



Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds

Presented by

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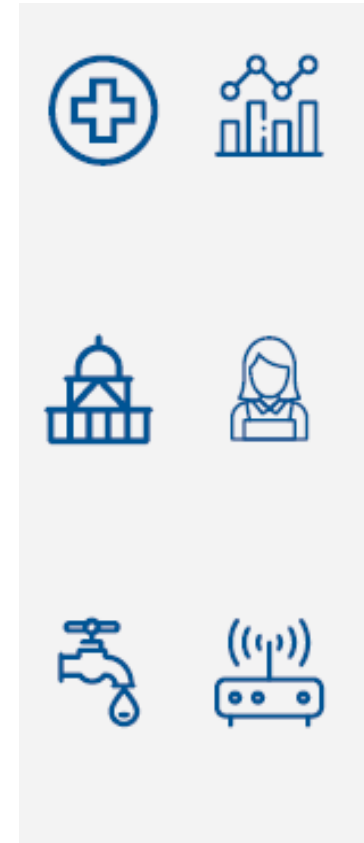
Today's Focus

- Recovery Fund Overview
- Request for Proposals
- Consideration of Initial Awards
- Next Steps



Recovery Funds

- American Rescue Plan Act federal aid to state & local governments
- Funds to turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout & lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery
- Direct, flexible funding
- Buncombe allocation - \$50.7 Million
- First half of funds received May 2021, second half scheduled for 2022
- Funds must be obligated by Dec 2024 & fully spent by Dec 2026



Eligible Uses of Funds

Eligible Category	Example Allowable Uses
1. Public Health	Vaccinations, Testing, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services
2. Negative Economic Impacts	Household Assistance, Job Programs, Business Relief
3. Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Education Assistance, Healthy Environments, Housing Support, Homelessness Services
4. Premium Pay	Public Sector Employees
5. Infrastructure	Broadband, Water, Sewer
6. Revenue Replacement	n/a – Buncombe ineligible
7. Administrative	Staffing



Buncombe Process (First 6 months)

MARCH

Begin with Board priorities

APRIL-MAY

Gather input on possible use of funds

MAY-JUNE

Establish fund priorities based on guidance

JUNE-JULY

Solicit projects

JULY-AUG

Establish budget & evaluate projects

AUG 31

Initial round of awards

We are Here



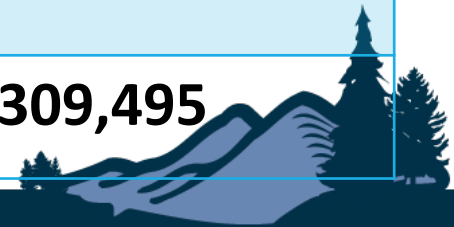
Request for Proposals

- Issued June 3, 2021; Closed July 15, 2021
- Outreach & engagement including funding workshop with nearly 200 registrants, new Recovery Funding website, multilingual access
- 141 proposals received
- Proposals screened for eligibility within RFP criteria, US Treasury Guidance & Public Purpose/Authority to Fund
- Proposals evaluated by staff review team based on criteria such as: project plan; equity impact; link to COVID-19; budget
- Commissioners received all proposals & provided individualized input on initial round of awards



Potential Initial Awards

Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID Vaccination Support: \$543,714 • COVID Contingency: \$1,000,000
Negative Economic Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Buncombe Small Business Grants: \$500,000 • Center for Agricultural and Food Entrepreneurship, Building Capacity for Food Entrepreneurs: \$200,000
Disproportionately Impacted Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verner Center for Early Learning, Flexible Extended Care: \$419,309 • Homeward Bound, Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion, \$1,000,000 additional (total = \$3,000,000)
Premium Pay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buncombe County Incentive for COVID Risk: \$1,040,000
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband Infrastructure Expansion: \$4,000,000
Administrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund Administration: \$606,472
	If Approved, Total Awards to Date as of 8/31/21: \$11,309,495



Next Steps

- Recovery Funding Plan to U.S. Treasury
- Funding agreements for initial awards
- Community listening session
- Continued review of proposals
- Rolling awards
- Possible additional application rounds

