



Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

Presented by

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American Rescue Plan



American Rescue Plan (not complete list)



Public Health, Vaccines, and Testing

- \$7.5 billion in CDC vaccine distribution funds
- \$3.9 million in block grant funding for MH treatment



Education Funding

- \$3.6 billion for K-12 schools in NC
- Higher Education; Child Care; Head Start



Food Assistance

- Extends 15% benefits increase for SNAP (food stamps)
- \$4 billion for food assistance; loans for supply chain



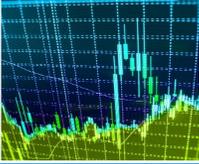
Rental and Utility Assistance

- New \$21 billion in ERA (in addition to CAA); similar allocation structure
- Mortgage assistance; transit funding; homelessness assistance



Economic Impact Payments

- \$1,400 for 89% of adults in NC
- \$1,600 Child Tax Credit for ~ 2 million children



Unemployment Benefits

- \$300 supplement through Sept. 6, 2021; tax waiver



Small Business Assistance

- \$28.6 billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund
- \$7 billion to expand PPP eligibility; \$15 billion for EIDL grants



Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

- Buncombe County estimated allocation: \$50,656,386
- Deadline to spend funds is December 31, 2024

Eligible uses:

- (1) To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts;
- (2) To provide premium pay to eligible employees for essential work;
- (3) To address certain revenue reductions;
- (4) To make infrastructure investments in water, sewer, or broadband



Guidance Anticipated in May

Awaiting guidance from U.S. Treasury on eligible uses of funds including:

- Link to COVID-19 & its economic impacts
- Capital investment projects
- Definition of broadband
- Equipment and software
- Aid to impacted industries
- Assistance to households
- Education projects
- Premium pay
- Administrative costs to track & manage the fund



Buncombe Process

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 & evaluate projects

JUNE-JULY

Establish spending plan

FY2022

Launch early projects



Principles

- Alignment to Strategic Plan priorities
- Balance between Community & Foundational projects
- Equitable outcomes/support for most impacted populations
- Intergovernmental collaboration
- Leverage other funding sources
- One-time expenditures vs. recurring
- Timeframe – funds must be fully expended by Dec 2024



Potential Community Priorities

EDUCATED & CAPABLE COMMUNITY	ENVIRONMENTAL & ENERGY STEWARDSHIP	RESIDENT WELL-BEING	VIBRANT ECONOMY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aging in Place (such as support for older adults) • Early Childhood Education (such as pre-k facilities) • K-12 Education (such as achievement gap initiative or STEM/career readiness) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental preservation (such as watershed/stream restoration or conservation easements) • Food System (such as support for local farms) • Weatherization (such as energy efficiency for households) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable Housing (such as development of new housing) • Homelessness (such as shelter or support for unhoused) • Libraries (such as new library facilities) • Mental health/addiction (such as community paramedics or behavioral health urgent care) • Recreation (such as greenways or other tourism-focused projects) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Relief for Impacted Industries (such as small business grants) • Financial Education (such as promoting federal & state tax credits) • Infrastructure (such as broadband/internet access) • Transportation (such as Mountain Mobility or a transit master plan) • Workforce development (such as apprenticeships, job training, entrepreneurship support, community

Next Steps

- Issue community & employee sentiment surveys
- Assess survey inputs
- Review Treasury guidance
- Consider other funding sources
- Recommend fund priorities
- Establish evaluation committee and project scoring criteria
- Solicit proposals from community groups & county departments

