secured land for the tank site.
 - This last-mile infrastructure project will provide broadband to the unserved or underserved areas as defined by the Final Rule of the Killingsworth Cove Community of Madison County. This project will provide fiber to households, businesses, and community anchor locations.
 - Madison County has conducted numerous studies to assess transportation needs and has identified several surface transportation projects designed to improve mobility

and safety. These projects include roadway upgrades, realignments, new turn lanes, improved intersections, roundabouts, and the installation of additional traffic signals. Collectively, these improvements aim to reduce traffic congestion, shorten travel times, and enhance the overall safety and efficiency of the County's Road system.

Administrative

Funding Amount - \$1,584,517

7.1 Administrative Expenses

- Funds are used to contract with outside consulting firms to provide guidance, research technical requirements, compliance of federal regulations, terms of final rule and to execute contracts with beneficiaries or subrecipients.

Revenue Replacement Projects

Funding Amount - \$10,000,000

6.1 Provision of Government Services

Madison County has identified several projects under this category that are in the process of implementation. Some of these projects are as follows:

We have obligated \$5.6 million to aid in sanitation needs of our county through the purchase of new garbage trucks and carts.

We have obligated \$2.7 million to enhance response to fires and other emergencies in the County.

\$550,000 has been obligated to assist non-profit organizations throughout our community. \$250,000 to help purchase a critical care transport ambulance for Madison Hospital. The purchase and operation of this dedicated transport vehicle is essential to helping Madison Hospital overcome increasing volume and ambulance delays and will be a significant resource for Madison County in ensuring prompt and effective treatment of COVID-19.

We have partnered with the City of Madison to improve the delivery of public safety services to city residents by providing funding for the renovation of the Recipient's Public Safety Annex building.