



# **Recovery Plan**

## **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

**2022 Report**

**Pasco County**  
**2022 Recovery Plan**

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### **Executive Summary**

Pasco County was awarded an allocation of \$107,579,711.00 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) signed into law on March 11, 2021. Pasco County's first allocation from the ARPA Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund of \$53,798,855.50 was received in May 2021 and the second allocation for the same amount was received in June 2022 to complete the total allocation awarded. The Funds must be fully obligated by December 31, 2024 and fully expended by December 31, 2026.

Since the previous Recovery Plan, the United States Treasury Department has published their Final Rule on how these funds may be spent. This Final Rule updated and superseded the Interim Final Rule which formed the basis for the initial Recovery Plan.

Upon receipt of the guidance resulting from the Final Rule, the Board of County Commissioners maintained their previously established investment plan that serves to both guide and direct how the funding will be spent. This investment plan may evolve as the needs of the County continue to be assessed. The investment plan continues to focus on addressing critical needs relating to various public health issues that have become even more evident during the course of the pandemic; funding certain critical capital and economic program needs in accordance with the ARPA revenue loss guidelines; and addressing the public safety and operational needs of the County during its continuing response to COVID-19.

This funding will also be used to offset any direct salary costs incurred to mitigate the virus. These salaries include primarily the salaries of public safety workers as well as the salaries of those employees who were diverted from their normal duties to address public health issues of the pandemic and specialized cleaning protocols implemented as a result of the pandemic.

Pursuant to the guidance in the Final Rule, the County calculated a revenue loss of \$57,099,406 in fiscal year 2020 and \$17,992,682 in fiscal year 2021 for a total of \$75,092,088. The County anticipates that future year revenue losses during the grant period are expected to be in the range of \$20 million to \$30 million annually. The County investment plan is heavily focused on using the broad latitude afforded it in the Final Rule toward the provision of government services to address improvements and capital programs that it was not able to pursue as a result of the lost revenue in 2020, 2021, and future years.

For the period covered by this Recovery Plan (August 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022), Pasco County has expended \$28,200,783 of the awarded State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

## Uses of Funds

The Board of County Commissioners, along with the County Administrator have established the following priorities to set the course for an equitable recovery:

- Fiscal Sustainability and Core County Services: Recover revenue losses during the economic recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The infusion will stabilize the County's finances and allow it to continue providing high quality services.
- Premium Pay for Essential Workers: Provide a one-time premium pay stipend to all County employees (including Constitutional Officers) who did not receive the state stipend and continued to serve our community during the public health emergency. County offices remained open and provided essential services during the pandemic.
- COVID-19 Pandemic Response and Public Health: Increase vaccinations, ensure County Facilities are ready and equipped to stay open, sustain testing, and ensure public health information and programs are accessible and engaged with every Pasco community.

## Promoting equitable outcomes

The investment plan for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds allocates funding to implement a small business assistance and redevelopment program as part of Expenditure Category 2.09 (Small Business Economic Assistance). Although no funds have been expended to date on this program, this program will be focused on providing 0% interest capital improvement loans to assist small businesses with funding for necessary upgrades required to allow business property and building to meet new land development codes and applicable government regulations. The program will also fund 0% interest redevelopment loans for properties in targeted areas of the County that faced negative economic impacts due to the pandemic. Additionally, the program will provide incentives to stimulate redevelopment of existing properties in targeted areas within the County.

## Community Engagement

Community engagement remains an ongoing process. The County Administrator and several County Commissioners have addressed the plans for spending the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds with constituents since the allocation award was announced in order to gauge the opinion of the public for the optimal use of the funds.

Additionally, the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and the County's investment plan and uses of funds listed above were discussed at the full Board of County Commissioners meetings. All meetings are televised and available for viewing at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/c/PascoCountyGovernment>. The Board of County Commissioners always devote a portion of their meeting agenda meeting to accept public comment. All planned expenditures of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds will be discussed in a public forum by the County Administrator, with a public vote by the County Commission authorizing any changes to the planned expenditures of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

## **Labor Practices**

As of the date of this report, the Pasco County Commission has not agreed to use the funds for projects related to water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure that require reporting on labor practices.

## **Use of Evidence**

As of the date of this report, Pasco County's allocation will not be used for projects requiring evidence-based interventions and/or for projects that are evaluated through rigorous program evaluations designed to build evidence.

## **Performance Report**

Pasco County will report both key performance indicators and progress-to-date on chosen indicators in its Recovery Plan Performance Report. This will include both self-selected and mandatory performance indicators required by Treasury and specific to an expenditure category.

## **Required Performance Indicators and Programmatic Data**

During this reporting period, Pasco County does not have any expenditures in categories that require this data, therefore, no data is submitted.

**Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category**

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	\$239,002.60	\$239,002.60
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	\$661,846.50	\$661,846.50
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)	\$3,287,382.00	\$3,287,382.00
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.29	Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship	0	0
3	Expenditure Category: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity		
3.1	Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers	\$1,014,645.00	\$1,014,645.00
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	\$2,723,848.00	\$2,723,848.00
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.18	Water and Sewer: Other	\$20,363,137.99	\$20,363,137.99
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	0	0
7	Administrative		
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government	\$50,071.66	\$50,071.66

## Project Inventory

The current investment plan for ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds is as follows:

Project: COVID-19 Health Expenditures

Funding amount: \$5.5M

Project Expenditure Categories: 1.0 Public Health / 3.0 Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity / 7.0 Administrative and Other

Project overview:

- Provide funding for the County's continuing COVID-19 treatment and medical services expenses. This funding will also be used for any necessary COVID-19 mitigation and prevention expenditures.
- Funding expended to support the project by sub-expenditure category as of this report include:
  - i. 1.2: COVID-19 Testing for inmates
  - ii. 1.4: Prevention in Congregate Settings (Jails)
  - iii. 1.6: Medical Expenses – COVID related medical expenses for local government employees and qualifying dependents.
  - iv. 3.1: Public Sector Workforce Payroll and Benefits for Public Safety
  - v. 7.2: Transfers to Other Units of Government – Payments to the Pasco Sheriff Office for COVID related expenses incurred to support daily operations.

Project: Public Safety Service Pay and Vaccination Incentive (complete)

Funding amount: \$2,723,848

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1 Public Sector Employees

Project overview:

- A.
  - Provide funding for the County to provide premium pay for local government employees considered essential and did not receive the State allocation of premium pay in compliance with regulations governing US Treasury Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.
  - This constitutes a one-time payment to eligible employees for their service during the pandemic. The premium pay was issued in September 2021.
- B.
  - Provide funding to incentivize local government employees to obtain a COVID-19 vaccination.
  - This constitutes a one-time payment to eligible employees that opted to obtain a COVID-19 vaccination. This incentive pay was issued in November 2021.

Project: Utility Consolidation - Lindrick Utility Acquisition (complete)

Funding amount: \$20,363,137.99

Project Expenditure Category: 5.18 Water and Sewer: Other

Project overview:

- Provide funding for the County to acquire the Florida Government Utility Authority's (FGUA) Lindrick Utility System located on the west side of Pasco County, Florida. This system serves 3,100 water and 2,600 wastewater customers. After a thorough evaluation of the system with FGUA, it was determined that significant capital improvements were needed in order to improve water quality for the citizens and ensure safe operation of the wastewater system.
- The acquisition supported the consolidation of drinking water systems as a DWSRF project and has been completed.

Project: Small Business Assistance

Funding amount: \$2M

Project Expenditure Category: 2.0 Negative Economic Impacts

Project overview:

- Provide funding to initiate a program that is focused on providing 0% interest capital improvement loans to assist small businesses. The program will also provide incentives to stimulate redevelopment of existing properties in targeted areas within the County.
- This project is currently in the planning stages.

Project: Wesley Chapel Library

Funding amount: TBD

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project overview:

- Provide capital investment for construction of a new library, increasing library services to an underserved population of the County.
- This project is currently in the early procurement stage with construction planned for fiscal year 2023.

Project: Jail Expansion

Funding amount: TBD

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project overview:

- Provide funding for the County to increase the capital investment to construct an expansion to the County Jail. The existing jail is over-populated and expansion of the facility is required.
- This project is currently in the design stage with construction anticipated to start in the fall of 2022.



Project: Village of Pasadena Hills Super Park

Funding amount: TBD

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project overview:

- Provide funding for the County to initiate construction on a Super Park for the Villages of Pasadena Hills (VOPH). The park site is approximately 300 acres and is intended to consist of both active and passive park facilities. At full completion, amenities will include an assortment of multi-use fields and baseball diamonds, a recreation complex, outdoor courts, aquatic facility, playgrounds, picnic areas, and a wilderness park.
- This project is currently in the planning stage.

Project: Magnolia Valley District Park

Funding amount: TBD

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project overview:

- Provide funding for the County to initiate construction on a district park within the West Market Area of the County. This park facility is being planned in conjunction with a stormwater project to address community flooding in and around a defunct golf course. At approximately 120 acres in size, this location will support a typical district park including a combination of athletic fields, a recreation complex, outdoor courts, playgrounds, and other open space amenities. The project will be incorporating and activating various open space elements of a corresponding stormwater project through walking trails, picnic shelters, and boardwalks thereby maximizing the parks colocation with this public works project.
- This project is currently in the planning stage.

Project: Coastal Dredging

Funding amount: TBD

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project overview:

- Provide funding to establish a program to dredge and maintain Pasco County coastal and waterway channels.
- This project is currently in the planning stage.