Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds

Presented by

Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director

August 3, 2021
American Rescue Plan Act

• $1.9 T COVID-19 economic stimulus bill signed into law March 11, 2021, including key provisions:
  • **COVID-19 response** (testing, vaccination, contact tracing)
  • **Business Relief** (PPP, Restaurant Revitalization, Shuttered Venues Grants, EIDL)
  • **Household Relief** (direct payments, tax provisions /credits, unemployment, rent/mortgage/utility assistance, food assistance/SNAP)
  • **Housing & Homelessness** (HOME, Section 8 housing vouchers, Homeowner Assistance Fund, housing counseling)
  • **Education** (K-12 funding/ESSR, colleges/university student grants, Child care stabilization grants)
  • **Health care** (Mental Health & Substance Abuse Block Grants, COBRA, Medicaid & CHIP)
  • **Other** (transportation, agriculture, arts & culture, cybersecurity)
ARPA Allocations to Buncombe County Government

• Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA): $6.2 M
• Transportation Grants: $1.2 M
• Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF): $50.7 M
FRF Preliminary Allocations

- State of North Carolina: $5,439,309,692
- Asheville: $26,293,853
- Black Mountain: $2,601,209
- Biltmore Forest: $451,276
- Montreat: $277,267
- Weaverville: $1,283,395
- Woodfin: $2,140,691
- Buncombe County: $50,733,290
Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF)
Begin with Board priorities

Gather input on possible use of funds

Establish fund priorities based on guidance

Solicit projects

Establish budget & evaluate projects

Initial round of awards

We are Here

MARCH

APRIL-MAY

MAY-JUNE

JUNE-JULY

JULY-AUG

AUG
### Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **August 3, 3:00 p.m. Commissioners Briefing Agenda** | • Provide direction on initial investments  
• Discuss urgent project request  
• Receive full copies of proposals |
| **August 17, 3:00 p.m. Commissioners Briefing Agenda** | • Receive list of scored/vetted projects                               |
| **August 31, 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Special Meeting** | • Review/approval of initial round of awards                           |
Updates

• Determined that Buncombe is not eligible to claim Fiscal Recovery Funds funds for general revenue loss

• Hired 1 Business Officer to assist with fund management (may add 1-2 more later if needed)

• Estimated up to $1,212,943 needed for fund administration for the life of the fund

• Estimated $543,714 needed for vaccination activities for FY2022
Request for Proposals

• Opened June 3; Closed July 15

• Open to County departments, Public & Nonprofit organizations with a principal place of business in Buncombe County

• Seeking projects to help the community recover from and respond to COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts

• Broad eligibility aligned to US Treasury Guidance for FRF

• Inclusive outreach & engagement process, including multilingual recovery funding workshop and new webpage - www.BuncombeCounty.org/RecoveryFunding
Eligibility

All proposals are being screened for eligibility based on 3 criteria:

1. Does the organization meet RFP criteria? (public or nonprofit organization whose principal place of business is Buncombe County?) *Initial screening complete*

2. Does the project qualify under the US Treasury guidance for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund? *Screening underway (due 8/17)*

3. Does the project meet a public purpose with County legal authority to fund under NC General Statutes? *Screening underway (due 8/17)*
All proposals are being scored based on 10 core criteria:

- Project Plan
- Statement of Need
- Link to COVID-19
- Population Served
- Results

- Evaluation
- Equity Impact
- Project Partners
- Organizational Capacity
- Budget

Review underway (due 8/17)
Review Team

• 21-member internal team with various experiences, backgrounds & skills
• Diverse representation of demographics, county departments represented, and positions within the organization

• Members are independently reviewing projects using the standardized, points-based scoring system
Review of Initial Awards

• Board of Commissioners will receive proposal details, including:

  Aug 3
  ▪ List of projects by category with amounts requested and descriptions
  ▪ Full copies of proposals

  Aug 17
  ▪ Eligibility screening results (based on RFP criteria, US Treasury Recovery Funding guidance, NC general statutes)
  ▪ Review team scoring
# Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th># Proposals</th>
<th>$ Funds Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofits</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>$132.9 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Organizations</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$29.6 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Departments</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>$51.4 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$29.9 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>141</strong></td>
<td><strong>$243.8 M</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposals

- Smallest request: $6,938
- Largest request: $20,000,000
- Median request: $1,729,185
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligibility Based on RFP Criteria</th>
<th># Proposals</th>
<th>Amount Requested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ineligible based on organization type (not nonprofit or public)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$7.0 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ineligible based on principal place of business (not in Buncombe County)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$23.4 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total ineligible based on organization</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>$30.4 M</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total remaining</strong></td>
<td><strong>124</strong></td>
<td><strong>$213.4 M</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Proposals by Strategic Plan Focus Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educated &amp; Capable Community</th>
<th>Environmental &amp; Energy Stewardship</th>
<th>Resident Well-Being</th>
<th>Vibrant Economy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 proposals</td>
<td>2 proposals</td>
<td>89 proposals</td>
<td>12 proposals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$27.0 M</td>
<td>$10.9 M</td>
<td>$158.0 M</td>
<td>$17.2 M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Foundational

- 3 proposals
- $262 K

*Excludes proposals initially screened as ineligible*
Excludes proposals initially screened as ineligible
Allocation

First tranche of funds: $25,366,645
Vaccination activities: - $543,714
Fund Administration: - $606,472

Available to allocate for initial awards: up to $24,216,459
Urgent Project Request

Organization: Homeward Bound
Project: Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion
Total request: $5,881,940

- Request includes acquiring the Days Inn motel on Tunnel Road and renovating it into 85 affordable housing efficiency units to serve people experiencing chronic homelessness
- **Request includes $2 M to purchase property**
- Total purchase price is $6.4 M; City of Asheville and Dogwood Health Trust have each committed $2 M for acquisition; $400 K from private donors
- **Needs funding in hand no later than August 14**
- **This portion of the request is on the Commissioner agenda for August 3**
- Other portions of request (renovation, operations) will be considered along with all other FRF proposals
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>Board of Commissioners Briefing Agenda</td>
<td>Receive list of project eligibility and scoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>Board of Commissioners Special Meeting</td>
<td>Review/approval of initial round of awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Commissioner discussion

- Direction on budget priorities for initial investment, up to $24.2 M
- Guidance on balance between categories: focused vs. distributed impact
- Budget contingency to allow flexibility
- Other questions or requests of staff at this time