

# **Wayne County Recovery Plan**



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

2022 Report

# **Wayne County 2022 Recovery Plan**



## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### Executive Summary

*In this section, provide a high-level overview of the jurisdiction's intended and actual uses of funding including, but not limited to: the jurisdiction's plan for use of funds to respond to the pandemic and promote economic recovery, key outcome goals, progress to date on those outcomes, and any noteworthy challenges or opportunities identified during the reporting period.*

*See Section C(1) on page 35 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

Wayne County, Michigan (the "County") acknowledges the severe impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on our community and is dedicated to utilizing the historic State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds in a way that enhances public health and ensures an equitable recovery. As of July, 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, the County has received \$339.7 million in SLFRF allocations. To date, the County has obligated \$5,175,000 and has spent \$2,855,498 on three projects. The County has prioritized projects within the areas of health, economic recovery, infrastructure, public space, workforce development and housing. Additionally, the County continues to prioritize equity, feasibility, the ability to leverage funding with collaborators, and the return on investment, meaning that the projects are sustainable and promote better outcomes.

The County has conducted extensive community outreach to better understand needs and what to prioritize. This information has shaped the overall strategy of the County's plan and has resulted in several projects advancing to the final development phase and seeking commission approval soon.

### Uses of Funds

*Describe in further detail the strategy and goals of the jurisdiction's SLFRF program, such as how your jurisdiction's approach would help support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. Describe how their intended and actual uses of funds will achieve their goals. Given the broad eligible uses of funds and the specific needs of the jurisdiction, explain how the funds would support the communities, populations, or individuals in your jurisdiction. Address how the use of funds supports the overall strategy and goals in the following areas, to the extent they apply:*

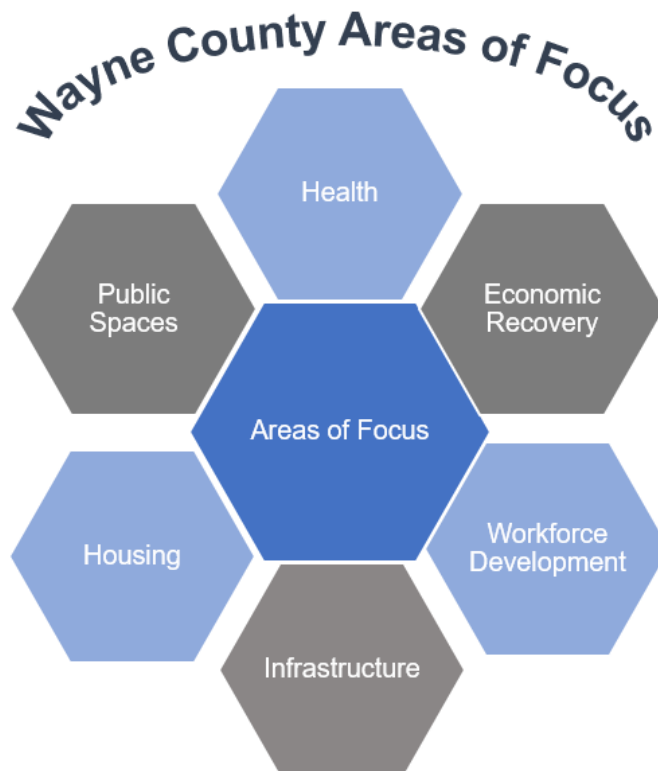
- a. *Public Health (EC 1)*
- b. *Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)*
- c. *Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3)*
- d. *Premium Pay (EC 4)*
- e. *Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)*
- f. *Revenue Replacement EC 6)*



*If appropriate, include information on your jurisdiction's use (or planned use) of other federal recovery funds including other programs under the American Rescue Plan such as Emergency Rental Assistance, the Homeowner Assistance Fund, the Capital Projects Fund, the State Small Business Credit Initiative, and so forth, to provide broader context on the overall approach for pandemic recovery.*

*See Section C(2) on page 35 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

The County has worked diligently to reach out to the leadership in all the 43 communities within the County to understand their priorities and needs. Based on those ongoing conversations, the County has developed the framework below to categorize and prioritize potential State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds projects.



**a) Public Health**



The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the need for medical services of our residents and strained the capabilities of the Health, Human and Veteran Services Department. To better serve the residents of the County, the following list of potential public health projects has been developed:

- a. Community Needs Health Assessment: These funds would be used to conduct a multilevel and comprehensive assessment to assess the population-based impact of existing programs.
- b. Improve Health Indicators: Implement programs to help identify and treat the negative public health impacts on Wayne County residents.
- c. Expand Access to Behavioral Health Services: Create programs that address the behavioral and mental health needs of Wayne County's vulnerable residents.
- d. Eliminate Barriers to Education: Help County residents access services and provide education on public health issues.

The County has already undertaken two COVID-19 testing programs using SLFRF. These programs are intended to help identify COVID-19 among vulnerable populations and prevent the rapid spread of the disease within congregate settings.

#### **b) Negative Economic Impact**

Due to the public safety measures put in place to contain the spread of COVID-19, the County businesses have suffered significant financial losses. The resiliency the business community has shown to adapt to a frequently changing landscape has been immense and commendable. The County plans to support those small businesses, workers and residents who were hardest hit by COVID-19 and provide programming that will allow them to make it through these difficult times and come out stronger than ever. Some of the programs the County is pursuing include:

- a. Small Business Technical Assistance Program: This program would assist small business owners in Wayne County in mitigating the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 and equip them with the tools and skills needed for long term resilience and success through tailored assistance based on individualized outreach.
- b. Workforce Development Program: These funds would be used to provide participants with the resources needed to secure employment and ensure career development in growth industries within Wayne County.
- c. Emergency Rental Assistance: Total amount obligated thus far is \$13,020,943.10 with \$8,107,763.48 expended. The County is working on recertification for past applicants and continuing its efforts with support refugees.
- d. Public Space and Park Improvements: There are several proposed projects to assist Wayne County municipalities in upgrades and improvements to public parks and spaces.

#### **c) Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity**



At this point, Wayne County is not pursuing any projects within the Public Sector Capacity expenditure categories.

#### **d) Premium Pay**

The County is the process of approving and distributing premium pay to selected employees. This program will utilize the Revenue Replacement Expenditure Category and is intended to provide selected staff with a onetime bonus.

#### **e) Water, Broadband, and Sewer Infrastructure**

Upgrading the County's aging infrastructure is a top priority of many of our communities. The County's water, sewer, drainage, and pump systems are clearly in dire need of improvement. The County is exploring any water infrastructure project which will help create a system which is resilient to the pressures of climate change and will serve the residents of the County for decades to come.

With the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the County would like to leverage SLFRF with those funds to secure as much funding as possible to address infrastructure needs. There are multiple water and sewer projects the County has identified as projects which would improve stormwater infrastructure within the region. As clarity on additional funding from the IIJA becomes available, the County plans on pursuing these infrastructure projects.

#### **f) Revenue Replacement**

The County is exploring a variety of options to fund essential County services within the allowable uses outlined by the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Final Rule. Several of the aforementioned project proposals are being considered under the Revenue Replacement expenditure category. The County will continue to actively pursue possibilities to use SLFRF funds to account for lost public sector revenue during the pandemic.

To distribute funds throughout all of Wayne County's communities as equitably as possible, the County will utilize Revenue Replacement to assure projects are eligible in spite of there geographic location.

## **Promoting equitable outcomes**



*In this section, describe, as applicable, efforts to promote equitable outcomes, including economic and racial equity.*

*In describing efforts to design their SLFRF program and projects with equity in mind, recipients may consider the following:*

- a. Goals: Are there particular historically underserved, marginalized, or adversely affected groups that recipients intend to serve within their jurisdiction?*
- b. Awareness: How equitable and practical is the ability for residents or businesses to become aware of the services funded by the SLFRF?*
- c. Access and Distribution: Are there differences in levels of access to benefits and services across groups? Are there administrative requirements that result in disparities in ability to complete applications or meet eligibility criteria?*
- d. Outcomes: How are intended outcomes focused on closing gaps and/or reaching universal levels of service? How is the jurisdiction disaggregating outcomes by race, ethnicity, and other equity dimensions where relevant for the policy objective?*

*In describing efforts to implement their SLFRF program and projects with equity in mind, recipients may consider the following:*

- a. Goals and Targets: Please describe how planned or current use of funds prioritize economic and racial equity as a goal, name specific targets intended to produce meaningful equity results at scale, and include initiatives to achieve those targets.*
- b. Project Implementation: Explain how the jurisdiction's overall equity strategy translates into focus areas for SLFRF projects and the specific services or programs offered by your jurisdiction in the following Expenditure Category, as indicated in the final rule:*

*Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2): assistance to households, small businesses, and non-profits to address impacts of the pandemic, which have been most severe among low-income populations. This includes assistance with food, housing, and other needs; employment programs for people with barriers to employment who faced negative economic impacts from the pandemic (such as residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities); services to provide long-term housing security and housing supports, address educational disparities, or provide child care and early learning services; and other strategies that provide impacted and disproportionately impacted communities with services to address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic*



*The first annual Recovery Plan, due in 2021, was required to describe initial efforts and intended outcomes to promote equity, as applicable. Beginning in 2022, each annual Recovery Plan must provide an update, using qualitative and quantitative data, on how the jurisdiction's approach achieved or promoted equitable outcomes or progressed against equity goals. Describe any constraints or challenges that impacted project success in terms of increasing equity. Describe the geographic and demographic distribution of funding, including whether it is targeted toward traditionally marginalized communities.*

*See Section C(3) on pages 36 and 37 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

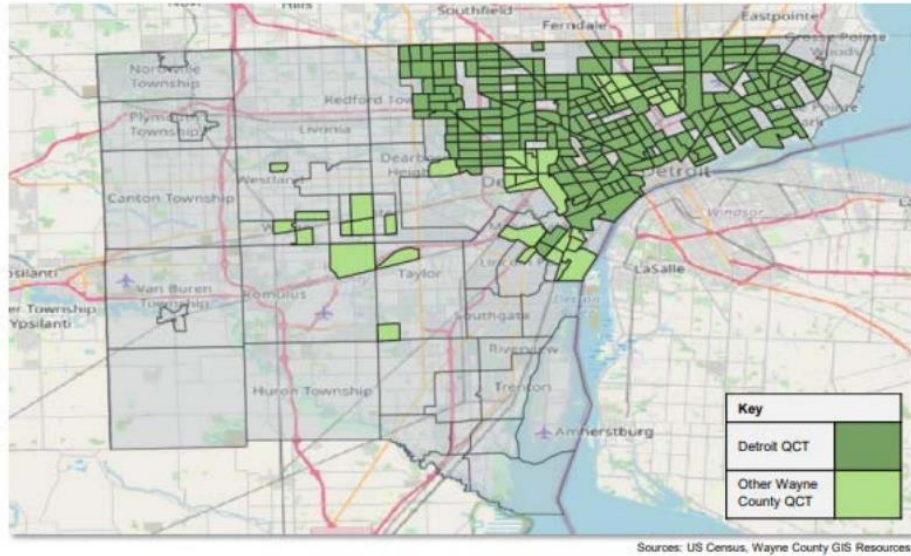
Equity is a core value to the County, and as such the County will always strive for equity in its allocation of SLFRF funds. The sections below further detail the County's commitment to equity, and its plans to ensure equity in the distribution of SLFRF funds.

## **1. Goals**

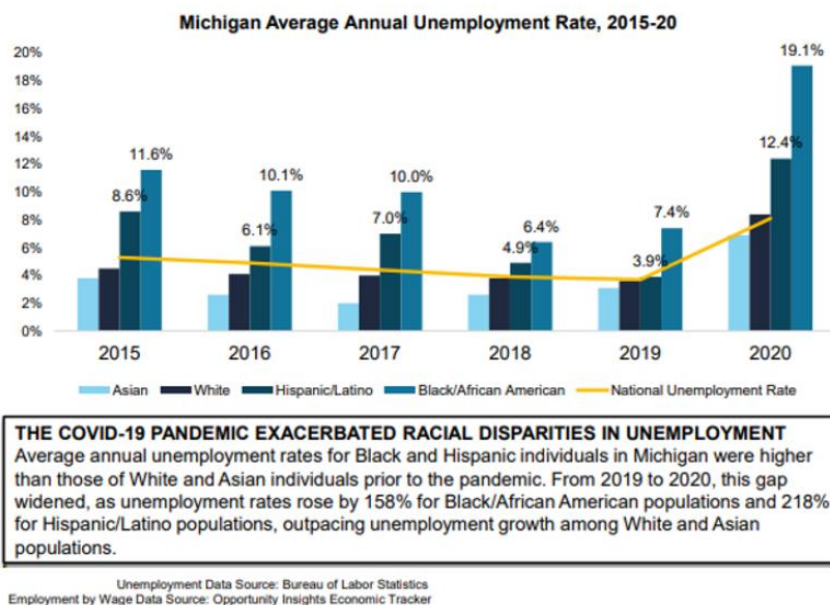
Wayne County is the most diverse county in the state of Michigan: County projects, programming, and allocation of SLFRF funds should reflect this. The County features a population which is 38% Black or African American, 6% Hispanic or Latino, and 3% Asian. Additionally, there are 79,330 veterans and over 70,000 women-owned firms and minority-owned firms each inside the County. As previously mentioned, the County is focused, and will continue to prioritize, efforts that address the needs of communities in Qualified Census Tracts, in which 50 percent or more of households have incomes below 60 percent of the Area Median Gross Income. The Qualified Census Tracts of the County are pictured below. The Small Business Technical Assistance Program, for example, will see the County partner with NEI, a philanthropic entrepreneurial development organization who actively works to grow an inclusive and equitable network of support and resource distribution for small businesses in southeast Michigan. Through this program, the County intends to create pathways to wealth generation and long-term economic vibrancy, especially in underserved and disadvantaged communities.







The County also prioritizes assisting those who are unemployed. As shown in the figure below, there is a strong correlation between race and unemployment status, and thus making a significant effort to help the unemployed is vital in promoting equity in our community. The County will continue to work with communities and community partners to address these disparities. The County has displayed their commitment to assisting the unemployed through the proposal and advancement of their Workforce Development Program. This program plans to target residents from across the County who are experiencing unemployment and underemployment and identify and address their barriers to entering the workforce.



## **2. Awareness**

The County recognizes that different communities require different amounts of effort to access the resources they require. Over the last year, the County has pursued several techniques to reach diverse populations based on the specific challenges they face. Outreach efforts have included:

- Door knocking campaigns, to reach those with limited to no broadband and internet access.
- Accessibility through mobile phone, to reach those with limited to no broadband and internet access
- Language Translation, to reach the significant population of residents who speak English as a second language inside the County.

As an example of the County's efforts in ensuring equitable awareness of their programs, the Workforce Development and Small Business Technical Assistance Programs have been designed to include significant outreach and awareness components. The County's goal is to make sure underrepresented small business owners and residents are aware of the services these programs are offering. These programs include outreach components that will meet participants in their communities and educate them on the program offerings. The Small Business Technical Assistance Program, for example, will build the operational infrastructure necessary for outreach partners to survey and canvas designated areas to understand specific business owner challenges and needs within those areas.

## **3. Access and Distribution**

The County prides itself on its ability to meet residents where they are. This includes thoughtful consideration of the challenges facing different populations by discussing the existing barriers with partner organizations that serve different populations. The County is developing a list of organizations through community conversations that it intends to leverage to help all groups successfully apply and receive benefits.

A programmatic example of is in the planned Workforce Development program is the Career Navigator component. This portion of the program will provide case management and career planning services to help bridge the gaps between jobseekers, service providers, education providers, and employers. The navigators will help assess program participants and determine which services they need, then connect them with program resources in order to overcome the barriers to employment they face.



#### 4. Outcomes

The County understands that its outcomes should be closely connected to the intentions of the programs it creates. Along those lines, the County has pursued outcomes that align to the purpose of the program and the availability of data related to the program.

For the COVID-19 testing programs already launched, the County is implementing record keeping measure to track locations and the number of test which were utilized.

In the proposed Workforce Development program, the County intends on tracking all program participants and their enrollment status as well as successful job placement rates. The Small Business Technical Assistance Program also recognizes the importance of maintaining consistency between vision and outcome, and as such will document all engagements throughout the process and offer post technical assistance surveys to business owners.

Of the SLFRF programs already in progress, the goal of those programs is to provide COVID-19 testing to vulnerable populations and prevent the spread of the disease within County congregate jail facilities. The inmate population is a traditionally marginalized community and the primary target of one of the current programs. This testing program has help reduce the spread of COVID-19 amongst the inmates and staff of the facilities.

### Community Engagement

*Describe how your jurisdiction's planned or current use of funds incorporates community engagement strategies including written feedback through surveys, project proposals, and related documents, oral feedback through community meetings, issue-specific listening sessions, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and additional public engagement, as well as other forms of input, such as steering committees, taskforces, and digital campaigns that capture diverse feedback from the community. Recipients should also describe how community engagement strategies support their equity goals, including engagement with communities that have historically faced significant barriers to services, such as people of color, people with low incomes, limited English proficient populations, and other traditionally underserved groups.*

See Section C(4) on page 37 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Stakeholder	Number of Meetings
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<b>Wayne County Commission</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>The County Departments</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Municipalities</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Friday Roundtables</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Community Colleges</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Wayne Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESA)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Business Stakeholders</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Non-Profit and Philanthropic Partners</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Workforce Advisory Board</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>112 meetings</b>

The County's goals and proposed programming have developed out of discussions and ideas brought forth by stakeholders. The County has gathered input internally through documentation of County Commission and departmental priorities. The County has also sought external input through meetings with various community representatives, such as local municipality leaders, business stakeholders, community colleges, and non-profit and philanthropic entities. These meetings have all contributed to the guiding framework of the County.

Wayne County is made up of 43 different communities. As mentioned above, the County has met with representatives of all the local municipalities to understand needs and identify ways to leverage State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund allocations. In addition to holding meetings to discuss and document municipality priorities, the County also created an application process and collected written proposals from its communities and community organizations wherein



funding for joint projects can be requested. The County is using a scoring methodology, which includes factors like feasibility and addressing equity in order to determine which projects to pursue. Working together towards common goals will result in programs that are successful and meet the needs of community members.

The Friday Roundtable series consists of regular meetings to bring together members of the community, including but not limited to municipality leaders, chambers of commerce, and business representatives. While these meetings provide a variety of resources, they frequently feature topics specific to SLFRF. These topics include overviews of the Treasury Department's Final Rule, the proposed Workforce Development and Small Business Technical Assistance programs and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. These virtual meetings utilized breakout sessions to solicit input on helping businesses overcome the negative economic impact due to COVID-19 and develop ideas to build stronger communities.

## Labor Practices

*Describe workforce practices on any infrastructure projects or capital expenditures being pursued. How are projects using strong labor standards to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting the economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers? For example, report whether any of the following practices are being utilized: project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring.*

*See Section C(5) on page 37 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

No infrastructure projects have been approved as of July 31, 2022. The County intends on using strong labor standards on any future infrastructure projects and will document any labor practices provided in the reporting guidance. This includes enforcing the County's current wage standards for federal infrastructure projects, which state that rates of wages to be paid to any laborers by any Contractors or subcontractors shall not be less than the wage rates issued by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and wages rates of the locality in which the project construction is occurring.

## Use Of Evidence

*Describe whether and how evidence-based interventions and/or program evaluation are incorporated into their SLFRF program. Recipients may include links to evidence standards, evidence dashboards, evaluation policies, and other public facing tools that are used to track and communicate the use of evidence and evaluation for Fiscal Recovery Funds. Recipients are encouraged to consider how a Learning Agenda, either*



*narrowly focused on SLFRF or broadly focused on the recipient's broader policy agenda, could support their overarching evaluation efforts in order to create an evidence-building strategy for their jurisdiction. In the Project Inventory section of the Recovery Plan, recipients should identify whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. (See details in the Project Inventory section below).*

*See Section C(6) on page 37 and 38 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

None of the approved projects currently feature the use of evidence requirement in their projects. The County intends on using the evidence-based interventions from the U.S. Treasury provided Clearinghouses for all applicable projects. All other projects will plan on implementing rigorous program evaluation standards.

## Table of Expenses by Category

Project Name	Project Description	Expenditure Category	Amount Obligated/Proposed Cost(USD)	Amount Spent to Date (USD)
<b>Guidehouse Contract</b>	Contract with Guidehouse for the provision of oversight and compliance with the regulatory and reporting requirements of the SLFRF.	7.1 - Administrative Expenses	\$4,000,000	\$2,307,524.40
<b>Hybrid Testing &amp; Vaccination</b>	Distribution of at-home COVID-19 testing kits for several communities from the Wayne County Department of Health, Human, and Veteran services.	1.2 - COVID 19 testing	\$150,000	\$52,200.00
<b>Managing COVID 19 Congregate Testing</b>	Distribution of COVID-19 testing kits to test incoming youth and inmates at the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility and the Wayne County Jail per the request of the Wayne County Department of Health.	1.2 - COVID 19 testing	\$1,025,000	\$495,774.37



			<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
			\$5,175,000	\$2,855,498.77



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