

State of Vermont
Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
2021 Report

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General Overview

Executive Summary

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused extraordinary loss and hardship throughout Vermont, the country, and the world. Although challenges continue, as the nation struggles with the highly contagious Delta variant, Vermont is committed to continuing to lead the nation as we move from response to recovery. The success Vermont has had in responding to COVID-19 is a testament to the state's residents—people who watch out for their neighbors, who care about their communities, and who follow science. As Vermont determines and launches its Recovery Plan funded with State Fiscal Recovery (SFR) funds, it will do so with the same commitment to our vulnerable neighbors and communities, and we will follow the evidence to design effective and efficient programs.

Vermont's SFR Recovery Plan will focus on transparent spending priorities that result in tangible, transformative results delivered in a timely manner. The pandemic is not the first crisis to have challenged many of Vermont's most vulnerable, and it won't be the last. The SFR funds provide an opportunity to provide a solid foundation for community resilience as we face the next crises. Vermont is committed to using its State Fiscal Recovery Funds on results-oriented programs that provide the greatest long term recovery opportunities to populations the hardest hit by the pandemic. Vermont's lower income populations, communities lacking essential communication or water/sewer infrastructure, and the state's numerous small businesses are the initial focus of SFR fund appropriations.

Uses of Funds

Public Health (EC 1)

Vermont's public health response to COVID-19 has been a model for the country. Over the last year and a half, Vermont has taken the stance that public health and safety is paramount. Vermont's long history of prioritizing health and ensuring a strong health system meant that we entered the pandemic with a strong foundation, which the state immediately sought to stabilize and reinforce with the original round of CARES Act funding and the Coronavirus Relief Fund. We sought to protect our most vulnerable with a robust contact tracing and testing program and universal testing at group home locations. Vermont's people, known for both their self-sufficiency and their community mindedness, followed the "one cow's length" social distancing, masking, and other public health guidance needed to slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep themselves and their neighbors safe.

On June 14, 2021, having met the goal of 80% of eligible Vermonters vaccinated against COVID-19, Governor Scott ended all COVID-19 related restrictions in the state. Despite having hit this remarkable milestone earlier than any other state, we know that the public health needs prompted by recovery from the COVID crisis is far from over. Variants, like the current Delta variant, will remain a threat that require constant monitoring and preventative measures. Vermont is committed to keeping our vulnerable populations safe as variants emerge. Current anticipated programs to further this goal include:

- \$15 million appropriated to improve air quality in schools
- \$5 million to support operating costs at adult day service providers

COVID-19 isn't the only threat to public health Vermonters are struggling with. The pandemic has exposed and exacerbated mental health needs. Vermont is committed to providing the mental health services its residents need, and has established a \$4 million program to expand and improve mental health facilities in the state. Additionally, Vermont has funded a \$600,000 pilot program for a mobile crisis intervention program in Rutland (part of which is a Qualified Census Tract area).

Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)

The economic impact of COVID-19 put many of Vermont's small businesses in vulnerable economic positions. The state has moved quickly since the beginning of the pandemic to provide assistance and help stabilize the small businesses critical to Vermont's communities and economy. Last summer, with CRF funding, the state provided millions in small business support, premium pay, rent and utility assistance, and other key initiatives to stabilize communities. With the SRF funds, Vermont is seeking to both continue the short term assistance needed to drive stability during these uncertain economic times, and to make strategic investments to grow the skills of Vermont workers, help heavily impacted industries recover, and help our low and moderate income communities grow to long term stability and independence.

Immediate response programs include grants through the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to assist businesses in Vermont impacted by the pandemic, focusing on multiple industries (including tourism/hospitality) severely impacted by the pandemic. A new microbusiness assistance program has also been funded, to assist the Vermont microbusiness owners impacted by COVID-19 and to help new businesses started by individuals who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through layoffs, furloughs, or reduced hours or due to being employed in an industry that has been severely affected.

Vermont's economic assistance will also provide significant assistance to assist those members of the workforce impacted by COVID-19—seeking to better equip them with the skills they need and to help train them in critical industries and occupations. Vermont will launch a variety of programs that focus on improving the workforce skills of Vermonters, including a program focused on high school students that have graduated and entered the workforce during remote or hybrid learning in 2020 or 2021. For those low income residents hardest hit by the pandemic, the state is providing scholarship assistance to grow job skills and help transition to new careers. Vermont's Practical Nurse Program will support scholarships and on-the-job training to address the critical shortage of qualified healthcare professionals.

Workforce training requires robust educational institutions able to meet the needs of the pandemic recovery. The State of Vermont has allocated funds and provided grants to the Vermont State Colleges system and the University of Vermont, recognizing the significant and ongoing impact faced by the higher education sector, and the critical role these institutions will serve in the recovery.

Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities (EC 3)

In prioritizing uses of funds to better serve disproportionately impacted communities, the State of Vermont is focused initially on addressing the critical shortfall of affordable housing in the state. Vermont has allocated \$64,000,000 to a statewide housing recovery program that will fund the development of low income housing and additional infrastructure for housing insecure communities.

Vermont is also seeking to assist residents in making necessary investments to their homes to maintain and upgrade the living situations of low income Vermonters. Several programs will launch to help vulnerable Vermonters with weatherization and heating home repair—improving energy efficiency and ensuring continued livability of homes through harsh Vermont winters. The Affordable Community-Scale Renewable Energy Program will fund renewable energy projects for Vermonters living in low income rental units. These programs aim to not only provide structural upgrades, but also help Vermonters reduce energy costs in the long term, essential for many families that saw reductions to their income during COVID-19. These projects, although they are aimed primarily at mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on low-income communities, will also have ancillary benefits in addressing climate change.

Premium Pay (EC 4)

The State of Vermont provided premium pay through the Coronavirus Relief Fund. As of the date of this Recovery Plan, no further premium pay is anticipated.

Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure (EC 5)

Vermont's natural environment—mountainous terrain and numerous river valleys— and the low population density of much of the state makes infrastructure challenging. Water infrastructure varies significantly around the state, with some residents served by municipal or regional water and sewer systems, and other served by private wells and septic systems. Further, climate-change driven severe weather events have also caused significant flooding events on a regular basis, requiring significant upgrades to stormwater systems. Vermont is focused on using SFR funds to improve wastewater treatment, drinking and sewage water, and stormwater infrastructure improvement projects. We are in the initial phase of identifying eligible projects and developing the capacity needed to manage these projects.

Broadband infrastructure development faces the same geographic and population density challenges as water infrastructure. To best plan and coordinate the deployment of broadband, Vermont has established the Vermont Community Broadband Board to coordinate, facilitate, support, and accelerate the development and implementation of universal community broadband solutions. The board will develop policies and programs to accelerate community efforts that advance the State's goal of achieving universal access to reliable, high-quality, affordable, fixed broadband achieving speeds of at least 100 Mbps symmetrical.

Revenue Replacement (EC 6)

The State of Vermont does not anticipate that it has revenue losses sufficient to fund programs in the revenue replacement expenditure category.

Administrative or Other (EC 7)

The State of Vermont faces an administrative and technology challenge managing and efficiently using the federal funding available. Governor Scott has charged his administration with ensuring that the SFR and other federal funds produce tangible, transformative results in a timely and transparent manner. This charge requires careful coordination and management of the funding and the secure and effective technology tools needed to facilitate the programs contemplated. To meet these needs, the State of Vermont targeted upgrades for its cybersecurity core infrastructure and router replacements, and targeted system implementations that provide better access to essential government services and

documents. For example, the state is investing in digitization for essential information such as land records— easy access to which is key to timely infrastructure and housing project planning.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The State of Vermont’s demographics and population distribution requires an approach to pandemic recovery that recognizes and addresses the unique challenges faced by communities throughout Vermont. Vermont’s largest urban area, Chittenden County, has nearly triple the population of any other county in Vermont; its poverty rate, however, is similar to that of the state overall. Many of Vermont’s rural areas struggle with poverty, lack of economic opportunities, and limited access to services. Vermont’s inclusive approach to pandemic recovery recognizes that the low-income populations in Chittenden County face different pandemic related challenges than those of the much more rural Essex and Grand Isle communities. The state is committed to a recovery that recognizes and addresses the unique challenges faced by communities based on their major economic sectors, their demographics, their proximity to social and government services, and their access to technology.

The state has a strong commitment to equity built into its administrative processes. Each new program launched in Vermont, SRF funded or funded through state funds, requires agencies and departments to complete an Equity Impact Assessment. These assessments require that agencies and departments carefully consider equity when designing and implementing programs.

Community Engagement

Vermont is in the early stages of identifying projects within the large program appropriations. As the state moves forward in its SFR funding, it will do so with the active participation of communities across Vermont and with the priorities of the Governor’s office, the Vermont Legislature and the residents of Vermont.

Labor Practices

Although the Davis-Bacon Act of 1931 does not apply to this funding, Vermont has strong labor practices incorporated in its statewide guidance. Vermont’s [Bulletin 3.5](#) provides the state’s contracting requirements, including provisions for labor on state construction and transportation projects. Vermont’s [Bulletin 5](#) provides guidance for subgrants. Vermont will be adding an SFR addendum to its standard Bulletin 3.5 and Bulletin 5, specific to SFR.

Use of Evidence

The State of Vermont is committed to efficient and effective use of the SFR funds. We are in the foundational stages of many programs, but as programs and projects develop will use rigorous methods to evaluate and design SFR fund programs.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Please note that the below table is based on initial assessments of expenditure categories at the appropriations level, and are subject to adjustment (especially within infrastructure categories) as the state identifies and funds additional projects within these larger appropriations.

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
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 P1.7rotective 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	\$131,284.80	\$131,284.80
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	\$131,284.80	\$131,284.80
2.13	Other Economic Support		
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff		
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
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		
4.1	Public Sector Employees		
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers		
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
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		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure		
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects		
5.17	Broadband: Other projects		
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services		
7	Administrative and Other		
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)		

Project Inventory

Vermont is in the foundational stages of establishing the State Fiscal Recovery Fund programs and their component projects. The Vermont legislature has appropriated many of the funds to priorities around the state. The tables below includes information on the high level SFR fund programs as appropriated by the Vermont legislature. Entities responsible for establishing specific projects within these legislatively appropriated programs are currently working to identify appropriate specific projects (including evidence-based projects) within these appropriations and to establish details of how the projects will be structured and administered. As individual projects are identified they may be assigned different Expenditure Categories than their initial assignment here for the purposes of this Report. The State of Vermont Recovery Plan Performance Report in future years will include more details on these programs, their component projects, required key performance indicators, and other performance metrics as required by both the Treasury and the state.

EC 1: Public Health Programs

Expenditure Category	Program Identification Number	Program Name	Funding amount	Program Overview
1.4- Prevention in Congregate Settings	AOE-5100892105	School Indoor Air Quality Grant Program	\$ 15,000,000	The Agency of Education will provide grant funds to Vermont K-12 covered schools (public schools and approved Independent Schools) to improve air quality in congregate settings via upgrades to heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.
1.4- Prevention in Congregate Settings	AHS-3460892201	Adult Day Service Provider Grants	\$ 5,000,000	This program supports COVID-19-related expenses and financial stability grants at the 11 adult day service providers in Vermont. These congregate program facilities were heavily impacted by COVID-19.
1.10- Mental Health Services	AHS-3150892103	Expanded Capacity and Accessibility for Mental Health Services and Facilities	\$ 4,000,000	This program will make existing housing and community-based facilities providing mental health services and developmental disability services more accessible, safe, and compliant with ADA and expand capacity in community settings. This will support and expand Vermont's behavioral healthcare response capacity. As in many states, behavioral health needs in Vermont have been exacerbated by COVID-19.

1.10-Mental Health Services	AHS-3150892201	Mobile Crisis Intervention Program	\$ 600,000	The Mobile Crisis Intervention Program is a Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) program pilot run by Rutland Mental Health Services. This will support children, youth, and families who are experiencing significant emotional, behavioral, and mental health difficulties. Mental health concerns among children and youth have increased nationwide and in Vermont since the COVID-19 pandemic, while access to services is more difficult. MRSS will serve those in urgent need of immediate support.
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EC 2: Negative Economic Impacts

Expenditure Category	Program Identification Number	Program Name	Funding amount	Program Overview
2.6-Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	DOL-5100892211	DOL - Funding to complete UI modernization and Joblink replacement	\$ 4,500,000	The Department of Labor will use this funding for phase one of the UI modernization to begin replacement of mainframe applications for unemployment insurance (\$3,500,000) and the Joblink replacement to coordinate activities between the Department and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to better serve Vermonters (\$1,000,000). These projects will help improve the efficacy of economic relief programs throughout the State.
2.7-Job Training Assistance	VSA-2110892202	Green Mountain Grad Program	\$ 2,800,000	The Green Mountain Grad Program provides scholarship assistance for up to 2 free classes in the 2021-2022 academic year at any of the Vermont State Colleges for any Vermont 2020 or 2021 high school graduate. This program also includes a student stipend for transport, books, or other necessary costs. The Vermont General Assembly determined that all high school graduates from the classes of 2020 and 2021 were directly impacted by COVID-19 with virtual learning, canceling of

				sports and other after school activities, and the lack of access to staff support for post-secondary training and education. This program provides a financial incentive for those students to pursue the training and education that is required for higher paying jobs.
2.7-Job Training Assistance	VSC-2240892201	Practical Nurse Program	\$ 1,400,000	The Practical Nurse Program will support scholarships and job training for 40-45 existing staff at skilled nursing facilities with the opportunity to achieve certification as a Practical Nurse through Vermont Technical College. The program will partner with skilled nursing facilities across the state to upskill existing staff at these facilities to achieve certification as a Practical Nurse. This program aims to address the negative public health and economic impacts due to COVID-19 and will help mitigate the shortage of nursing professionals exacerbated by the pandemic.
2.7-Job Training Assistance	VSC-1110892110	Workforce Upskill	\$ 3,000,000	The Workforce Upskill program will provide scholarship assistance for up to 2 free classes in the 2021-2022 academic year at any of the Vermont State Colleges for Vermont residents with a verified economic impact due to COVID-19. The program also provides wraparound services.
2.7-Job Training Assistance	UVM-1110892111	Workforce Upskill	\$ 1,000,000	The Workforce Upskill program will provide scholarship assistance for up to 2 free classes in the 2021-2022 academic year at the University of Vermont for Vermont residents with a verified economic impact due to COVID-19. The program also targets Vermont residents seeking to transition to a new career to enhance their job skills.
2.7-Job Training Assistance	VSC-1110892205	Workforce Upskill	\$ 2,000,000	The Workforce Upskill program will provide scholarship assistance for up to 2 free classes in the 2022-2023 academic year at any of the Vermont State Colleges for Vermont residents with a verified economic impact due to COVID-19. The program also provides wraparound services.

2.7-Job Training Assistance	VSC-6140892201	Degree Completion Scholarships	\$ 3,000,000	This program will provide degree completion scholarships for up to 30 credits towards a credential of value for adult learners who have earned at least 40 credits towards an undergraduate degree and have a gap in attendance of at least two years. Students will qualify either by a means test or by attestation that they have been negatively impacted by the pandemic.
2.7-Job Training Assistance	VSC-2130892202	Critical Occupation Scholarships	\$ 5,000,000	The Critical Occupations Scholarships will support students pursuing careers in occupations critical to addressing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as healthcare and early childhood education. Students are eligible to receive funding after utilizing federal and state funding options. Students who were negatively impacted by COVID-19 are also eligible to receive the scholarship assistance.
2.7-Job Training Assistance	PSD-2240892203	Efficiency Vermont Workforce Development Initiatives and NeighborWorks of Western Vermont's Heat Squad	\$ 2,000,000	The Public Service Department will grant these funds to Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of workforce development initiatives and to support the expansion of NeighborWorks of Western Vermont's Heat Squad program. NeighborWorks of Western Vermont provides low-cost energy audits for homes and businesses. These funds shall be deposited in the Electric Efficiency Fund established under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3) and shall be available for use by Efficiency Vermont through December 31, 2023.
2.9-Small Business Economic Assistance	AHS-3440892109	Economic Microbusiness Recovery Assistance	\$ 500,000	This funding will be granted to the Community Action Agencies for the Statewide Community Action Network's Economic Microbusiness Recovery Assistance for the COVID-19 Epidemic (EMBRACE) to assist the Vermont microbusiness owners impacted by COVID-19 and for new businesses started by individuals who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through layoffs, furloughs, reduced hours, or due to being employed in an industry that has been severely affected.

2.9-Small Business Economic Assistance	AHS-3440892205	Microbusiness Development Program	\$ 2,000,000	The Microbusiness Development Program will provide the technical support and financial assistance necessary to start and sustain entrepreneurial enterprises. This funding will to be granted to the Community Action Agencies for the Statewide Community Action Network’s Economic Micro Business Recovery Assistance for the COVID-19 Epidemic (EMBRACE) to assist the Vermont microbusiness owners impacted by COVID-19 and for new businesses started by individuals who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through layoffs, furloughs, or reduced hours or due to being employed in an industry that has been severely affected.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	ACD-7120892101	Economic Recovery Bridge Program	\$ 10,000,000	The Economic Recovery Bridge Program will provide financial relief to Vermont businesses (for-profit or non-profit) who suffered a net tax loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the appropriation targets certain industries (tourism, travel, hospitality) most heavily impacted by COVID-19.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	UVM-1110892208	Offset Impact from Level Room and Board	\$ 2,200,000	This funding will provide economic support to UVM to offset the impact from level room and board. UVM has a documented negative financial impact due to COVID-19. Higher Education has been one of the most negatively impacted industries throughout the pandemic.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	ACD-7120892201	Capital Investment Grant Program	\$ 10,580,000	The Capital Investment Grant Program will make funding available for transformational projects that will provide each region of the State with the opportunity to attract businesses, retain existing businesses, create jobs, and invest in their communities by encouraging capital investments and economic growth. This program will directly target regions and industries with negative economic impacts due to COVID-19. These include: aid to tourism, travel, and hospitality services industries; new or expanded childcare and education facilities; aid to private development projects for planned expansion

				of facilities with regional importance delayed due to the pandemic; and water and sewer infrastructure projects aligned with CWSRF and DWSRF. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development will collaborate with other State agencies, regional development corporations, regional planning commissions, and other community partners to identify potential regional applicants and projects to ensure the distribution of grants throughout the regions of the State.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	ACD-7120892203	Economic Recovery Grants Program	\$ 20,000,000	The Economic Recovery Grants Program will provide financial relief to Vermont businesses (for-profit or non-profit) who suffered a net tax loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the appropriation targets certain industries (tourism, travel, hospitality) most heavily impacted by COVID-19.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	UVM-1110892204	Matching Research Grant Funding	\$ 1,000,000	This program will provide matching funds to leverage research grants on COVID-19. UVM has a documented negative financial impact due to COVID-19. Higher Education has been one of the most negatively impacted industries throughout the pandemic.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	VSC-1110892207	Offset Pandemic-related Deficits	\$ 21,000,000	This funding will provide economic support to Vermont State Colleges to offset the negative economic impact due to COVID-19. VSC has a documented negative financial impact, including deficits from revenue loss and increased operating expenses. Higher Education has been one of the most negatively impacted industries throughout the pandemic.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	AOT-1110892112	DMV IT System Replacement	\$ 14,120,000	This project will support Phase 1 of the DVM IT system replacement. This will support DMV's backlog due to COVID-19 and improve the online user interface.

2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	AOE-6215892201	Education Strategic IT Projects	\$ 4,010,000	The Agency of Education will use this appropriation for three strategic IT projects to support Vermont adult learners, educators, high school students, and the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation. These projects support the education industry—one of the most disproportionately impacted industries due to COVID-19—lower income populations, and the delivery of education programs at all levels.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	ANR-1110892109	Permit Navigator Portal	\$ 1,100,000	This funding will support the second phase of the Department of Environmental Conservation permit navigator-citizen facing permit portal.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	NRB-8100892204	Act 250 Scanning Project	\$ 500,000	This funding will be used for the Act 250 scanning project to digitize land use records. This is necessary for remote public access.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	ACD-7110892207	Salesforce Grant Management System Upgrade	\$ 1,000,000	The Agency of Commerce and Community Development will use this funding for the Salesforce grant management system upgrade. This will help ACCD improve the efficacy of its economic relief programs.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	SAS-1110892206	Criminal Case Management System Upgrade	\$ 1,700,000	The Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs (SAS) intends to implement a new criminal case management system (CCMS) which will help to alleviate the backlog of court cases due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. This expense aims to address the backlog of court cases which has increased because of the deviation from the normal court procedures to reliance on electronic systems to submit case information and the increase in domestic violence-related cases during COVID-19.
2.12-Aid to Other Impacted Industries	ODG-4100892202	Criminal Case Management System Upgrade	\$ 140,000	The Office of the Defender General will support the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs in implementing a new criminal case management system

				(CCMS) which will help to alleviate the backlog of court cases due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
2.12- Aid to Other Impacted Industries	SOS- 2230892201	Vermont Business Portal	\$ 250,000	The Vermont Business Portal will provide digital access for Vermont-based businesses to at least four State agencies. This will facilitate improved efficacy of economic relief programs throughout the State.
2.13- Other Economic Support	PSD- 2240892204	Affordable Community-Scale Renewable Energy Program and Clean Energy Development Board	\$ 20,000,000	\$10,000,000 of this funding is to be used for the Affordable Community-Scale Renewable Energy Program, consistent with parameters of the Clean Energy Development Fund, to support the creation of renewable energy projects for Vermonters with low-income. In fiscal year 2022, \$5,000,000 may be allocated by the Clean Energy Development Board. The Department shall submit a plan for use of the remaining \$5,000,000 funds for approval by the General Assembly during the 2022 legislative session.

EC3: Programs Providing Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Expenditure Category	Program Identification Number	Program Name	Funding amount	Program Overview
3.11- Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons	VHC- 1110892203	Housing Recovery Program	\$ 64,000,000	The Housing Recovery Program will provide capital awards for the development of homeless shelters, emergency shelter capacity, and affordable housing for households and areas disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Housing projects and units targeted to the homeless and affordable housing projects in qualified census tracts will be prioritized. The program will also target affordable housing for low-income populations.
3.12-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	ACD- 9150892201	Vermont Housing Incentive Program	\$ 5,000,000	The Vermont Housing Incentive Program (VHIP) is a rental housing rehabilitation program to incentivize small private apartment owners to make significant improvements to both housing quality and weatherization through small grants and elimination of land gains tax. This program is

				intended for existing properties that are vacant or blighted and in need of substantial reinvestment.
3.12-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	AHS-3440892209	Vermont Low Income Home Weatherization Assistance Program	\$ 4,000,000	Vermont Low Income Home Weatherization Assistance Program will subgrant funds to Vermont's Weatherization Assistance Providers to weatherize multi-family and single-family homes owned or occupied by low income Vermonters (<=80% AMI). In addition, subrecipients will use funds to address home repair issues or vermiculite (asbestos insulation) where such issues otherwise prevent weatherization. Where appropriate, subrecipients may also replace heating systems or install cold-climate heat pumps as part of weatherization activities. Low income households were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and weatherization reduces the energy costs of low income households, putting more money in their pockets for other necessities, as well as making the home more comfortable and safer.
3.12-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	AOA-1100892204	Vermont Housing Finance Agency Weatherization Support	\$ 9,000,000	The Agency of Administration will grant this funding to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency to be used for financial support of housing weatherization statewide.
3.12-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	PSD-2240892202	Efficiency Vermont Weatherization Incentives	\$ 5,000,000	The Public Service Department will grant these funds to the Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of weatherization incentives. These funds shall be deposited in the Electric Efficiency Fund established under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3) and shall be available for use by Efficiency Vermont through December 31, 2023.
3.12-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	ACD-7110892203	Water System Efficiency Improvements for Housing	\$ 750,000	The Department of Housing and Community Development will provide financial assistance or incentives for water system and water efficiency improvements as part of housing rehabilitation projects.

EC4: Premium Pay

At this time, Vermont does not anticipate premium pay programs funded by the SFR funds. Vermont previously provided premium pay to essential workers using funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

EC5: Infrastructure Programs

Expenditure Category	Program Identification Number	Program Name	Funding amount	Program Overview
5.1-Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment	ANR-6140892204	Preserving Wastewater Treatment Facility Capacity While Enabling Economic Development	\$ 2,000,000	This program aims to invest in wastewater pretreatment systems that reduce high strength waste concerns for municipal protect municipal wastewater treatment facilities (WWTF) and serve to protect streams, lakes, and public health and provides while providing for greater local economic development capacity.
5.3-Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater	ANR-6140892203	Village Water and Wastewater Initiative	\$ 8,000,000	This program will promote public health, affordable housing, economic development, and compact growth in Vermont’s designated villages and neighborhoods by providing targeted technical and financial assistance to develop or expand public drinking water systems and community wastewater disposal systems where this critical infrastructure is lacking.
5.4-Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows	ANR-6140892205	Statewide Combined Sewer Overflow Elimination and Abatement	\$ 10,000,000	This program will help Vermont municipalities fast-track the implementation of planned projects that reduce pollution of Vermont’s streams and lakes. Abating CSOs is expensive, takes time, and typically requires multiple iterative projects before adequate abatement or elimination is achieved.
5.4-Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows	ANR-6140892209	Water Infrastructure Funding	\$ 30,000,000	The Department of Environmental Conservation will use this funding for drinking water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure projects, including CSO abatement, in FY23 and FY24
5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater	ANR-6140892202	Supporting Vermont	\$ 5,500,000	This is part of Vermont’s ARPA Water and Sewer Program. Vermont’s Clean Water Act of 2015 established

		Businesses and Landowners to Control Phosphorus Pollution from Developed Lands		the requirement that all owners of properties install modern stormwater treatment practices on parcels with three or more acres of “impervious surfaces.” Construction of these practices is essential to prevent water pollution in Vermont. ARPA resources will provide municipalities and private citizens or business owners resources to do their part for clean water, while complementing other State funding sources.
5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater	ANR-6130892201	Three-acre Stormwater Rule	\$ 1,000,000	The Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation will use this funding to support compliance with the three-acre stormwater rule.
5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater	AOT-8100892206	Three-acre Implementation and Flow Restoration Protection	\$ 3,500,000	The Agency of Transportation will use this funding for the implementation of three-acre and flow restoration protection and clean water compliance expenditures for transportation infrastructure and to fund the municipal grants in aid program to address stormwater runoff from municipal roads
5.9-Clean Water: Nonpoint Source	DPS-2140892201	Flood Resilient Communities Fund	\$ 4,880,000	The Flood Resilient Communities Fund intends to provide matching grants to government entities, non-profit entities, and individuals to mitigate flood hazards by addressing water and sewer infrastructure needs in accordance with the CWSRF and DWSRF. The Flood Resilient Communities Fund's goal is improving landscape and community resilience and reducing the future public safety and water quality impacts of climate-related flood hazards in Vermont, focusing on buyouts of flood-vulnerable properties. The program will prioritize projects in communities and/or for homeowners with greatest economic need and projects that mitigate repetitive loss among low-income and marginalized portions of the population. Where feasible, funding under FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs will be utilized first. This funding will predominately be for projects that are not eligible under existing HMA

				programs and should be used to leverage other funding sources or fill funding gaps to make projects viable.
5.9 Clean Water: Nonpoint Source	ANR-6140892210	Flood Resilient Communities Fund Technical Assistance	\$ 120,000	The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) intends to use this appropriation to provide technical assistance to the statewide Flood Resilient Communities Fund (administered by the Department of Public Safety). This program will award property owners matching grants to mitigate flood hazards and reduce future flooding. The ANR technical assistance position will help with project development, screening, and regulatory compliance for eligible projects.
5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater	ANR-6140892207	Clean Water Projects as Recommended by the Clean Water Board (FY22)	\$ 10,000,000	Vermont's 2015 Clean Water Act established a broad suite of requirements that support the protection and restoration of all of Vermont's lakes, rivers, and wetlands. That Act also established a state-supported Vermont Clean Water Fund (CWF) to support a broad suite of water quality improvement projects and project types aimed at reducing water pollution to restore recreational and ecological uses for those waters. The Vermont General Assembly has directed ARPA funds to be made to Clean Water Fund uses, in accordance with the statutory procedures used by the Clean Water Board to recommend CWF appropriations. These projects will align with CWSRF and/or DWSRF guidelines. This appropriation is for projects in FY22.
5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater	ANR-6140892208	Clean Water Projects as Recommended by the Clean Water Board (FY23 and FY24)	\$ 20,000,000	Vermont's 2015 Clean Water Act established a broad suite of requirements that support the protection and restoration of all of Vermont's lakes, rivers, and wetlands. That Act also established a state-supported Vermont Clean Water Fund (CWF) to support a broad suite of water quality improvement projects and project types aimed at reducing water pollution to restore recreational and ecological uses for those waters. The Vermont General Assembly has directed ARPA funds to be made to

				Clean Water Fund uses, in accordance with the statutory procedures used by the Clean Water Board to recommend CWF appropriations. These projects will align with CWSRF and/or DWSRF guidelines. This appropriation is for projects in FY23 and FY24.
5.3- Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater	ANR-6140892206	Mobile Home Park Water/Wastewater Solutions and Healthy Homes: Funding for Installation or Replacement of Water or Wastewater Systems	\$ 4,250,000	<p>Some of Vermont's mobile home parks struggle to provide clean and adequate drinking water, wastewater, storm water, and drainage systems. The Mobile Home Park Water/Wastewater Solutions grant program seeks to provide financial support to remedy those challenges and provide safe, affordable housing by providing grants to mobile home parks for both construction of water/wastewater solutions as well as needs analysis, technical assistance, and engineering.</p> <p>The Healthy Homes program will enhance affordable housing that ensures residents have access to safe, reliable drinking water and health-protective wastewater disposal. There are a number of low-income Vermont homeowners, residents whose income is likely to have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19, and whose existing on-site water / wastewater system has failed or is a public health issue.</p>
5.17-Broadband: Other projects	PSD-2240892108	Broadband Infrastructure Program	\$ 1,800,000	This Broadband Infrastructure Program covers: assistance to Communications Union Districts (CUD) with preconstruction cost & support services for eligible projects; Vermont Relay Conference Captioning (RCC) service; and Wi-Fi hotspot license renewal. For the RCC service, COVID-19 led to widespread remote work and schooling, which disproportionately impacted disabled populations--including the deaf or hard of hearing--who rely on RCC to engage with remote work and schooling.

5.17-Broadband: Other projects	PSD-7110892206	Broadband Infrastructure Projects	\$ 150,000,000	Universal access to reliable, high-quality, affordable broadband is essential for economic recovery and responding to increased telehealth, remote learning, and remote work needs. This funding will support and accelerate the State’s goal of achieving universal access to reliable, high-quality, affordable broadband. The broadband projects will provide service to unserved or underserved households and businesses. The service will reliably meet or exceed symmetrical 100 Mbps download speed and upload speeds. This appropriation will include several projects: Vermont Community Broadband Board, Broadband Preconstruction Grant Program, and Broadband Construction Grant Program.
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EC6: Revenue Replacement

Vermont does not believe it has eligible shortfalls to provide for funds under the revenue replacement expenditure category.

EC7: Administrative

Expenditure Category	Program Identification Number	Program Name	Funding amount	Program Overview
7.1- Administrative Expenses	ADS- 1105892201	Cybersecurity Core Infrastructure and Router Replacements	\$ 1,500,000	The Agency of Digital Services is applying the allocated ARPA funds to a redesign of its critical infrastructure to address network capacity and security improvements in order to continue to support networks and systems that directly support health, public health, and economic relief programs and the addition of greater redundancy (resilience) is directly related to the burden our remote workforce and exponentially larger online service presence (all due to Covid-19 response) represent. Key in these activities is enhanced cybersecurity protections gained through redundancy, throughput, modern hardware, and cloud security. The

				architecture of the solution is tailored to ensure that our partner organizations in municipalities have reliable connections to in-scope State services, that those connections are monitored and secured in a way that helps prevent cyber-attacks, and to prevent failure in the central portions of our network where we process and maintain connections for all State Agencies, including those that are on the front lines of our COVID response such as Human Services, Commerce and Community Development, Public Service, and Vermont Emergency Management.
7.1- Administrative Expenses	AOA- 1100892205	Administration costs for ARPA Funds	\$ 6,500,000	The Agency of Administration intends to use this appropriation for State administrative costs related to the State's COVID-19 response. This includes payroll expenses for 58 limited service positions to administer ARPA funds and contract with Guidehouse response and recovery consultant services.

Performance Report

As stated above in the Project Inventories section, Vermont is in the foundational stages of establishing the State Fiscal Recovery Fund programs and their component projects. The Vermont Legislature has appropriated many of the funds to priorities around the state. Entities responsible for establishing specific projects within those legislatively appropriated programs are currently working to identify appropriate specific projects (including evidence-based projects) within these program appropriations and to establish details of how the projects will be structured and administered. The State of Vermont Recovery Plan/Performance in future years will include more details on these projects, output and outcome measures, required key performance indicators, crosscutting indicators, and other performance metrics as required by both the Treasury and the state.

In an effort to provide urgently needed economic support for businesses in Vermont, Vermont quickly launched one program, the Economic Recovery Bridge Program, that had been operation as of July 31, 2021 to provide some performance data.

Economic Recovery Bridge Program Performance Report (As of 07/31/2021)

The Economic Recovery Bridge Program was initially established pursuant to Vermont Act 9 (2021), and later amended pursuant to Act 74 (2021). Between the two Acts, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) was appropriated \$30,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to create, implement, and deploy the Program. The Program was established to provide bridge funding for businesses that suffered a tax loss in 2020 and require immediate state aid, either to remain open or to reopen their business. The legislative rationale for the appropriated funding was to provide assistance to organizations impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency and to prioritize businesses that have not received prior federal or State assistance.

As of July 31, 2021, the Economic Recovery Bridge Program has served 70 impacted small businesses throughout the state. Businesses from 13 out of Vermont's 14 counties have submitted applications for aid (Essex County is the exception). Chittenden County, Washington County, and Addison county are the three regions with the most awarded applications. In terms of sum of awards, Chittenden County, Lamoille County and Addison County have received the most funding thus far.

The program has targeted the hardest hit industries during COVID with initial funding. The top three industries with the most awarded applications include: Accommodations and Food Services, Retail and Trade, and Agriculture. In terms of sum of awards, the Program has awarded the most funding to the Accommodations and Food Service, Manufacturing, and Agriculture industries.

To ensure that business aid responds to a negative economic impact of COVID-19, ACCD verifies in the program application that the Vermont business or non-profit suffered a tax loss in 2020 and requires immediate State aid. Applicants are required to submit both 2019 and 2020 tax returns. The legislative intent of the Economic Recovery Bridge Grants program is to provide priority funding to businesses that have not received prior State or Federal financial assistance. Furthermore, businesses must attest at the time of the application that award funds will be used to aid in economic recovery and resume business operations during this recovery period. Business that were closed due to COVID are also eligible for

grants, and must provide a description of how they will use the funding to reopen and resume business operations.

To apply, businesses access the application via an online portal supported by Salesforce, and managed by ACCD. In order to promote equity and accessibility for impacted business owners, ACCD translated all Economic Recovery Bridge program documents (guidelines and FAQs) into 10 of the most commonly spoken languages in Vermont. These are all available for download on ACCD's website.

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision

Vermont does not believe that it has any revenue-reducing covered changes to report through the end of its 2021 fiscal year (June 30, 2021).

Item	Amount
a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes	\$