

Horry County, South Carolina  
**Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery  
Funds**

2022 Report

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### Executive Summary

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021. It is meant to accelerate the United States' recovery from the economic and public health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. A primary component of ARPA is the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), which provides \$350 billion that state and local governments can use to cover recovery costs obligated by December 31, 2024, for eligible purposes including:

- Responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including providing assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality;
- Providing premium pay to eligible workers of the government who are performing essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
- Funding government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue caused by the pandemic; and
- Making necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Local governments were constrained during the pandemic due to the increased need for services, countered by a reduction of revenues including fees and taxes due to economic downturn. In Horry County, a popular tourist destination, negative impacts on the hospitality industry were particularly acute. The CARES Act funding in 2020, designed in part to address the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on state and local governments,

nevertheless included guidance that expressly prohibited replacement of lost governmental revenues. This left many governments in precarious positions. Although funding was allocated to respond to the pandemic, general governmental funds were depleted in order to maintain basic services. Pursuant to the ARPA guidance, SLFRF resources may be used for the “provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.” Like many other programs, such as the Paycheck Protection Program

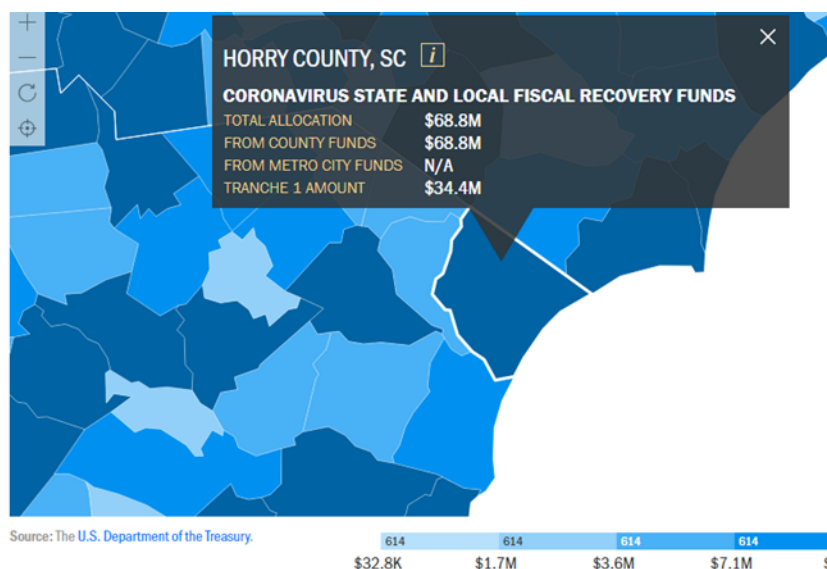


Figure 1: Coronavirus State and Fiscal Recovery Funds

(PPP), the reduction in revenue is calculated in relation to the previous full fiscal year prior to the health emergency.

In order to best position the County to use the SLFRF resources in furtherance of its overall recovery goals and in compliance with the U.S. Treasury Guidance, Horry County has elected to utilize its SLFRF allocation for projects classified as Provision of Government Services authorized under the Expenditure Category of Revenue Replacement (EC 6 ). In doing so, the County then plans to utilize the funds to meet a broader scope of recovery needs. Horry County also projects expending approximately 1% of the total allocation for administrative costs associated with the management of the ARPA project (EC 7). In order to maintain the intent of the legislation, Horry County has categorized projects that meet the response and recovery areas set forth in the ARPA's Interim Final Rule, published in the Federal Register on May 17, 2021. The "Revenue Loss for the Provision of Government Services" category allows broad flexibility to support general government services, while also allowing the County to meet its current long-term needs.

Horry County received a total of \$68.8 million in ARPA funding, the first tranche of which was received in May 2021 and the second in June 2022. Based on the U.S. Treasury's Final Rule and subsequently issued guidance, Horry County developed a Comprehensive Plan to develop the framework for programming this funding into eligible use categories to address local needs. The planning and implementation process aligns with the funding process of other federally-sponsored programs including the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development entitlement programs. This approach has allowed Horry County to leverage other federally-sponsored COVID-19 pandemic allocations to meet the continuum of community needs throughout the County.

## **Uses of Funds**

Under the Final Rule, Counties may use Fiscal Recovery Funds "For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency." Through this approach, the County is able to replace lost revenue and then use these funds for a broad range of government services, programs and projects outside of explicit eligible uses of recovery funds under the interim rule. Horry County's Calculation of Revenue Reduction yields a total that far exceeds the entire allocation of ARPA funding to the County, or \$68,776,083.00. Horry County intends to then use this revenue replacement to undertake projects that align with the goals of the American Rescue Plan Act funding and promote recovery for residents and businesses throughout the County

### *Calculation of Revenue Reduction*

The interim final rule for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, published in the Federal Register on May 17, 2021, includes the following guideline for calculation of revenue

reduction, “For purposes of measuring revenue growth in the counterfactual trend, recipients may use a growth adjustment of either 4.1 percent per year or the recipient’s average annual revenue growth over the three full fiscal years prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency, whichever is higher.” This calculation occurs in three steps:

1. A county must determine its revenue collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the pandemic (i.e. last full fiscal year prior to January 27, 2020), also known as the base year;
2. After the base year figure is known, the county determines its average annual growth rate (i.e. growth adjustment) over the last three fiscal years prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency;
3. Identify actual revenue, which equals revenues collected over the past 12 months;

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has developed the figure below, which provides an overview of how a county calculates revenue loss:

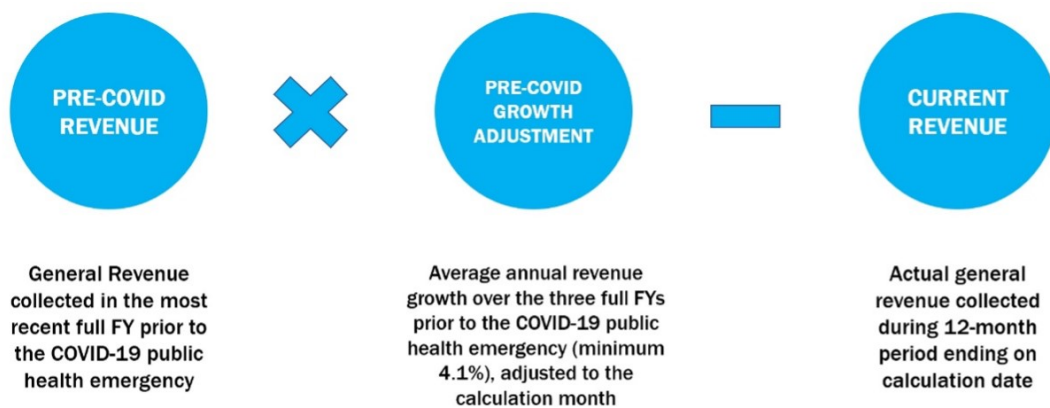


Figure 2 NACo Calculation of Revenue Loss

In addition to developing the revenue loss calculation utilizing the prescribed methodology, Horry County also prepares its financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

**Base Year Revenue** - The base year for calculating revenue reduction is Fiscal Year 2019, the most recent year completed prior to the pandemic. Revenue for Fiscal Year 2019 totaled \$535,335,530 prior to excluded items. Base year revenue is calculated by removing excluded items as prescribed in the American Rescue Plan Act and Treasury Guidance. Exclusions are included for refunds and correcting transactions which are netted with reported revenues, proceeds from the

issuance of debt which did not occur in the base period, interfund transfer which includes indirect cost allocation, interfund transfers, and interfund charges for service included in the internal service funds.

Horry County assumed the average actual three-year growth rate over the prescribed growth adjustment of 4.1% as provided in Treasury Guidance. The average actual three-year growth rate can be utilized if higher. A calculation of the actual rate represents a growth rate of 13.73%.

Therefore, the revenue reduction for the year ended December 31, 2020 is calculated by applying the same exclusions as noted above for revenues collected January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 (six months of Fiscal Year 2020) and July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 (six months of Fiscal Year 2021). The chart below reflects the total eligible revenue reduction for December 31, 2020 of \$147,922,915.

**Horry County, South Carolina  
Calculation of Revenue Reduction at December 31, 2020**

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Detailed Revenue (Year Ended December 31, 2020)  | 539,839,869               |
| Excluded Items                                   |                           |
| Refunds <sup>1</sup>                             | -                         |
| Correcting transactions <sup>1</sup>             | -                         |
| Proceeds from the issuance of debt               | 23,981,312                |
| Intergovernmental transfers (Federal)            | 56,302,908                |
| Interfund transfers                              | 46,981,736                |
| Subtotal excluded items                          | <u>127,265,956</u>        |
| Adjusted Revenue                                 | 412,573,913               |
| Calculated Revenue Max (Fiscal Year 2019)        | 560,496,828               |
| Revenue Reduction (Year Ended December 31, 2020) | <u><u>147,922,915</u></u> |

<sup>1</sup> Included as reductions in detailed revenues.

*Table 1 Horry County, SC Calculation of Revenue Reduction*

Horry County’s calculation of revenue reduction, is in the process of independent review for accuracy by Elliott Davis, the firm responsible for conducting Horry County’s single audit, and by Hagerty Consulting, a firm that specializes in helping clients to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters such as COVID-19, and which advises the County on interpretation of federal rulemaking related to disaster recovery. Horry County expects that both firms will concur with the accuracy of Horry County’s calculation of lost revenue and its eligibility for reimbursement through the ARPA.

Horry County therefore plans to allocate 100% of its funding for revenue replacement (EC 6). Funds replenished through the ARPA funding will then be used for provision of Government Services.

Based on public input as well as County Government and Community Needs, Horry County developed and approved a preliminary framework for the first and second tranches of ARPA funding. The broad funding categories were approved by Horry County Council in October 2021, with approximately 20% of the funding dedicated to internal Horry County Government uses and the remaining 80% allocated for Community Benefit projects.

#### *Use of Funds Replaced through ARPA Funding*

Counties have served as a key resource for the provision of relief and recovery programs throughout the pandemic, despite limited resources to address local impacts comprehensively. The American Rescue Plan includes \$65.1 billion in direct flexible aid to every county in the United States, including Horry County, which has been allocated \$68.8 million in direct funding. Recovery requires a flexible framework and strong partnerships that can pivot effectively to meet changing demands. As such, this plan is intended to provide a structured framework through which the County can deploy annual project allocations to meet the changing demands of recovery.

As a local government providing essential public services during the pandemic, Horry County was faced with substantial unplanned and unbudgeted expenditures. Resources required to meet COVID-19 related demands created budgetary pressures on the County at a time when resources were already stressed by sharply increasing population growth, particularly in the areas of public safety and transportation. Horry County has committed considerable financial resources to protect the health, safety and economic future of its local residents. The success of response efforts hinges on the ability of local governments to respond to the virus at a time when post-pandemic economic recovery is still in the early stages, and future pandemic impacts resulting from the virulent Delta variant remain uncertain. Additionally, for Horry County, a tourism-based economy, the impacts are particularly acute. Accommodations and Food Service make up 23.1% of jobs, many of which were lost due to COVID-19 during 2020, and are still in the process of being built back to pre-pandemic levels in 2021.

Horry County engaged in a strategic process to determine the most impactful utilization for SLFRF resources. Through this process, the County identified a number of projects that can be grouped into a variety of topical areas, including support for employees, community development initiatives, public facility investments, technology modernization and public health. Analysis of the County's fiscal condition has documented a significant revenue reduction that occurred due to the negative economic impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Each of these projects represents provision of government services that, without SLFRF resources, would be infeasible due to those financial impacts.

While all approved projects are classified as Provision of Government Services (EC 6.1), the County intends to use SLFRF resources not only to replace lost revenue but to make meaningful, lasting investments that will facilitate future success for all residents and businesses within the County. A wide range of programs are under consideration, ranging from rebuilding aging infrastructure to expanding social services. As part of the identification, selection and approval process, particular attention is being paid to how a proposed program will serve to aid members of traditionally disadvantaged communities and contribute to the County’s overall recovery strategy.

Horry County presented an initial briefing and expenditure plan for ARPA funding at a meeting of the County Council’s Administration Committee on July 27, 2021. The County then initiated a public comment period from July 30-August 17, 2021 during which the proposed framework for Horry County’s ARPA expenditures was made public. A public hearing was held on August 12, 2021 at 3:00 pm, and public comments were received at [arpa@horrycounty.org](mailto:arpa@horrycounty.org). Following the public input period, a revised expenditure plan, was presented to the County Council’s Administration Committee on August 24, 2021 and to the Horry County Council on September 7, 2021, and a first appropriation was approved. A second appropriation was approved by Horry County Council on October 5, 2021. These appropriations are summarized in Table 2 below.

| Provision of Government Services  | Original 1st Recommendation | 1st Appropriation   | Current Recommendation | Future Recommendation | Projected Total      | %             |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| COVID-19 Extra Pay  | 4,250,000.00                | 4,600,000.00        | 800,000.00             | -                     | 5,400,000.00         | 7.9%          |
| Cyber Security  | 1,400,000.00                | 1,400,000.00        | -                      | 1,400,000.00          | 2,800,000.00         | 4.1%          |
| COVID Impacts - Waste Management  | 700,000.00                  | 700,000.00          | -                      | -                     | 700,000.00           | 1.0%          |
| Online Payments Fees  | 100,000.00                  | 100,000.00          | -                      | -                     | 100,000.00           | 0.1%          |
| Facilities Information Technology Enhancement   | 100,000.00                  |                     | 100,000.00             | -                     | 100,000.00           | 0.1%          |
| PPE & Other Direct Expenses   | 373,575.35                  | 373,575.35          | -                      | 300,000.00            | 673,575.35           | 1.0%          |
| County Facilities Upgrades  | 500,000.00                  |                     | 500,000.00             | 500,000.00            | 1,000,000.00         | 1.5%          |
| Remote Working Capability   | 500,000.00                  |                     | 500,000.00             | 500,000.00            | 1,000,000.00         | 1.5%          |
| Administrative Expense  | 515,820.62                  |                     | 515,820.62             | 515,820.62            | 1,031,641.25         | 1.5%          |
| ROD Digitization  | 1,000,000.00                |                     | 1,000,000.00           | 500,000.00            | 1,500,000.00         | 2.2%          |
| <b>Subtotal - Internal Uses</b>   | <b>9,439,395.97</b>         | <b>7,173,575.35</b> | <b>3,415,820.62</b>    | <b>3,715,820.62</b>   | <b>14,305,216.60</b> | <b>20.8%</b>  |
| Beach Bathrooms   | 500,000.00                  |                     | 500,000.00             | 1,000,000.00          | 1,500,000.00         | 2.2%          |
| Beach Parking   | 1,000,000.00                |                     | 1,000,000.00           | 1,500,000.00          | 2,500,000.00         | 3.6%          |
| Road Improvements   | 10,000,000.00               |                     | 10,000,000.00          | 15,699,237.35         | 25,699,237.35        | 37.4%         |
| Coast RTA Operations  | -                           |                     | -                      | 750,000.00            | 750,000.00           | 1.1%          |
| Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities & Infrastructure (Proposal Based) | 8,219,841.38                |                     | 8,219,841.38           | 8,034,179.38          | 16,254,020.75        | 23.6%         |
| Touchless payment system (Coast RTA)  | 440,000.00                  |                     | 440,000.00             | -                     | 440,000.00           | 0.6%          |
| Assessible Playgrounds  | 250,000.00                  |                     | 250,000.00             | 250,000.00            | 500,000.00           | 0.7%          |
| Land for Economic Development   | 1,000,000.00                |                     | 1,000,000.00           | -                     | 1,000,000.00         | 1.5%          |
| DHEC South Strand   | 100,000.00                  |                     | 100,000.00             | -                     | 100,000.00           | 0.1%          |
| Contingency   | 3,438,804.15                |                     | 2,288,804.15           | 3,438,804.15          | 5,727,608.30         | 8.3%          |
| <b>Subtotal - Community Benefit</b>   | <b>24,948,645.53</b>        | <b>-</b>            | <b>23,798,645.53</b>   | <b>30,672,220.88</b>  | <b>54,470,866.40</b> | <b>79.2%</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>34,388,041.50</b>        | <b>7,173,575.35</b> | <b>27,214,466.15</b>   | <b>34,388,041.50</b>  | <b>68,776,083.00</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Table 2 Horry County, SC Fall 2021 ARPA Appropriations



On July 12, 2022, following receipt of the second tranche of ARPA funding, the third appropriation was passed as shown in Table 3.

| Provision of Government Services  | Current Appropriation | Third Appropriation  | Projected Total      | %             |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| COVID-19 Extra Pay  | 5,400,000.00          | -                    | 5,400,000.00         | 7.9%          |
| Cyber Security  | 1,400,000.00          | 1,400,000.00         | 2,800,000.00         | 4.1%          |
| COVID Impacts - Waste Management  | 700,000.00            | -                    | 700,000.00           | 1.0%          |
| Online Payments Fees  | 100,000.00            | -                    | 100,000.00           | 0.1%          |
| Facilities Information Technology Enhancement:  | 100,000.00            | -                    | 100,000.00           | 0.1%          |
| PPE & Other Direct Expenses   | 373,575.35            | 300,000.00           | 673,575.35           | 1.0%          |
| County Facilities Upgrades  | 500,000.00            | 500,000.00           | 1,000,000.00         | 1.5%          |
| Remote Working Capability   | 500,000.00            | 500,000.00           | 1,000,000.00         | 1.5%          |
| Administrative Expense  | 515,820.62            | 515,820.62           | 1,031,641.24         | 1.5%          |
| ROD Digitization  | 1,000,000.00          | 500,000.00           | 1,500,000.00         | 2.2%          |
| <b>Subtotal - Internal Uses</b>   | <b>10,589,395.97</b>  | <b>3,715,820.62</b>  | <b>14,305,216.59</b> | <b>20.8%</b>  |
| Beach Bathrooms   | 500,000.00            | 1,000,000.00         | 1,500,000.00         | 2.2%          |
| Beach Parking   | 1,000,000.00          | 1,500,000.00         | 2,500,000.00         | 3.6%          |
| Road Improvements   | 10,000,000.00         | 15,699,237.35        | 25,699,237.35        | 37.4%         |
| Coast RTA Operations  |                       | 750,000.00           | 750,000.00           | 1.1%          |
| Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities & Infrastructure (Proposal Based) | 8,219,841.38          | 8,034,179.38         | 16,254,020.76        | 23.6%         |
| Touchless payment system (Coast RTA)  | 440,000.00            |                      | 440,000.00           | 0.6%          |
| Assessible Playgrounds  | 250,000.00            | 250,000.00           | 500,000.00           | 0.7%          |
| Land for Economic Development   | 1,000,000.00          | -                    | 1,000,000.00         | 1.5%          |
| DHEC South Strand   | 100,000.00            | -                    | 100,000.00           | 0.1%          |
| Railroad Rehabilitation (RJ Corman)   | 450,000.00            |                      | 450,000.00           | 0.7%          |
| Contingency   | 1,838,804.15          | 3,438,804.15         | 5,277,608.30         | 7.7%          |
| <b>Subtotal - Community Benefit</b>   | <b>23,798,645.53</b>  | <b>30,672,220.88</b> | <b>54,470,866.41</b> | <b>79.2%</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>34,388,041.50</b>  | <b>34,388,041.50</b> | <b>68,776,083.00</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Table 3 Horry County, SC Third Appropriation of ARPA Funding, July 2022

Horry County’s plan for use of revenue shortfalls replenished by the ARPA supports a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. The plan also includes consideration of the totality of investments through the County’s FY 2022 budget, while also leveraging other funding sources designated for response and recovery from the COVID-19 health emergency. These projects can be divided into two broad categories: Provision of Government Services and Community Benefit.

Horry County Council approved a second adjustment in the same time frame, moving \$24.6 million from road improvements and \$1.4 million from the Cyber Security category to a new

Public Safety Payroll line item, specifically targeted to FY 2022 Sheriff, Police, EMS and Detention personnel. As part of this action, Horry County Council approved the transfer of up to \$26 million from the General Fund to the ARPA for completion of those elements in Road Infrastructure and Cybersecurity which may not be completed by the December 31, 2026 deadline for expenditure of ARPA funds.

### ***Provision of Government Services***

#### **Support for Employees**

Horry County Government remained open for business throughout the COVID pandemic, providing vital services that support individuals and businesses alike, and devising new strategies to provide services while minimizing the risk to employees and the citizens they serve. This outcome was only achieved through the dedication and perseverance of the County's employees. Based on public feedback, and in alignment with other local jurisdictions within the County, the ARPA budget includes supplemental compensation for County Employees, including public safety personnel, frontline workers and other employees who were critical to the continued operation of the County's programs and services. On September 7, 2021, County Council voted to use a portion of the American Rescue Plan Act funding to provide all County employees with a one-time COVID-19 related extra payment. This payment was paid out on Friday, September 10, 2021. Full-time employees that were employed with the County as of March 1, 2020 received the full payment. Part-time employees and employees that started after March 1, 2020 will receive a pro-rated payment based on time in service. This payment did not include County Council members, board members, volunteers or contract employees. It did include temporary employees. Horry County Council approved a one-time payment of \$1,500 for all full-time employees. In addition, uniformed public safety personnel and employees of the 911 department received an additional \$1,000 for a total of \$2,500. (Line item: COVID-19 extra pay.)

#### **Technology Improvements**

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the need for robust information technology resources that allow employees to work remotely, and for services to be provided in electronic format. Such resources allow for social distancing, while also permitting the provision of government services for individuals and businesses. The proposed framework includes investments in cybersecurity upgrades as well as implementation of remote working capabilities for specific positions within the County for maintenance of services under emergency conditions. Information Technology Enhancements also include the conversion of a large government meeting room into a space that can broadcast meetings to the general public, also providing interactive capabilities that facilitate the public input process in a distance format. The proposed Online Payments Fees program will allow the County to continue to subsidize online payments at a time when walk-in service poses a risk to employees and the general public. The proposed digitization project for the Register of Deeds will provide full online, indexed document access to real estate agents, attorneys and the general public as an alternative to walk-in service. (Line

items: Cyber security, Remote Working Capability, Register of Deeds Digitization, Online Payments Fees, and Facilities Information Technology Enhancements)

### **Ongoing COVID-19 Impacts**

In light of the continuing impacts of COVID-19 at the time of this report, funds have also been proposed for the purchase of PPE and other direct costs related to emergency protective measures. Moreover, as work from home models continue to be an option for many residents, and with 75% of the permanent population living in the unincorporated County, the pandemic has also significantly increased the cost of waste management services in the County. Funds have therefore been budgeted in the expectation of additional increased costs in these areas. (Line items: PPE and other direct expenditures and COVID Impacts – Waste Management.)

### **Administrative Expenses**

Approximately 1.5% of the ARPA allocation has been set aside for administrative expenses related to management, reporting and compliance of ARPA funds. Administrative expenses involving reflect time and effort costs incurred by Horry County staff in management of ARPA funding, consultant services, coordination of the public input process, development and management of Calls for Proposals related to services to disproportionately impacted communities and infrastructure, and management of ARPA-funded subrecipients. (Line item: Administrative Expenses)

### **Community Benefit**

#### **Community Enhancement Initiatives and Services**

The COVID-19 pandemic has overwhelmed local non-profit organizations that address basic needs such as affordable housing, food and transportation services, child care, mental health services for disproportionately impacted communities and other relevant projects. In order to address locally identified needs, the county allocated a tranche of funding for public solicitation of projects that would be selected based on the ability of the project to meet a demonstrated local need for an underserved or disproportionately impacted clientele, a sound strategy for implementation, and performance metrics and an evaluation plan designed to measure the project's success. (Line item: Proposal-based projects for public services.)

Clean drinking water and services for the collection and treatment of wastewater and stormwater play a critical role in protecting public health. Similarly, broadband access has played a critical role in supporting continuing education, access of services and provision of health care during this public health emergency. ARPA funding will enable Horry County to make necessary investments in these sectors, particularly in low to middle income and rural areas where services are currently inadequate. During the past year, Horry County solicited applications for water and sewer projects from eligible providers. When the second tranche of ARPA funding was received from the U.S. Treasury in June 2022, a second call for proposals was issued for Public Service and Infrastructure projects. In this round, proposals for broadband projects are also being accepted.

Broadband projects would include the expansion or improvement of service to rural or underserved communities. The second round of proposals is due July 29, 2022. (Line item: Proposal-based projects for infrastructure.)

Several projects designed to benefit rural or underserved communities have also been budgeted in the proposed framework, as they address needs already identified by the County, or were proposed as part of the public comment process. Projects include support of the Coast RTA, which provides critical transportation services to low-income and rural populations in Horry and Georgetown Counties, and the creation of accessible playgrounds in rural areas of the County which currently lack such amenities. (Line items: Coast RTA Operations, Touchless Payment System – Coast RTA, and Accessible Playgrounds.)

### **Public Facility Investments**

Horry County has also set aside ARPA funding to make improvements to public facilities and services designed to reduce the risk of infection through the spread of airborne pathogens. Such improvements can include improved ventilation, physical barriers or partitions, signage to facilitate social distancing, provision of masks or personal protective equipment, or consultation with infection prevention professionals to develop safe reopening plans. Public facility investments will also include maintenance of County facilities for which repairs have been deferred due to budgetary constraints. The County also proposes improvements to a Department of Health and Environmental Control facility that will provide a new access point to public health services in a location with a large population of underserved clientele. Provision of government services in the revenue replacement category also extends to roads and bridges. Projects will be designed to improve the safety and wellbeing of citizens by improving roads and ensuring structurally sound transportation infrastructure within the County. (Line items: DHEC South Strand, Road Improvements, County Facilities Upgrades.)

### **Economic Development**

Historically, Horry County has been an important economic contributor to the financial success and stability of South Carolina and a leader in hospitality and tourism sector. Some of the metrics indicating the favorable impacts to the state as reported by the SC Department of Revenue and the SC Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism indicate that Horry County, ranks fourth in the State with a population of 354,081, and is also a national top golf destination. The County is first in Accommodations Tax Revenues, \$21.8 million (29.1 % of state) ; first in Admissions Tax Revenue, \$9.9 million (23.8% of state); and first in domestic travel expenditures with \$4.8 billion, 31.4% of State, supporting \$907 million in payroll income and 44,700 jobs for area residents, \$297.5 million state tax receipts. The area recorded 20.6 million visitors in 2019 (D.K. Shifflet & Associates Ltd. Study, 2020).

Nationally, on net, the leisure and hospitality industry has experienced an approximately 24% decline in revenue and approximately 17% decline in employment nationwide due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. A study published by the Brookings Institute placed Myrtle Beach

ninth among all U.S. metro areas as most vulnerable to the economic downturn resulting from the health crisis. About 29% of all jobs in the area fall in sectors considered “at risk”, with the vast majority of those in the leisure and hospitality category.

In order to support the economic recovery of Horry County, the preliminary plan includes expenditure categories related to tourism and economic development. (Line items: Beach Bathrooms, Beach Parking, and Land for Economic Development in the form of a new or expanded industrial park.)

### **Contingency**

At present, 7.7% of the funding is proposed as project contingency, to be used upon County Council approval as contingency for approved projects and/or allocations for future identified unmet needs. During the reporting year, Horry County Council approved the reallocation of \$450,000 from the Contingency line item to fund an economic development project designed to repair and rehabilitate a rail line from Conway, SC to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. The subrecipient for this project is RJ Corman Railroad Group, LLC. (Line item: Contingency).

### ***Leveraged Funds***

In addition to the ARPA funding, Horry County continues to benefit from additional federal supplemental funding that is intended to mitigate the negative economic and public health impacts of COVID-19, with a particular focus on disproportionately impacted communities. In particular, Horry County, SC, in partnership with the City of Myrtle Beach, SC is a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement community, funding projects and programs to meet the needs of the entitlement as identified in its Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. The Horry County HOME Consortium (HCHC) was created in 2018 to assist the low-income and underserved areas of Georgetown, Horry, and Williamsburg Counties of South Carolina in the financing, development, and preservation of affordable housing. Member jurisdictions of HCHC include Georgetown, Horry, and Williamsburg Counties, as well as the municipalities of Myrtle Beach, Conway, Atlantic Beach, Aynor, Loris, Georgetown, Andrews, Kingstree, Hemingway, Stuckey, Lane, and Greeleyville. Horry County is the designated lead agency for the Consortium. Horry County also receives HUD funding through the Emergency Solutions Grant Program, which focuses on funding to prevent initial and recurrent homelessness, shortening the duration of homelessness, veteran services, assisting in the transition from homelessness to independent living, and providing needs assessment. These HUD grants also provide funding for the rehabilitation or conversion of buildings for use as emergency shelter for the homeless, for essential services related to emergency shelters, and for street outreach for the homeless.

### ***Horry County CDBG Outcomes***

In 2021-2022, Horry County spent \$771,600.39 in CDBG funding, along with \$109,890.52 in USDA funding, on housing rehabilitation. The County completed fifteen (15) housing rehabilitation projects during the program year. Ten (10) more are currently underway across the entitlement. Of the fifteen (15) completed rehabilitations, four (4) projects included the completion of

essential repairs to the units, e.g., plumbing, roofing, electrical systems. Essential repair projects typically range from \$15,000-\$25,000. In response to the need to assist the large mobile homeowner population present within the county, a mobile home repair and replacement program was implemented during the 2018-2019 program year. During 2021-2022, Horry County assisted five (5) mobile homeowners with housing repairs.

On March 27, 2020, the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into law to assist communities in their efforts to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act included supplemental formula allocations to HUD’s Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs, including CDBG (CDBG-CV), the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV), and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) for Horry County. The additional CARES Act funds allocated to the County were \$3,422,118 in aggregate for CDBG-CV and \$2,173,736 in aggregate for ESG-CV. Horry County has also received HOME-ARP funding in the amount of \$3,823,021. Horry County developed funding priorities aligning with program objectives and in compliance with the CDBG, ESG and HOME regulations respectively. Special attention is paid during SLFRF program design and implementation to ensure that no unauthorized duplication of benefits occurs.

**CDBG-CV Projects**

To date, Horry County has expended \$1,766,596.16 in CDBG-CV funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus. Activities included financial assistance to qualifying small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and subrecipient agreements with local non-profits who provide specialized services to beneficiaries across the County. In 2020, CDBG-CV funding provided assistance to 31 businesses in Myrtle Beach and 36 businesses in unincorporated Horry County. A summary of CDBG-CV public services projects funded through Horry County is provided in Table 4.

| <b>Horry County, SC CDBG-CV Projects and Expenditures</b> |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| Horry County  | Small Business Assistance Grants                                       | \$792,911.06          |
|   | Small Business Assistance Grants                                       | \$683,387.65          |
| SOS Care, Inc.  | COVID Healthy Air Initiative   | \$4,838.83            |
| Finklea Alumni Assoc.                                     | Finklea After-School Program – COVID Modifications                     | \$10,043.00           |
| ECHO  | Mental Health Services to Homeless Populations                         | \$63,502.19           |
| Neighbor to Neighbor                                      | Transportation Services for COVID-19 Vaccinations and to Food Services | \$28,208.00           |
| Careteam Plus   | Mobile COVID-19 Vaccination Team                                       | \$8,377.87            |
| United Way  | Breaking Barriers for Mental Health (LMI focus)                        | \$34,969.66           |
| Finklea Alumni Assoc.                                     | After School/Summer Camp Program                                       | \$11,105.23           |
| Horry County  | Administrative Expenses  | \$129,252.67          |
| <b>Total</b>  |  | <b>\$1,766,596.16</b> |

*Table 4 Horry County SCBG-CV Projects and Expenditures*

The Horry County Emergency Solutions Grant – COVID (ESG-CV) program provides funding for rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention, emergency shelter (\$178,221), and maintenance of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Rapid rehousing includes rental assistance to help homeless individuals or families move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability. Homelessness prevention consists of payment of arrears and other assistance to prevent households who are at risk of homelessness from becoming being evicted and becoming homeless due to effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Emergency shelter consists of vouchers for overnight stays for homeless individuals while isolating due to COVID-19 concerns. HMIS data management includes tracking of individuals and households receiving assistance through the ESG-CV program. Administration includes planning, reporting, and compliance to ensure that ESG-CV funds are utilized in a manner compliant with the CARES Act, ESG regulations and other applicable laws and authorities. Horry County administers the majority of its ESG projects through a subrecipient agreement with the Eastern Carolina Housing Organization (ECHO). ESG-CV projects and expenditures are summarized in Table 5.

| <b>Horry County, SC ESG-CV Projects and Expenditures</b> |                       |                       |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Rapid Rehousing  | 91 Households Served  | \$617,899.41          |
| Homelessness Prevention                                  | 124 Households Served | \$783,438.89          |
| Emergency Shelter  | 102 Households Served | \$160,831.23          |
| HMIS   |                       | \$84,906.91           |
| ESG-CV Administration                                    |                       | \$173,309.95          |
| <b>Total</b>   |                       | <b>\$1,820,386.43</b> |

*Table 5 ESG-CV Projects and Expenditures*

In addition to the above funding, Horry County has been awarded Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program funding through the U.S. Treasury. The ERA program makes funding available to assist households that are unable to pay rent or utilities. Two separate programs were established: ERA1 was established under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, which was enacted on December 27, 2020, and ERA2 was established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which was enacted on March 11, 2021. To date, Horry County has been awarded funding under both ERA 1 (\$10,708,257) and ERA 2 (\$8,300,000). In June 2022, Horry County received an additional \$10,000,000 in reallocated ERA 1 funds. In order to implement this program, Horry County has partnered with the Eastern Carolina Housing Organization (ECHO), which provides veteran services, transitional housing programs, short-term housing programs, and long-term housing programs. ECHO also serves as Horry County’s subrecipient for the HUD Emergency Solutions Grant. Individuals and landlords interested in receiving rental and utility assistance can apply to the program through the following link: <https://erap.echousing.org>.

Results achieved in Horry County based on ERA 1 and 2 funding since July 2021 are summarized below in Table 6.

| <b>Horry County Emergency Rental Assistance Program</b> |                    |                        |                              |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
|   | <b># of Months</b> | <b># of Households</b> | <b>Total Funding Awarded</b> |
| Rental Assistance                                       | 16,047             | 2,432                  | \$14,763,921.75              |
| Electric Utility Assistance                             | 1,014              | 464                    | \$140,571.18                 |



|                                  |     |     |                        |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------|
| Water/Sewer Utility Assistance   | 247 | 118 | \$14,890.17            |
| Internet Utility Assistance      | 240 | 127 | \$14,899.57            |
| <b>Total Assistance Provided</b> |     |     | <b>\$14,934,282.67</b> |

Table 6 Horry County Emergency Rental Assistance Outcomes

### Promoting equitable outcomes

The negative impacts of the coronavirus pandemic have affected not only local economies but also families, employers and governments in unprecedented ways. Money spent under this category should address an economic harm resulting from, or exacerbated by, the public health emergency.

Economic disparities that existed prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency were amplified because of the impacts of the pandemic among low-income and minority cohort groups. Families facing housing, food and financial insecurity are over-represented among low-income workers. Economic impacts of COVID-19 are most acute in lower income neighborhoods, which suffer from unemployment, housing instability, and educational disparities. Lower-income neighborhoods can also benefit from programs designed to promote healthy environments. Qualified activities may also have presumed benefits that provide services in qualified census tracts.

A qualified census tract (QCT), is an area that has an assumed disparate impact. Other low-income communities and communities of color also faced exacerbating effects on economic inequality, so funds may address disproportionate negative economic effects due to the COVID-19 public health emergency in the following ways:

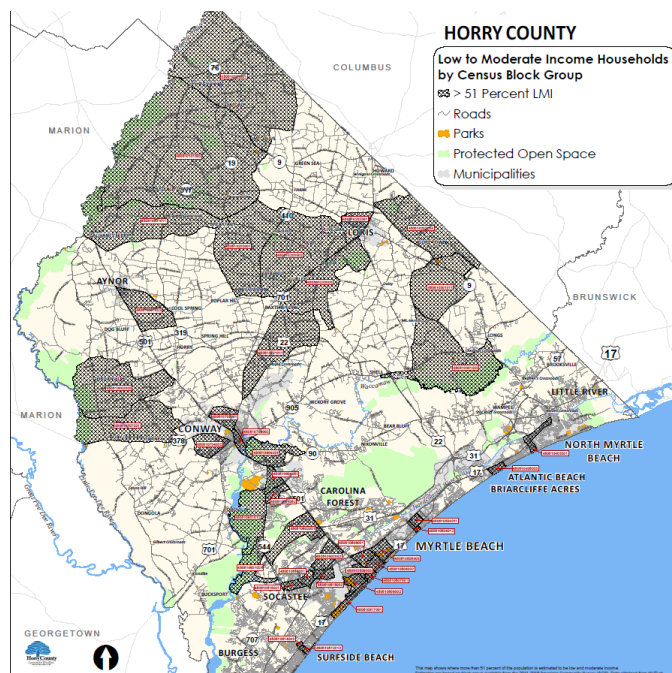


Figure 3. Horry County, LMI Map by Census Block Group

- Investing in housing and neighborhoods to strengthen communities by supporting unhoused individuals and increasing supply of affordable and high-quality living units;
- Addressing educational and childhood welfare disparities by expanding early learning services and promoting evidence-based practices that address mental health needs of students; and
- Supporting healthy childhood environments through expanding childcare and enhancing services for child welfare-involved families.



The map shown in figure 1 shows census block groups in which more than 51% of the population is estimated to be low and moderate income. Estimates are based on block groups available from the 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS). Data used for these estimates were obtained from HUD at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/acs-low-mod-summary-data/acs-low-mod-summary-data-summarized-block-groups>. The map was created by the Horry County Department of Planning & Zoning.

In 2017, Horry County published a HUD-approved Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) plan. This plan utilizes a HUD-prescribed framework to review disparities found within the County, focusing on the identification of concentrated poverty, disparities in access to opportunities and disproportionate housing needs. Local indicators suggest a need for further investments in education, affordable housing and improved access to public transportation and primary community needs. The existing gaps identified in the AFFH plan have been exacerbated by the pandemic. As such, Horry County will continue to prioritize all competitive proposals that serve a disproportionately impacted community and/or meet a goal of the AFFH plan. Projects submitted for funding consideration through non-profit organizations (for public services) and utility companies (for water and broadband) projects will specify goals for impacting historically underserved, marginalized and adversely affected groups. Proposals will also specify strategies for awareness and equitable access and distribution, as well as specific, measurable goals for outcomes. These criteria will be included as components of the merit review process for evaluating proposals.

**Goals:** For selected line items, service to historically underserved individuals and communities will be prioritized through an emphasis on projects that create positive impacts for LMI individuals and individuals residing in LMI census tracts, as noted in the map above.

**Awareness:** As a CDBG entitlement community, Horry County is experienced both in direct outreach and working with non-profit partners to create awareness of opportunities made available through federal funding programs. Depending on the program, outreach methods enacted by the county and its partners include, but are not limited to street outreach, flyers and hangtags for doors, outreach through churches, direct phone calls, and outreach through non-profit organizations. As individual projects are identified and approved by County Council, outreach plans customized for each project will be developed and implemented.

**Access and Distribution:** Horry County has identified issues with access to electronic documents among individuals based on lack of broadband access, technical literacy challenges and service to elderly citizens. In order to ensure equitable access and service through programs, Horry County Community Development and its partners routinely provide assistance with completion of applications by phone, in-person, or with the consent of the beneficiary, in consultation with a family member.

**Outcomes:** Intended outcomes and reporting requirements are tailored to the specific project that is funded. Anticipated outcomes for underserved individuals or communities will be

specified for selected project prior to project award, and will be detailed in future reports.

Projects focusing on historically underserved individuals and populations within the proposed plan above include, but are not limited to the following: Coast RTA Operations, Coast RTA touchless payment system, proposal-based projects for public services and infrastructure and DHEC South Strand. Moreover, the accessible playgrounds line item is intended to provide equitable facilities for children in rural communities, which currently lack these amenities compared with the County’s urban centers.

To date, projects serving disproportionately impacted communities are already underway through Horry County Community Development, which currently supports home repair and rehabilitation through its CDBG and USDA programs, as well as non-profit subrecipient agreement for a mobile vaccination clinic to provide vaccine access to those who are geographically isolated, a transportation service providing rides to medical appointments and food banks. Horry County is also providing rental and utility assistance to tenants and landlords through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. A separate project to build stronger neighborhoods is also underway in the Racepath Community, where access to municipal water service is being established. In addition, CDBG-CV funds have been used in support of a Small Business Assistance program intended to assist small businesses located in Myrtle Beach and unincorporated Horry County with recovery from negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. To date 31 businesses in Myrtle Beach and 36 businesses in unincorporated Horry County have received assistance through this program.

## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING

### Timeline to Implementation

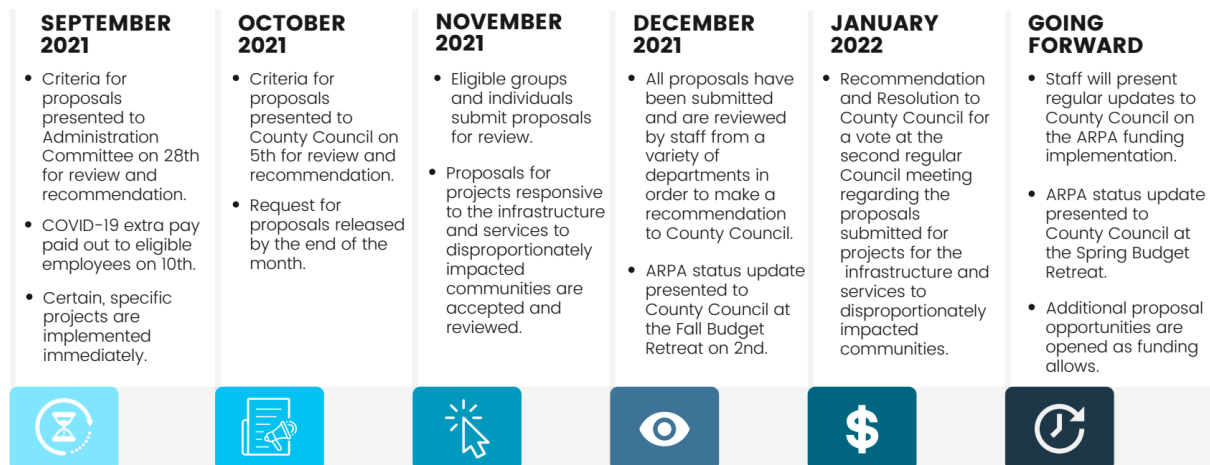


Figure 4 Call for Proposals for Public Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities, Affordable Housing and Water and Sewer Infrastructure.

In October 2021, a proposal application window opened for projects in the “Services to Disproportionately-Impacted Communities” line item, focusing on Public Services, Affordable Housing and Water and Sewer Infrastructure projects. Review Criteria for all proposals were approved by Horry County Council as shown in Table 7.

| <b>Program Review Criteria</b>   | <b>Points</b>     |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Impact of project and clientele served</b> – Project achieves a significant positive impact for communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, or serves a low-to-moderate income area. | 20 points         |
| <b>Organizational capacity and experience</b> – History of managing similar projects successfully, as well as sufficient experienced staff to manage the grant.                                  | 20 points         |
| <b>Budget</b> – Costs are necessary and reasonable. Matching funds are provided.   | 20 points         |
| <b>Feasibility</b> – Project timeline is reasonable. Proposal demonstrates support of all stakeholders required to execute the project.  | 10 points         |
| <b>Aid in response to a negative impact</b> of COVID-19  | 20 points         |
| <b>Project evaluation</b> – Plan to measure the success of the project and service provided to proposed clientele.   | 10 points         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100 points</b> |

*Table 7 Review Criteria for Call for Proposals*

Through this proposal process, Horry County’s goal was to address unmet needs in the County, setting aside both more than \$16 million in ARPA funding and approximately \$1 million in CDBG-CV funding for meritorious proposals from external entities in the areas of public services, affordable housing, and water and sewer infrastructure. 25 proposals were received. County Council approved funding for 2 public services proposals, 3 affordable housing proposals, 3 water and 2 sewer proposals. An additional 4 Public Services projects were funded through CDBG-CV. Projects receiving funding are enumerated in the final section of this report, under the heading “Services to Disproportionately-impacted communities and infrastructure.” A second round of proposals was initiated on June 15, 2022, with proposals to be received June 29, 2022. Public workshops were held as part of each round of proposals to provide technical assistance to organizations planning to prepare proposals.

| Organization   | Title  | Source  | Funding Amount        |                       |
|--|--|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Public Services                                      |  |         | Tranche 1             | Tranche 2             |
| Horry Georgetown Technical College                   | Community Resilience through a Holistic Approach to Job Training, Health and Nutrition | ARPA    | \$444,938.00          | \$1,421,236.00        |
| Waccamaw EOC   | Skills Training Enrichment (STEP-Up)   | ARPA    | \$200,000.00          | \$0.00                |
| <b>Total Public Service - ARPA</b>                   |  |         | <b>\$644,938.00</b>   | <b>\$1,421,236.00</b> |
| United Way   | Breaking Barriers for Mental Health  | CDBG-CV | \$602,610.00          | \$0.00                |
| Neighbor to Neighbor                                 | Transportation Services for Breaking Barriers  | CDBG-CV | \$207,836.00          | \$0.00                |
| Finklea High in Loris Training Schools Alumni Assoc. | Tutor for Afterschool Program  | CDBG-CV | \$77,840.00           | \$0.00                |
| Assoc. for the Betterment of Bucksport               | Business Development in Bucksport  | CDBG-CV | \$61,000.00           | \$0.00                |
| <b>Total Public Service - CDBG-CV</b>                |  |         | <b>\$949,286.00</b>   | <b>\$0.00</b>         |
| Affordable Housing                                   |  |         |                       |                       |
| SOS Health Care, Inc.                                | Affordable Housing for Adults with Disabilities at Oak tree Farm                       | ARPA    | \$1,934,590.00        | \$0.00                |
| Waccamaw EOC   | Weatherization Assistance Program  | ARPA    | \$360,000.00          | \$0.00                |
| Habitat for Humanity of Horry County                 | Affordable Housing Inventory Creation  | ARPA    | \$1,000,000.00        | \$935,000.00          |
| <b>Total Affordable Housing</b>                      |  |         | <b>\$3,294,590.00</b> | <b>\$935,000.00</b>   |
| Water Infrastructure                                 |  |         |                       |                       |
| NMB Water  | Water Line Extension, Little River Neck Road, Jack's Circle, Harrelson Road            | ARPA    | \$1,500,000.00        | \$0.00                |
| Bucksport Water System                               | Northern System Hydraulic Improvements   | ARPA    | \$511,376.40          | \$0.00                |
| Little River Water & Sewerage Company                | Booster Pump Station Upgrade   | ARPA    | \$262,500.00          | \$0.00                |
| <b>Total Water Infrastructure</b>                    |  |         | <b>\$2,273,876.40</b> | <b>\$0.00</b>         |
| Sewer Infrastructure                                 |  |         |                       |                       |
| Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority               | Conway WWTP to Bucksport WWTP Flow Diversion Project                                   | ARPA    | \$0.00                | \$4,000,000.00        |
| City of Myrtle Beach                                 | Canal Street Sanitary Sewer Force Main Replacement Project                             | ARPA    | \$1,500,000.00        | \$0.00                |
| <b>Total Sewer Infrastructure</b>                    |  |         | <b>\$1,500,000.00</b> | <b>\$4,000,000.00</b> |
|  |  |         |                       |                       |
| <b>Total ARPA</b>                                    |  |         | <b>\$7,713,404.40</b> | <b>\$6,356,236.00</b> |
| <b>Total CDBG-CV</b>                                 |  |         | <b>\$949,286.00</b>   | <b>\$0.00</b>         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                   |  |         | <b>\$8,662,690.40</b> | <b>\$6,356,236.00</b> |

Table 8 Projects Targeting Disproportionately Impacted Communities, and Water and Sewer Infrastructure

## Community Engagement

In order to solicit public input for the plan, Horry County adapted the approach used for public input for its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement program. Horry County developed a draft framework based on known areas of need for which funds had not been allocated in the budget for the current fiscal year. The framework, which included suggested areas of investment to address public health, negative economic impacts, infrastructure, disproportionately impacted communities and provision of government services, as well as the suggested funding level and potential projects under each category.

The draft framework was made publicly available on June 30, 2021 and the availability of the plan was announced through a press release, the Horry County website, and public notices in local newspapers. A public hearing was then held on August 12, 2021 in order to solicit input from the general public and a dedicated email address, [arpa@horrycounty.org](mailto:arpa@horrycounty.org), was established for the public to submit comments and suggestions for the use of funds.

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Overall, 39 individuals submitted comments, either at the Public Hearing or through email. Some individuals submitted multiple requests on how they would like to see the ARP funds be utilized in Horry County. Public Services, Public Safety Salaries, Affordable Housing, Infrastructure were highlighted as areas of specific need.

Horry County holds several public input sessions each year for its HUD programs, and endeavors to direct the totality of available funding to address unmet needs, particularly among LMI populations and other underserved communities. Projects recommended for funding are presented as part of the County Council's Administration Committee and Full Council meetings, where public input is encouraged. Moreover, [arpa@horrycounty.org](mailto:arpa@horrycounty.org) and a dedicated ARPA webpage hosted on the County website provide transparency for ARPA-related projects.

### **Labor Practices**

South Carolina does not have a state Prevailing Wage law. Horry County's Procurement Code includes provisions for local vendor preference. Horry County also coordinates with out-of-state subrecipients (such as RJ Corman Railroad Lines) to post all invitations to bid on the South Carolina Business Opportunities (SCBO) website.

### **Use of Evidence**

Horry County is utilizing SLFRF resources to undertake projects that were unable to be completed due to reductions in revenue caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The County engaged in a comprehensive process in order to determine the most appropriate allocation of these resources and identify projects that will best support the County's recovery goals. While no program

evaluations designed to build evidence are being contemplated, achieving meaningful outputs is of the utmost importance. With this in mind, Horry County Council discussed and approved criteria for the review and selection of the most impactful proposals to be funded through the ARPA programs designed to benefit disproportionately impacted communities. Approximately 23.6% of ARPA funding has been set aside for this purpose. Programmatic subrecipient agreements include reporting requirements and benchmarks for the number of beneficiaries, number of affordable housing units created, number of clients served by new water and sewer infrastructure, etc. As such, program outputs and outcomes are closely monitored through quarterly reporting. Data collection and analysis protocols within the County are sufficient to provide for program monitoring and to ensure that program outcomes can be used to inform future decisionmaking.

The County's decisions regarding use of SLFRF funding have been and will be informed by gathering evidence from a variety of sources. While the County has not engaged in a Learning Agenda process for SLFRF funds or its broader policy agenda, its decisions are guided by many of the same principles that place a high value on ensuring inputs from a variety of sources, setting broad goals, capturing program outputs, conducting meaningful analysis and evaluating program outputs against overall goals.

## **Performance Report**

### **PROJECT INVENTORY**

#### **Provision of Government Services:**

##### **Project AR1PubH: COVID-19 Extra Pay**

Funding amount: \$5,400,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: On September 7, 2021, Horry County Council voted to use a portion of the American Rescue Plan Act funding to provide all County Employees with a one-time COVID-19 related extra payment. Full-time employees that were employed with the County as of March 1, 2020 received the full payment as outlined below. Part-time employees and employees who started after March 1, 2020 received a pro-rated payment based on time in service. The payment did not include County Council members, board members, volunteers or contract employees. It did include temporary employees. Horry County Council approved a one-time payment of \$1,500 for all full-time employees. In addition, uniformed public safety personnel and employees of the e911 Department received an additional \$1,000 for a total of \$2,500.

Use of Evidence: The goals of the program were to recognize the service of employees whose service provided continuity of government services during the pandemic, to provide a higher level of extra pay to public safety employees whose positions required them to provide in-

person services to community members during the pandemic, thereby risking their own health to provide services to the community. This program also allowed the County to provide COVID-19 extra pay commensurate with the extra pay offered by surrounding counties. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

*Performance Report:* 2,292 employees received Covid Extra Pay in September 2021. An additional 120 individuals received COVID Extra Pay in October 2021 when County Council included Volunteer Firefighters as eligible recipients of extra pay through this program.

### **Project AR6RevR-128-GovSv-CyberSe: Cyber Security**

Funding amount: \$1,400,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

*Project Overview:* During the COVID-19 pandemic, a larger volume of services have been provided online in order to reduce the need for face-to-face contact. The County's Chief Information Officer has concluded that expansion of online services will require increased system security in order to safeguard County data from continually escalating cyber threats. Horry County is therefore acquiring and implementing a data vault to segregate and isolate the County's backup data from the rest of the network. This initiative will provide an isolated backup in case of a cyber attack, thereby enabling quicker and more complete systems restorations.

*Use of Evidence:* The goal of this project is to enable secure provision of expanded online government services in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

*Performance Report:* This project is nearing completion with \$1,342,376.54 expended and \$11535.45 encumbered.

### **Project AR6RevR-128-1GovSev-Waste: COVID Impacts – Waste Management**

Funding amount: \$700,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

*Project Overview:* During the COVID-19 pandemic, due to the systematic closure of Schools, Higher Education, and businesses, normal waste disposal systems were impacted to shift municipal and commercial disposal to Horry County's rural waste collection system. The physical relocation of school children and workers from their normal daytime locations and shift of on-premises restaurant dining to take-out service or home delivery resulted in a dramatic shift in waste disposal from the municipal and commercial systems to the rural system. The rural collection system is comprised of 24 individual collection centers where rural waste is delivered by individual residents to the center closest to their home.

Based on the higher volume of waste disposal due to school and business closure as well as stay at home order, Horry County is incurring a significant additional unbudgeted cost. Due to the sustained impacts of COVID-19, resulting in significant unbudgeted costs related to waste disposal, Horry County Council approved a \$700,000 budget allocation of ARPA funds

to cover the estimated increased costs. At the time of this report, the ARPA budget for this category has already been fully expended.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project was to offset higher operating costs for the County that were directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic. That goal has been achieved. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: At the time of this report, the ARPA budget for this category has already been fully expended. This project has been completed.

### **Project AR6RevR-128-GovSVOnlinePy: Online payments fees**

Funding amount: \$100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: During the COVID-19 pandemic, Horry County has encouraged online payment for the conduct of County-related business transactions as a means of promoting social distancing and reducing exposure to the virus. In order to reduce the financial burden of online transactions to its citizens, Horry County has been absorbing the cost of those transactions, thereby resulting in an increased cost of doing business for the County. In September 2021, Horry County Council approved use of ARPA funding in the amount of \$100,000 to absorb the increased cost to the County.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project was to offset higher operating costs for the County that were directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic. That goal has been achieved. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: At present, \$5,391.37 has been expended as part of this project.

### **Project AR6RevR-128-GovSv-ITFacil: Facilities Information Technology Enhancement**

Funding amount: \$100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: During the COVID-19 pandemic, the County moved many public meetings traditionally held in-person to an online format as a means of promoting social distancing and preventing spread of the virus. In the past, the County's Government and Justice Center (GJC) had used a County Council rooms for this purpose. In order to offer additional capacity for County Departments to host online interactive meetings with both online and in-person attendees, County Council budgeted ARPA funds in the amount of \$100,000 to retrofit Multipurpose Room B in the GJC with Information Technology enhancements to serve this purpose.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to enable live streaming of public meetings, a high priority during COVID-19, when social distancing was advised. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: The majority of work related to this project has been completed. The room is currently in use for this purpose, and, in fact, was used for public input and workshop meetings related to use of ARPA funding.



**Project AR6RevR-128-GovSv-PPE: PPE and other direct expenses**

Funding amount: \$673,575.35

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: In October 2021, Horry County Council authorized use of ARPA funds in the amount of \$373,575.35 to purchase PPE and other related supplies and expenses to protect County employees and the public from transmittal of COVID-19. In July 2022, Horry County Council appropriated an additional \$300,000 from the second tranche of ARPA funding for this purpose.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to provide PPE and other supplies and equipment necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: The purchase of PPE, disinfection supplies, and other expenses are currently supported by this project.

**Project AR6RevR-128-1GovSv-FecUpg: County Facilities Upgrades**

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry County Council approved ARPA funding in the amount of \$500,000 for upgrading County Facilities, including, but not limited to upgrades designed to provide public health benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is primarily to support facilities upgrades designed to provide public health benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: This project is in the planning stage, and there are no expenditures to report.

**Project AR6RevR-128-1GovSv-Remote: Remote Working Capability**

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry County Council approved a line item in the amount of \$1,000,000 to better enable remote working capabilities in the County. In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, County leadership recognized the need for additional investments in support of remote working capabilities for County Employees. ARPA funds will be used to purchase laptops, docking stations, monitors and VPN devices to provide users the ability to securely work from home or from other remote locations.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to enable remote work for a greater percentage of County employees. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: The first order of laptops and docking stations has been received and is being distributed on a priority basis to Horry County Departments.

**Project AR6RevR-128-1GovSv-RODDig: Register of Deeds Digitization Project**

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: The Horry County Register of Deeds (ROD) is responsible for recording of documents concerning land transfers and other miscellaneous instruments of record. Historically, the ROD office, has maintained a dedicated room of public use computers to provide access to deeds and other legal documents. This room has typically experienced a high volume of foot traffic from external entities performing title searches, as well as searches for other legal documents. During COVID-19, accommodations needed to be made within the ROD's office to accommodate this influx of personnel while also maintaining social distancing. Horry County Council has approved ARPA funding in the amount of \$1,500,000 to digitize and index older records. The goal of this project is to enable a comprehensive online search of County records, thereby reducing the need for face-to-face contact while also increasing service to individuals and firms which frequently use the ROD's services.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to enable those who require access to County records the ability to search and print records online, thereby providing public health benefits of social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: This project is being implemented in stages, with deeds and other legal documents being digitized in batches. An indexing system for online access of documents is also being developed. At present, \$12,487.50 has been expended and \$850,581.07 has been encumbered for technical services related to this project. A second contract amendment is being routed for review and execution of Phase II of this initiative.

**Project AR7Admi: Administrative Expenditures**

Funding amount: \$1,301,641.24

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Administrative expenses include, but are not limited to, time and effort expenditures for County staff for work on ARPA-related programming and for consultant expenditures to verify the County's revenue reduction calculation. Administrative expenses include time and effort, consulting expenses, and advertisement of public input opportunities. Time and Effort includes, but is not limited to, preparation, presentation of ARPA-related materials for public input, meetings as well as meetings of the County Council and the Council's administrative committee, establishment of segregated accounts for individual ARPA projects, and ARPA financial and performance reporting. During the reporting period, staff developed and advertised proposal solicitation documents for Public Services, Affordable Housing and Water and Sewer Infrastructure proposals for external entities. Information sessions were held for proposals, and proposals were reviewed in the months of

December 2021 and January 2022. Subrecipient agreements were drafted and financial and performance management infrastructure was established for ARPA-funded projects. Time and Effort directly related to ARPA program implementation is charged to this project.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to reimburse Horry County for the time and effort expended in managing and maintaining compliance related to SLFRF funds. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Administrative funds are being expended for time and effort of staff in oversight and management of ARPA funding, reporting and management of subrecipients.

## **Community Benefit Projects**

### **Project AR2NegE-128-11Tour-Bathro: Beach Bathrooms**

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: As a popular travel destination, Horry County suffered negative economic impacts due to the reduction in tourism caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. In order to support the economic recovery of beach areas located in unincorporated Horry County, the Horry County Council approved \$1,500,000 in ARPA funding for the construction of beach bathrooms.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to support the economic recovery of coastal tourist areas in unincorporated Horry County. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Horry County leadership is currently engaged in site selection for this project.

### **Project AR2NegE-128-11Tour-Parkin: Beach Parking**

Funding amount: \$2,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: As a popular travel destination, Horry County suffered negative economic impacts due to the reduction in tourism caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. In order to support the economic recovery of beach areas located in unincorporated Horry County, the County Council approved \$2,500,000 in ARPA funding for the construction of additional beach parking facilities.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to support the economic recovery of coastal tourist areas in unincorporated Horry County. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Horry County leadership is currently engaged in site selection for this project.

### **Project AR2NegE-128-12Othr: Road Improvements**

Funding amount: \$99,237.35

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: As a popular retirement destination as well as an expanding tourist population, Horry County has struggled to expand road infrastructure commensurate with population growth in the area. The negative economic impacts of COVID-19 limited the amount of funding available for roadway improvements. Horry County Council therefore approved \$99,237.35 in ARPA funding for road improvement projects.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to support the economic recovery of coastal tourist areas in unincorporated Horry County. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Horry County leadership is currently engaged in planning for this project.

### **Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-CoastR: Touchless Payment System – Coast RTA**

Funding amount: \$440,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: The Coast Rural Transit Authority (RTA) provides transportation within and between Horry and Georgetown counties, operating vehicles ranging from 9-passenger to 40-passenger vehicles and services ten fixed routes. The fixed routes include Andrews, Bucksport, Conway, Garden City, Georgetown, Loris, Murrells Inlet, Myrtle Beach, Pawleys Island and Surfside Beach. In addition the Authority provides Paratransit services for those with disabilities. In order to promote public safety and to reduce possible COVID-19 transmittal among operators and riders, Horry County approved \$440,000 in ARPA funding for a Touchless Payment System to be installed in its vehicles. For more information regarding Coast RTA, visit <http://www.coastrta.com>



In addition the Authority provides Paratransit services for those with disabilities. In order to promote public safety and to reduce possible COVID-19 transmittal among operators and riders, Horry County approved \$440,000 in ARPA funding for a Touchless Payment System to be installed in its vehicles. For more information regarding Coast RTA, visit <http://www.coastrta.com>

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to promote social distancing within the low to moderate income ridership of the Coast RTA. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: A touchless payment system equipment has been ordered and is being installed.

### **Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-CoastRT2: Coast RTA Operations**

Funding amount: \$750,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: This funding supports operations of the Coast RTA, which provides critical services for rural commuters in Horry and Georgetown Counties. During COVID-19, ridership decreased, straining the finances of this vital service. Operations assistance provided by ARPA will assist in stabilizing the finances of Coast RTA, providing low and moderate income ridership with a low-cost means of transportation within Horry and Georgetown Counties.

Use of Evidence: SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: This project was awarded from the second tranche of ARPA funding. At the time of this report, the budget and agreement for this project are being drafted.

**Project AR3Disp-12813Othr-Playgrn: Accessible Playgrounds**

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of outdoor accessible playgrounds has been highlighted as a means for children to remain physically active while also avoiding crowded indoor environments which promote transmittal of the virus. Such amenities are currently less common in more rural areas of the County. Horry County Council has therefore approved \$500,000 for accessible playgrounds to serve a disproportionately impacted community.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to provide additional accessible playgrounds in rural and/or disproportionately-impacted areas of the County to provide healthy alternatives to indoor activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Horry County leadership is currently in the site selection process for this project.

**Project AR6RevR-128-1GovSv-DHECSS: DHEC South Strand**

Funding amount: \$100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry County Council has approved \$100,000 for the renovation of a facility from which the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) can provide services to the highly-populated South Strand area of the County.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to provide convenient access to health and environmental services for a highly populated disproportionately impacted area of unincorporated Horry County that is located immediately south of Myrtle Beach. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: This project is currently in the planning stage. The work related to this project will be performed by the Horry County Maintenance Department.

**Project AR6RevR-128-1GovSV-LandEc: Land for Economic Development**

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry County is a coastal county in South Carolina that includes the Grand Strand, an area featuring beachfront resorts, entertainment attractions, and restaurants serving an estimated 20,000,000 visitors on an annual basis. As such, the local economy is dominated by the hospitality industry. In order to the long-term economic health of the area, an important long-term priority is diversification of the local economy by incentivizing companies to move to the region. Initial efforts to this end have proved successful, with most of the available industrial parks at or near capacity. In October 2021, Horry County Council approved an ARPA budget line item in the amount of \$1 million for the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Council to purchase additional land for economic development. A parcel contiguous to Ascott Valley Industrial Park has been identified for this purpose. Additional information regarding Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation is available at: <http://www.mbredc.org>



Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to provide support for the economic diversification of Horry County by establishing industrial park facilities to which businesses can relocate or expand. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: A parcel of land was purchased in partnership with Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation and \$1,000,000 has been expended.

**Project AR7Admi-128-Contng-RJCorm: RJ Corman – Railroad Upgrades**

Funding amount: \$450,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry County Council has approved a project to make repairs to a currently unused rail line between Conway, SC and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway so that it can provide freight service to commercial customers. Horry County approved a budget of \$900,000 for this project, comprised of \$450,000 in ARPA funding and \$450,000 in matching funds from RJ Corman Railroad

**Rj Corman  
Railroad Company**



Group. This project will extend the limits of a recently-completed railroad rehabilitation project funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), extending the line from Conway, SC though Carolina Forest, a heavily-populated area within unincorporated Horry County. Additional information regarding RJ Corman Railroad Group is available at: <http://ricorman.com>

Use of Evidence: When this section of the railroad became inoperable due to safety concerns resulting from deferred maintenance, trucking became the primary means of transporting local goods to market. This change resulted in higher costs for manufacturers, costs which are often passed on to consumers. The goal of this project is to support the economic

development of local businesses through providing a lower-cost option to transport goods to market. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project. Performance Report: RJ Corman has completed and advertised Invitations to Bid (ITB) for the materials to be used for the track rehabilitation. The ITB was advertised in July 2022.

**Project AR2NegE-501-12Othr-RIHwy9: Highway 90 Upgrades**

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry County has approved \$99,237.35 in ARPA funds to be used for improvements of SC-90, which has experienced dramatically increased traffic during the last decade. Highway 90 is a heavily-utilized commuting corridor from the Little River and North Myrtle Beach areas to Conway, SC. Approximately four years ago, Horry County also completed International Drive, an important connector road between the large unincorporated community of Carolina Forest to Highway 90.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to implement improvements to ease congestion and to implement safety measures for this important commuting corridor within Horry County. SLFRF funds are not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: This project is currently in the planning stage.

**Project AR1PUBH-300-9Payrl-PSSalary: Public Safety Payroll**

Funding amount: \$26,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: This line item is designed to fund public safety regular-time salaries for EMS, Horry County Police, and the J. Reuben Long Detention Center (under the purview of the County Sheriff's Office). Call volumes have reached record levels during and following the COVID-19 pandemic, and as a general increase in the County's base population.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to reallocate lost revenue replaced through ARPA to Salaries for Public Safety in EMS, Police, and the Detention Center. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: ARPA funding for this project was fully expended in Q4 of FY 2022.

**Project AR7Admi-128-Contng: Contingency**

Funding amount: \$5,277,608.30

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: In October 2021, Horry County Council approved an initial contingency line item. Following receipt of the second tranche of ARPA funding, an additional \$3,438,804 has been added to the balance. Obligations for this line item will be made at the discretion of Horry County Council.

Use of Evidence: SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Additional projects to be funded from Contingency will be identified and funds appropriated with the approval of Horry County Council.

### **Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities and Infrastructure**

Projects in this category are proposal-based, from projects external to Horry County. Each project is governed by a subrecipient agreement with Horry County, which clearly delineates the project goals, anticipated number of beneficiaries, schedule and terms and conditions.

#### **Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-HGTCpb: HGTC - Community Resilience through a Holistic Approach to Job Training (Phase I)**

Funding amount: \$440,398

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) is leading a project designed to promote resilience in targeted underserved communities by providing local opportunities for job training and credentialing. Phase I of the project includes a community needs assessment and initial curricular offerings.



Use of Evidence: The goals of this project are: to provide on-site training, health and wellness education, telemedicine access, and computer literacy focusing on job skills and training, and disadvantaged business entity development to residents of Horry County; to implement a community survey to determine the unmet needs as well as the full scope of the project that will be implemented using the 2nd tranche of funding, and; to build community awareness through media and outreach activities including an open house and opportunity fair. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: HGTC has completed 4 outreach activities including a Bucksport Community Outreach and Open House, a Longs Community Outreach and Open House, and a Juneteenth Community Event and Senior Citizen Outreach at the Bucksport Senior Center. HGTC identified training needs at each of these outreach events. To date, HGTC has enrolled 18 participants in various job training opportunities including Grant Writing and Non-Profit Management, Crane Operator, Certified Nursing Assistant, and Construction and Carpentry, among others.

#### **Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-HGTCpbS2: HGTC - Community Resilience through a Holistic Approach to Job Training (Phase II)**

Funding amount: \$1,421,236



Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Horry Georgetown Technical College is leading a project designed to promote resilience in targeted underserved communities by providing local opportunities for job training, health and nutrition. Phase II of this project, funded through the second tranche of ARPA funding, will include an expanded set of curricular offerings for residents in disproportionately impacted communities.

Use of Evidence: The goals of this project are to: launch technical training programs in online and in-person formats; provide career coaching and supportive services, and; to expand participation in health and wellness programs. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: This project will be funded through the second tranche of APRA funds, received in June 2022. Horry County has requested an updated budget from HGTC and will execute a separate agreement with this subrecipient for the second-tranche award.

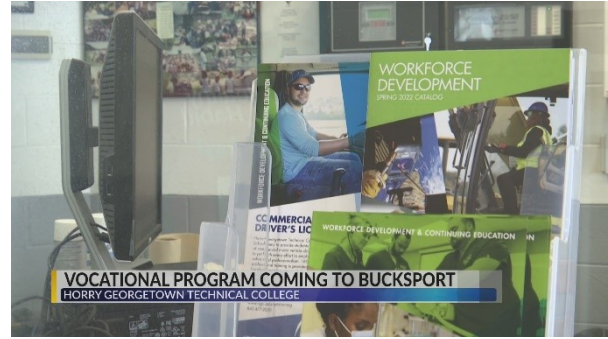


Figure 5 Coverage of ARPA-funded Vocational Program by WBTW News

**Project AR3Disp-128-130thr-GSWSAInf: Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority - Conway WWTP to Bucksport WWTP Force Main**

Funding amount: \$4,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority provides water and sewer service for the majority of unincorporated Horry County. This project will fund a new pumping system at Conway Waste Water Treatment Plant and a 39,410 of new 20” force main along Hwy 701 S in Conway from New Road to Bucksville Road. The project allows for diversion to Bucksport WWTP during flood events to relieve system strain. The project is located in Census Tract 705 Block Group 1 (34.54% low to moderate income) and Census Tract 706.02 Block Group 2 (37.08% low to moderate income). The project will serve 37,500 beneficiaries. Additional information about Grand strand Water and Sewer Authority is available at: <http://gswsa.com>

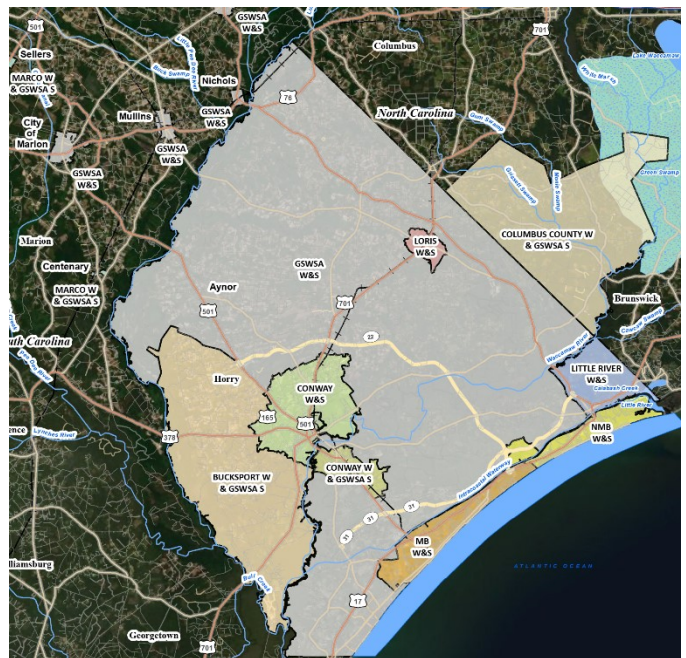


Figure 6 Grant Strand Water and Sewer Authority Horry County Service Area

Use of evidence: The goal of this project is to provide improved service to 37,500 beneficiaries, and to relieve system strain during flood events. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: This project is being funded through the second tranche of ARPA funding. Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority is currently reviewing the subrecipient agreement for this project prior to execution.

**Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-MBSInf: City of Myrtle Beach - Canal Street Sanitary Sewer Force Main Replacement Project**

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: City of Myrtle Beach project for a Sanitary Sewer Force Main Replacement along Canal Street was funded. This project is located on Canal Street, Myrtle Beach, from Highway 501 to Grissom Parkway, and is designed to benefit 18,546 residences and 2,228 businesses. The project area is located in Census Tract 506, Block Group 2, which is 74.39% low to moderate income. This project includes a \$2.5 million local match from the City of Myrtle Beach.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to replace a sanitary sewer force main along Canal Street providing service to approximately 18,546 households. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Preliminary plans have been completed. Due to a volatile construction and materials climate, project construction has been delayed until costs begin to decline. The subrecipient anticipates publishing the notice to bidders on October 3, 2022.

**Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-NMBWIn: City of North Myrtle Beach - Water Line Extension Little River Neck Road**

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: A proposal from the City of North Myrtle Beach was funded to construct a City water line extension to residents along Little River Neck Rd., Jacks Circle, and Harrelson Road, who lack clean water and are currently operating from shallow wells for residential water. This project is located within Census Tract 402, Block Group 2, and will benefit 70 residences, approximately 40 of which are low to moderate income. The City of North Myrtle Beach has committed \$2,650,000.00 in local funding as match for this project. Although the project will be led by the City of North Myrtle Beach, the project beneficiaries reside in unincorporated Horry County.

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to construct a water line extension providing service to approximately 70 residents of Little River Neck Road, Jack's Circle, and Harrelson Road. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: The City of North Myrtle Beach is currently working on preliminary engineering and project coordination. It is anticipated that preliminary plans, specs and permits will be submitted by January 15, 2023.

**Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-BUCKWI: Bucksport Water System, Inc. - Northern System Hydraulic Improvements – Phase 2**

Funding amount: \$511,376.40

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Bucksport Water System is a member-owned, not for profit water system providing needs based service in the Bucksport and surrounding communities, with a service area comprising areas in unincorporated Horry County. This project addresses a standing consent order for Trihalomethanes. Phase I of this project included new line on Jordanville Rd. BWS also installed two new reverse osmosis systems. This project will fund phase 2 of transmission line upgrades, covering the Dog Bluff area (from Lundy Shortcut Road to Knotty Branch Road.). The project will distribute higher quality, cleaner water in a more expedient manner. It will also increase water pressures along the line. The project will benefit 3,475 residences and 25 businesses. This project is located in Census Tract 802, Block Group 3 (54.09% LMI). Bucksport Water System has committed \$56,819.60 in matching funds to this project. Additional information regarding Bucksport Water System is available at: <https://www.bucksportwater.com/>

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to upgrade to a potable water hydraulic system along Lundy Shortcut Road providing service to approximately 3,475 households. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: Engineering design has been completed including surveying, design, and permitting. Permit applications have been submitted for SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) construction, OCRM and Coastal Zone Consistency, Horry County Stormwater, and DOT encroachment. Subrecipient is waiting on issuance of final permits.



**Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-LRWInf: Little River Water and Sewerage Company – Booster Pump Station Upgrade**

Funding amount: \$262,500

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: Little River is an unincorporated area of Horry County, SC, and a Census Designated Place with a population of 11,711 according to the 2020 U.S. Census. This project will fund a water booster pump station upgrade in area of Highway 1008 in the Little River area of Horry County. The project will replace 3 of 5 booster



pumps. The project is in Census Tract 401.02, Block Group 1 and is designed to benefit 10,208 residences and 926 businesses (a total of 25,520 individuals). Little River Water and Sewerage Company is providing \$262,500 in matching funds for this project. Additional information regarding the Little River Water and Sewerage Company is available through the following link: <https://www.lrwsc.com/>

**Use of Evidence:** The goal of this project is to upgrade to a potable water booster pump station along Highway 1008 providing service to approximately 10,208 households. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

**Performance Report:** The project is currently in the design phase and will be submitted for all permitting by November 1, 2022.

**Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-SOSOak: SOS Health Care, Inc. - Affordable Housing for Adults with Disabilities at Oak Tree Farm**

**Funding amount:** \$1,934,590

**Project Expenditure Category:** 6.1, Revenue Replacement

**Project Overview:** SOS Health Care provides affordable housing for adults with cognitive disabilities. In addition to housing, SOS’s full range of employment, independent living, social, and health and fitness programs are available to all Oak Tree residents. Horry County awarded ARPA funds to SOS Health Care, Inc. for the construction of 24 rental units in a single, additional apartment building (Number 6) as part of Phase III of their development in Conway, SC.

**Use of Evidence:** The goal of this project is the construction of a minimum of 24 affordable rental housing units rented to income-eligible tenants. The rental units will be developed in Oak Tree form community in Conway, South Carolina. Oak Tree Farm is an affordable housing community designed for individuals with autism and intellectual disabilities. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based



Figure 7 Oak Tree Farm, Conway, SC

interventions as part of this project. Additional information about SOS and Oak Tree Farm is provided at the following URL: <https://soscaresc.org/oak-tree-farm/>

**Performance Report:** SOS received a contractor bid on May 4, 2022 but the agreement has not yet been executed. Updated pricing for the construction is expected by August 31, 2022.

**Project R3Disp-128-13Othr-HFHInv: Habitat for Humanity of Horry County – Affordable Housing Inventory Creation**

**Funding amount:** \$1,935,000

**Project Expenditure Category:** 6.1, Revenue Replacement



**Project Overview:** Habitat for Humanity of Horry County is reaching capacity on the land currently available for developing new affordable housing. The ARPA project is designed to provide Habitat Horry with funding to acquire new land for affordable housing. Land will be developed as affordable housing through a Memorandum of Understanding and affordability will be maintained through restrictive covenants. Additional information regarding Habitat for Humanity of Horry County is available at the following URL: <https://habitatohorry.org>

**Use of Evidence:** The goal of this project is the acquisition of land for the development of new affordable housing. The single-family residences will be developed at parcels to be identified in conjunction with Horry County Planning and Zoning, and must meet all development standards as required by the County, including flood elevation requirements. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

**Performance Report:** During the last quarter, the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Horry County met with Horry County Community Development and Planning and Zoning departments to discuss potential parcels for acquisition. Habitat has had mostly conversations with realtors and landowners to date. Through these conversations, they have identified 2 large tracts for potential purchase. In the first case, they are actively having conversations with the landowner and the City of Conway. In the second case they are actively having conversations with a realtor (seller’s representative) about a tract in the Longs area. Habitat estimates they will have identified and purchased the first tract of land by the end of the calendar year.

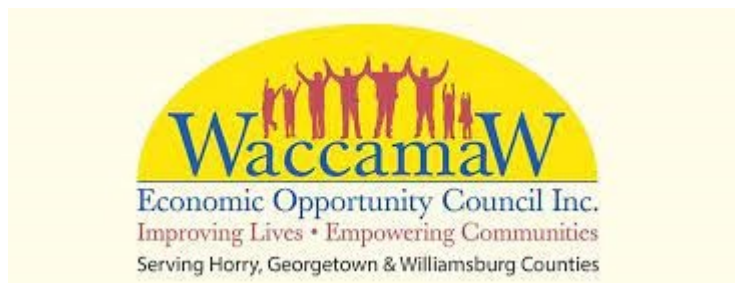


**Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-EOCSte: Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council (EOC): Skill Training Enrichment Training (Step-Up)**

Funding amount: \$200,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

**Project Overview:** The Skills Training Enrichment Program (STEP-UP) is designed to help low to moderate income young adults and young parents, especially those that are transitioning out of foster care, and to break the cycle of poverty. This program is specifically designed to supplement



current federal funding, providing support for participants to continue in the Step Up project when they reach the benefits cliff. Client support includes rental assistance, utility assistance, transportation, child care, and food. The targeted clientele is young parents aged 17-24. Additional information regarding the Waccamaw EOC is available through the following link: <https://weoc.org/>

**Use of Evidence:** The goal of this project is to provide client assistance to approximately 17 young adult families. Client assistance includes rental assistance, utility assistance, internet,

transportation, child care, food or any other essential supportive services. Support services will be provided to participants of Waccamaw EOC's Step-Up program that are facing elimination of benefits due to programmatic age or income restrictions. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: At the time of this report, the program is in the start-up phase. Quantifiable outputs will be provided as part of the next quarterly report.

**Project AR3Disp-128-13Othr-EOCWAP: Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council (EOC): Weatherization Assistance Program**

Funding amount: \$360,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: This project provides resources for low to moderate income owner-occupied rehabilitation repairs necessary to implement its federal Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) funding, as well as repairing other items unallowable under WAP (ceiling, flooring, plumbing, HVAC).

Use of Evidence: The goal of this project is to rehabilitate a minimum of 30 single-family housing units occupied by low-to moderate income residents in Horry County, South Carolina. Rehabilitation activities will be limited to construction items necessary to facilitate the weatherization of assisted units. SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project. Additional information regarding the Waccamaw EOC is available through the following link: <https://weoc.org/>

Performance Report: This program has commenced, with two homes having received repair services during the reporting period. The Waccamaw EOC's first invoice for completed repairs is expected to be received shortly.

**Project: Services to Disproportionately-Impacted Communities and Infrastructure**

Funding amount: \$2,184,380.36

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement

Project Overview: In order to address the needs of communities that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Horry County Council approved \$8,219,841.38 in APRA funding for projects addressing the areas of greatest need, as identified through a public input process on ARPA funding held in August 2021. In October 2021, Horry County Government issued calls for proposals in the areas of Public Services, Affordable Housing and Water and Sewer Infrastructure. Proposals were received on December 3, 2021 and reviewed during December 2021 and January 2022. Recommendations for project funding were approved by County Council agenda on February 1, 2022.

Use of Evidence: SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions as part of this project.

Performance Report: A second Call for Proposals was issued on June 15, 2022, with the goal of identifying additional unmet needs and awarding funding for the highest-priority projects. Second-round proposals can be submitted in the areas of Public Services or Infrastructure.

Previously-funded applicants are not eligible to apply in the second round, and awards will be capped at a maximum of \$500,000 in ARPA funding per applicant.