

Montgomery County, Texas

Recovery Plan



State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

As of August 31, 2021 Report

Montgomery County, Texas
August 31, 2021
Recovery Plan

Table of Contents

General Overview.....	2
Executive Summary.....	2
Uses of Funds	3
Promoting Equitable Outcomes	5
Community Engagement	5
Labor Practices	5
Use of Evidence	5
Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category	5
Project Inventory.....	8
Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision	8

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The Montgomery County Commissioners Court allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) in June and August 2021 to address the impact and recovery of the COVID-19 pandemic and address opportunities needed to prepare for future such events in alignment with U.S. Treasury Rules. Of the \$58.98 Million received by the County \$17.94 Million has been encumbered with \$41.04 Million left to be allocated to various strategies for recovery.

\$ 17.9 Million Public Health Response (allocated in August 2021)

\$ 40,000 in Administrative expenses for Emergency Rental Assistance (allocated in June 2021)

As of July 31, 2021, no funds have been expended as various departments build plans, evidence based as required, that meet the goals outlined by the Commissioners Court. Each project will have a distinct Recovery Plan as they are adopted by the Commissioners Court.

The major challenge is the rapid spread of the Delta variant which requires constant adjustments to the County's response to help limit impact before recovery can really move forward.

Uses of Funds

Montgomery County's encumbrance of funds has provided direction to County staff on projects that need to be developed and implemented over the American Rescue Plan applicable period. Each category has specific projects to be developed. As of July 31, 2021, no funds have been expended. A general project identification for the allotments already approved by the Commissioners Court are:

Support Public Health Response: \$17.9 Million

Nursing Staff for Hospitals - \$9.00 Million

The Delta Variant began to become the prevalent strain of COVID-19 in Montgomery during the Month of July 2021. As the surge of patients began to hit our county hospitals, the hospitals became stressed with the larger volume of patients. The need for temporary surge staffing was identified and approved by the Commissioners Court. Contracts with a staffing agency have been approved, but no payments have gone out as of July 31, 2021 related to this strategy. The project is underway and expected to end by October 1, 2021 unless extended due to the continued surge and the imminent threat to life and health of county residents.

Procurement of Medical Supplies and Protective Equipment- \$ 536,111.20

Montgomery County Commissioners Court has authorized the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to procure any necessary medical supplies and protective equipment needed to address the ongoing pandemic throughout the county. MCOHSEM will identify any needs within the county at all of our first responder organizations both internal and external and support local healthcare facilities as needed on an emergency supply basis. These funds have not been expended as of July 31, 2021 but are expected to be during the next reporting period.

Behavioral Health Initiative- \$7.999 Million

Montgomery County Commissioners Court has made addressing the ongoing behavioral health crisis a top priority. The Court has identified several strategies to address behavioral health and will begin to formalize those strategies in the upcoming months. As of July 31, 2021 no funds have been expended but expected expenses in the next year will be vast. The court has identified providing funding for our county's mental health authority and provider to increase staffing and provide additional treatment capabilities across the broad spectrum of behavioral health care. Additionally, the Court recognized the immediate need for additional crisis intervention officers to be able to respond to 911 calls for mental crisis. These new deputies and their equipment will be deployed in the coming months.

Call center - \$268,800.00

Montgomery County Commissioners Court implemented a call center to assist the citizens in obtaining accurate and complete information as it pertains to testing and treatment throughout the County.

Increased support staff for Sanitizing, Vaccine Distribution and Medical Facilities- \$100,000

Montgomery County Commissioners Court has previously approved the use of overtime for additional custodial personnel to make additional cleaning rounds throughout county buildings during the business day. In addition to keeping our buildings sanitized while the general public are able to access them each operational day, the court has increased the use of traffic control and crowd control measures at our vaccine distribution events and ongoing Monoclonal Antibodies infusion center. These deputies are there to ensure the safety of patients and staff alike, while keeping traffic moving for ease of use. No funds have been spent in this category as of July 31, 2021 but expected in the next reporting period.

Emergency Rental Assistance Administrative Cost- \$40,000

Commissioners Court identified an online application portal which provides applicants easier access to ERA funds and quicker turnaround for application processing. The funds as of July 31, 2021 have not been expended but are expected in the next reporting period.

Unallocated and Under Review - \$41.04 Million

In the midst of the Delta variant it has become increasingly obvious the needs to continually review the use of ARPA – SLFRF to best address COVID-19 will be required. Montgomery County Commissioners Court wishes to ensure the use of these funds maximize the community's needs to mitigate, respond and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Future projects and strategies will be identified in the coming months as the community recovers from another surge caused by the Delta variant.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Projects related to promoting equitable outcomes are under development.

Community Engagement

Projects requiring Community Engagement are under development.

Labor Practices

Projects for infrastructure will address labor practices in their plans if identified and awarded by Commissioners Court.

Use of Evidence

Projects in categories requiring an evidence based approach will be provided in the project plans during adoption by Commissioners Court.

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		

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

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
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		
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 Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)		

See Section C(7) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Project Inventory

No Projects have been started to date.

Performance Report

Goals, measures, outputs and outcomes will be prepared during project development and tracked as the projects are implemented. No projects have been started.

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision (States and territories only)

Not Applicable