County of San Luis Obispo
Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
2022 Report

County of San Luis Obispo
Recovery Plan 2022

Table of Contents

Executive Summary

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 is a $1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the 117th United States Congress and signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, to accelerate the United States' recovery from the economic and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the American Rescue Plan, the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program delivers $350 billion to state, local, and Tribal governments across the country to support their response and recovery from the public health emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The SLFRF program is the funding mechanism for ARPA that provides governments across the country with resources needed to:

- Fight the pandemic and support families and businesses struggling with the public health and economic impacts due to COVID-19

- Maintain vital public services, even amid declines in revenue resulting from the crisis

- Build a strong, resilient, and equitable recovery by making investments that support long-term growth and opportunity

Prior to the ARPA, the County received $28.3 million in Federal Coronavirus Relief Funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act allocated by the State of California. The CARES Act funding was used to cover necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency as well as investments to support the community and promote economic recovery in the region. The CARES Act funding covered the period that began March 1, 2020, thorough December 30, 2020. While the CARES Act funding helped mitigate some the financial and social impacts of the pandemic, additional relief funds are still required to maintain the County's ongoing efforts in addressing the needs of the community, especially those identified by the County as vulnerable populations. Fortunately, additional relief in the form of ARPA and SLFRF funds builds upon many of the measures implemented in the CARES Act and provides additional funding through December 31, 2024, and an additional two years if the funds are obligated by the end of the calendar year 2024.

The County will be focused on using the SLFRF funds to accomplish a broad set of ARPA objectives that include:

- Support urgent COVID-19 response efforts to reduce the spread of the virus and bring the pandemic under control

- Replace lost revenue to support vital public services and help retain jobs

- Address the pandemic's economic fallout and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery

- Address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the inequal impact of the pandemic

Executive Summary (Continued)

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on individuals and businesses within San Luis Obispo County. The County was awarded $55 million in SLFRF funds and will use the funds to implement projects that are consistent with the intent of ARPA, which is to address the pandemic's economic fallout and lay a foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

Since the submission of our first Recovery Plan Performance Report in 2021, the County has made significant progress in identifying specific projects that will have an immediate and lasting impact in San Luis Obispo County. The County Board of Supervisors, with input from community workshops held in March 2021, identified the following funding categories to prioritize its SLFRF funding.

Public Health Emergency

Water, Sewer, Broadband Projects

Business, Non-Profits, Childcare Grants

Housing/Homelesness

Restoration of Government Services

While the bulk of the projects in these categories have yet to start, the County has processes, controls, and systems in place to ensure that we meet federal requirements and deliver the needed support to residents and businesses with the ability to monitor and evaluate each project's implementation to ensure that we are maximizing our ARPA investment.

This report contains a more detailed explanation of each of the prioritized categories, various project summaries, and brief status of when these projects are expected to start.

Uses of Funds

In March of 2021, County staff provided a brief overview of the American Rescue Plan Act at one of the scheduled Board of Supervisors meetings and discussed eligible uses of SLFRF funding based on guidelines provided by the U.S. Treasury. As a result of that discussion, an ad-hoc subcommittee of the Board of Supervisors was formed, consisting of two of the Board's members. The subcommittee was tasked with setting a framework for the implementation of ARPA funded programs and providing spending recommendations associated with the new SLFRF funding. The Board subcommittee, with input from community workshops held in March 2021, as well as from other correspondence received from advocates, was successful in developing an ARPA framework that included initial recommendations on how to allocate the SLFRF funding. The framework and funding category recommendations were eventually approved by the full Board during the County's fiscal year 2021-22 budget hearings to accomplish the following:

- Supporting the public health response and addressing negative impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic

- Support services to businesses and individuals impacted by the pandemic

- Initiate programs to address Housing/Homelessness needs in the community

- Providing for government services affected by revenue reductions related to the COVID-19 pandemic

- Making investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

The chart below summarizes the Board's action and the amounts for each category.

Eligible Use Category	Sub area	BOS Direction
Public Health and Negative Economic Impacts Response		
	Public Health Emergency	**$14M**
	Business, Non-Profit, Childcare Grants	**9M**
	Housing / Homelessness	**6M**
	ARPA administrative costs	**1M**
	Total Category	**$30M**
Restoration of Government Services		**$10M**
Water, Sewer, Broadband		
	Regional Water Studies, Infrastructure	Not delineated
	Broadband planning and expansion	Not delineated
	Total Category	**$15M**
		$55M

Since the initial budget adoption by the Board, several projects and programs have been identified and carefully designed with guidance from community input, utilizing evidence-based practices, prioritizing equity, and leveraging other state and federal funding to maximize programmatic impact and effective, efficient, and equitable outcomes. Strategies to implement these programs may include contracting with organizations who have a subject matter expertise or are better equipped to reach underserved populations. Contractors will be required to support the development of equity focused metrics in their program design and track those metrics for reporting purposes.

Public Health Emergency

The largest portion of the County's SLFRF funding, $14 million, is being allocated in direct response to the public health emergency brought on by the pandemic. This effort includes the costs incurred for a variety of activities in support of the prevention and reduction in the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department is allocated most of the Public Health Emergency funding to direct the County's COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts.

Due to the unprecedented response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Public Health Department has set-aside some of its SLFRF funding to address the need to increase its work force capacity to provide critical resources in support of a broad range of COVID-19 response activities. This will be achieved by the addition of limited-term positions, which will allow some permanent staff to return to their regular jobs. Other limited-term positions will be added to reflect the growing demand on the administrative team within the Public Health Department supporting COVID-19 related services. When available, other state and federal funding may be used, besides the SLFRF funds, to support the additional work force capacity.

The Public Health Department recognizes the need to address disparities in the community that have been exacerbated by the pandemic. Therefore, approximately $5.9 million of the SLFRF funding, within the Public Health Emergency category, will be directed toward projects that meet the strategic goals of the Public Health Department's countywide Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which closely aligns with the goals of ARPA.

In early 2020, the Public Health Department leadership team developed an organizational structure, SLO Health Counts, composed of a Leadership Council and a Steering Committee, to implement strategies to achieve the goals outlined in the CHIP Priority Areas. SLO Health Counts will oversee the process of awarding $5.9 million in APRA grants to local organizations to fund projects that advance the strategic goals of the CHIP, while also advancing the goals of ARPA. Request for Applications (RFA) to solicit proposals were initiated in late May 2022, with final executed contracts expected in September/October of 2022.

The RFA process will be a competitive funding opportunity, with up to approximately 12 organizations or community coalitions/partnerships being awarded contracts, based upon how effectively their project proposal aligns with the following funding priorities:

Access to Care

SLO County has long faced healthcare workforce challenges and disparities in access to care. The pandemic has made these challenges even more extreme. Building a robust healthcare workforce and ensuring equitable access to care will be key to a healthy future for our community.

Mental Health & Substance Abuse

The pandemic and related social isolation exacerbated mental health and substance abuse problems that were already on the rise for many populations in the years prior to the pandemic. Addressing these complex challenges will be key to building individual and communitywide foundations for long-term health.

Food Access

Many households struggled to meet their basic needs during the pandemic, including access to healthy food. Addressing this need will be key to a robust and complete recovery as a community.

Healthy Aging

Seniors worldwide, including in SLO County, faced a disproportionate burden of both the physical and emotional impacts of the pandemic and the related grief and social isolation. Alleviating those physical and emotional burdens can increase the quality and length of our seniors' lives.

On January 11, 2022, the Board directed that $9 million of the County's SLFRF funds go towards supporting local businesses, non-profits, and childcare services. The funds in this category are allocated evenly across the three categories of support, each receiving $3 million per category. The following table provides a summary of each of the three categories, followed by a more in-depth discussion of how the funds will be utilized.

Category	Amount	Purpose
Businesses	$550,000	Grants to small businesses to mitigate financial hardships or to implement COVID19 prevention or mitigation tactics.
	$2,450,000	Contracts with organizations providing technical assistance to businesses, workforce development, or job training for individuals impacted by COVID-19.
Non-profits	$3,000,000	Grants to non-profit organizations to mitigate financial hardships, implement COVID-19 prevention or mitigation tactics, or to provide programs/services to respond to needs created by the COVID-19 public health emergency.
Child care	$3,000,000	Funding for child care sector organizations to provide child care sector program relief and stabilization, tuition assistance, program expansion (new slots) and quality improvement, and reinvigoration of the child care workforce.

Businesses

Recognizing that small businesses have faced significant impacts perpetuated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the County leveraged existing processes and partnerships to administer $500,000 in small business grant assistance. The grant amount is split among the five supervisorial districts, with $100,000 available to businesses in each district, in both incorporated and unincorporated areas. Businesses with 10 or fewer employees may receive $5,000 and businesses with 25 or fewer employees may receive $10,000, meaning that between 10-20 grants are available per district. The grants are awarded on a first come, first served basis to eligible small businesses that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Outreach focused on the hardest-to-reach businesses that may not have had an opportunity to participate in other grant programs. The County's Workforce Development Board serves as the fiscal agent for the grants. Under an existing contract with the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce, as the lead entity on behalf of the Central Coast Coalition of Chambers, business support specialists at the chambers provide support with application intake, technical review, and outreach to the business community. The application window opened on April 1, 2022, and the County is in the process of executing grant agreements and disbursing funds to businesses.

In addition to the $550,000 in small business grants, up to $2,430,000 million was made available through a Request for Applications process to local community-based organizations that provide technical assistance to businesses and entrepreneurs, workforce development, education, and job training. The intention of this funding is to provide technical assistance to local businesses and entrepreneurs in navigating the challenges of starting, surviving, adapting, and growing during the public health emergency. The funding for workforce development and job training is intended to address the regional labor shortage, particularly a shortage of skilled labor, and to benefit unemployed and underemployed people and those who have suffered economically because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In consultation with County Counsel, the Assistant County Administrative Officer convened a review committee of three County Department Heads with experience in economic and workforce development and presented their recommendations on how to allocate the one-time business grant funding to the Board's subcommittee on ARPA. On May 17, 2022, the full Board approved the funding of four projects. These projects provide a multitude of critical support services to business and individuals impacted by COVID-19. The projects build upon partnerships the County has had with community organizations to support economic development, small business development, workforce development, and job training. Half of the funding in this category has been approved to fund a project to expand outreach centers into areas of the County that previously have been underserved. These projects are expected to begin in fiscal year 2022-23. The table below highlights the projects selected, the amount, and project's purpose.

Project	Amount	Purpose
SLOCOE and SLO Partners	$750,000	SLO Partners will expand proven programs to meet employment needs of SLO companies by upskilling under and unemployed residents impacted by COVID-19. ARPA funds will be used to support SLO Partners' mission of building a strong workforce and a healthy economy through innovative modern apprenticeship programs.
Atascadero and Paso Chambers of Commerce	$197,500	The Atascadero and Paso Robles Chambers of Commerce are partnering to offer digital marketing and social media services to help small businesses in a post-pandemic economy. The Chambers are requesting grant funding for a Program Specialist to offer hands-on digital literacy training and services.
South County Chambers of Commerce	$250,000	SCCC will provide Business Technical Assistance, Workforce Development, and Job Training at "Launchpads" in Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, and Nipomo in partnership with SLO County, Cities, Cal Poly CIE, SBDC, and SLO Partners. "Launchpads" will feature coworking spaces, conference rooms, and targeted support to businesses negatively impacted by the pandemic.
Cal Poly Corporation and CIE	$1,232,500	The Cal Poly CIE will launch three Outreach Centers to provide technical assistance, business planning, counseling, and job training to small businesses county-wide. Cal Poly CIE will create specialized incubator programs at each location: AgTech in Paso Robles, Aerospace in Grover Beach, CleanTech in Morro Bay, and MedTech in San Luis Obispo.

The four projects total $2,430,000. For the remainder of the $2.5 million, the Board approved setting aside $20,000 to cover the administrative costs of the Workforce Development Board in administering the small business grant program and an extra $50,000 in funding for small business grants due to the overwhelming demand for funding, bringing the total to $550,000 in small business grant funding.

Non-profits

Many non-profit organizations have experienced negative economic impacts during the pandemic due to challenges in fundraising, closures related to the public health emergency, and increased demand for their services from the community. Three million ($3M) in SLFRF funds were allocated to provide grants to non-profit organizations with the specific emphasis on projects that address the Board's priority to address housing, homelessness, and services to low-income families. A grant review committee was formed consisting of members of the Adults Policy Council, Children's Resource Network, Health Commission and two members-at-large to review grant applications and make funding recommendations. On July 12, 2022, the Board approved $3 million in ARPA non-profit funds be awarded to non-profit organizations that address housing and homelessness or provide services to low-income families. These projects are expected to begin in fiscal year 2022-23. The table below highlights the selected organizations, project description, and approved funding level.

Project	Amount	Purpose
5 Cities Homeless Coalition	$275,000	A temporary emergency shelter for medically fragile and chronically homeless in Grover Beach.
Community Action Partnership of SLO County	$450,000	Homeless outreach and engagement that provides a safe place to park vehicles and SAFE school program.
El Camino Homeless Organization	$430,000	Funding to continue operations for the new ECHO Paso Robles shelter.
Food Bank	$200,000	Support the purchase of food on the wholesale market to supplement donations.
People's Self-Help Housing	$200,000	Supportive housing program throughout San Luis Obispo County.
Boys & Girls Club of So SLO County	$150,000	Provide scholarships for 80 youths for out-of-school enrichment programming or childcare.
Boys & Girls Club of Mid Central Coast	$150,000	Opportunity to Thrive for all Youth
South County Youth Coalition	$150,000	Elementary Student & Family Mental Health Relief Program
Court Appointed Special Advocates	$115,000	Recoup lost funds from lack of fund raising during COVID in order to continue providing volunteers
SLO Noor Foundation	$100,000	Establishment of a free clinic at a People's Self-Help Housing apartment complex
Transition-Mental Health Association	$150,000	Palm Street Studios in San Luis Obispo: 8-unit housing project for adults living with mental illness who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
Grants < $100,000	$630,000	22 Grants awards under $100,000 that add a services and programs to the community.

Childcare

Childcare is critical to the County's economic recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency. Without access to high-quality, reliable childcare, substantial segments of the workforce may remain or become unemployed, be forced to reduce their hours, or leave the labor force entirely, which will exacerbate the labor shortage in the region and decrease household incomes. The stress on the childcare sector has only been worsened by the pandemic, as childcare providers have faced increased costs, decreased revenues, and a dwindling supply of childcare professionals. A recent report from Cuesta College, the County's local Community College, on the Economic Impact of Child Care in San Luis Obispo County estimated that meeting the low-end estimate of the potential need for childcare in this County would increase the County's Gross Regional Product by more than $108 million annually and support and create 425 jobs from this new economic activity.

Based on the critical and immediate childcare needs in the community, on March 15, 2022, the Board allocated $3 million toward the childcare sector with a three-pronged strategy focusing on the following initiatives:

$1,200,000	0–12-year-old childcare sector program relief and stabilization & tuition assistance
$900,000	Program expansion and quality improvements
$900,000	Reinvigoration of the childcare workforce

A collaborative consortium of local childcare sector organizations came together to manage the distribution and monitoring of the SLFRF funds, including the SLO County Office of Education, First 5 SLO County, the SLO County Child Care Planning Council (the County's existing dedicated advisory body on childcare needs for children 0-12), and the Child Care Resource Connection based at Community Action Partnership (CAPSLO). Other partners are expected to join the effort over time, either as members of the Child Care Planning Council, additional program leads, and/or recipients of ARPA funding. As with the other funding categories, a portion of the funds are dedicated to program management, monitoring, and reporting requirements. These projects are expected to begin in fiscal year 2022-23.

Housing/Homelessness

Many people in the County are currently experiencing or at risk of homelessness, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the County's budget development process, the Board of Supervisor's sets short and long-term budget priorities for the County. In the past, and with its current budget, the County has prioritized housing and homelessness as part of its long-term budget strategies. With that focus in mind, the Board approved $6 million in ARPA spending towards housing/homelessness projects that will target investments aimed at increasing and retaining existing low-income permanent housing and expand existing sheltering capacity.

The County is currently developing a Countywide strategic plan to address the housing and homelessness problem throughout the community. The plan, called the San Luis Obispo Countywide Plan to Address Homelessness 2022-2027, is currently in the draft phase and soliciting community feedback, with final adoption anticipated in the August

2022 timeframe. The plan focuses on implementing a strategy that is bold, systematic and an integrated sequence of actions designed to make the goal of substantially reducing homelessness achievable.

The toll of homelessness on the individual includes a reduced life expectancy in addition to exacerbating existing health problems or causing new ones. Homelessness has an obvious toll on our community's wellbeing. As the numbers of those experiencing homeless in our region continues to rise, our community suffers immeasurable losses to our quality of life, environmental wellbeing, and economic vitality. Based on the most recent comprehensive Point in Time Count report (2019), 1,483 individuals in San Luis Obispo County met the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition of homelessness. Among communities categorized as "largely suburban," San Luis Obispo County had the 3rd largest percentage of unsheltered homelessness nationwide in 2020 at 82.4%. Contributing to the homelessness issue are high rents and a significant shortage of affordable housing units within the county.

On March 1, 2022, the Board approved four housing/homelessness projects totaling $5.3 million to address this critical need. As noted in the table below, the projects include funding to preserve low-income housing, adding new housing to serve low-income individuals, temporary non-congregate emergency shelter for low-income individuals, maintaining and expanding the County's Safe Parking program to provide homeless individuals and families with access to safe and clean spaces to park and sleep overnight. These projects are expected to begin in fiscal year 2022-23. The table below highlights the projects selected, the amount, and project's purpose.

Project	Amount	Purpose
Anderson Hotel Preservation	$2,000,000	Preserves 68 units of very low-income housing
Arroyo Grande Affordable Housing	$1,946,000	Adds 63 new units to serve up to 124 low to very-low income individuals
Non-Congregate Shelter (5Cities Homeless Coalition)	$400,000	New temporary non-congregate emergency shelter providing 80 very low-income individuals with non-congregate shelter
Safe Parking Homeless Program	$1,000,000	Continued operation and expansion of the Safe Parking program.

On July 12, 2022, the Board approved directing the remaining $654,000 of housing/homelessness funding towards the County's efforts to reduce homelessness, as presented to the Board during the April 19, 2022, meeting.

Restoration of Government Services

The County may expend its SLFRF funds on a broad range of general government services under the Revenue Replacement allowable category. There are two ways to determine how much is allowed under this category. The County may either elect to take the $10 million Standard Allowance or it may calculate actual revenue loss according to a Formulaic Approach based on the U.S. Treasury Department's formula outlined in the Final Rule. The County has chosen the Formulaic Approach to calculate its estimated revenue loss due to the pandemic. This approach identified a maximum of $61 million in the Revenue Replacement category could be expended out of the total SLFRF funding allocated to the County.

As mentioned, the Revenue Replacement expenditure category is a flexible source of funding that will be specifically used to restore previous cuts to expenditures originating from an anticipated budget deficit during the beginning of the pandemic. During 2020, the County faced significant uncertainty both in terms of the impact of COVID-19 on the community and the County's financial stability. As such, in the County's fiscal year 2020-21 budget, to respond to the uncertainty and impact the COVID-19 pandemic could have during the year, the County moved forward with a multi-year strategy to achieve structural balance by implementing strategies to close what at the time was anticipated to be a $26.2 million dollar budget gap. Using both short and long-term budget balancing strategies included a structural reduction of 4% for all non-public safety departments and 1% cut for all safety departments. The structural reductions included the elimination of $3.7 million in non-salary expenditures and the "graying-out," or temporarily not funding 28 full time equivalent (FTE) allocated positions. Besides the structural cuts, short-term budget balancing strategies included one-time funding from various funds and designations.

The County is allocating $11 million of its total SLFRF funding to the Revenue Replacement category to restore staff positions and non-salary expenditures that were eliminated or remained unfunded due to budgetary reductions implemented in the 2020-21 fiscal year. In addition, $1 million of the County's Revenue Replacement funds have been set aside for administrative costs to ensure that effective project management, as well as legal and regulatory compliance is achieved. The County will use the Revenue Replacement funding to restore positions over the next three years.

Water, Wastewater, Broadband Projects

Water & Wastewater Projects

On August 10, 2021, the Board approved $12.4 million in SLFRF funding for 12 high priority water/wastewater projects identified by the Public Works and Parks departments. The projects were approved based on their ability to address health and safety needs, meet regulatory requirements, replace aging infrastructure in the County's water and wastewater systems, and do not have identified funding. These projects are spread throughout the various Supervisorial Districts and have been scoped and have community support through previous master planning efforts. The Project Inventory section of this report provides more details on each of these 12 projects.

$12,400,000	Twelve high priority water/wastewater projects throughout the community

In addition to the 12 water/wastewater projects, the Board also approved SLFRF funding for the following:

$100,000	Perform a study to determine alternatives to mitigate community flooding in Avila Beach
$200,000	Eligible capital equipment purchases to facilitate compliance with regulations and improve water management, accounting, and water loss auditing
$150,000	Purchase a Cyanotoxin Detections system for water testing
$100,000	Provide Health Permit fee waivers for dry well replacements during drought periods
$50,000	Purchase water billing system

Broadband Projects

The County's Information Technology Department identified 5 priority projects to increase connections in the County's fiber optic network to smaller departmental offices throughout the County. Like water/wastewater projects, these projects did not have identified funding and were approved by the Board at the same time as the water/wastewater projects. The recommended projects focus on departmental offices that directly serve the public and are in four Supervisorial Districts. Additionally, the recommended projects will result in ongoing cost savings, as the County will no longer need to pay an internet service provider to supply the proposed connections. The estimated cost for these projects is $2 million. More detail on these specific broadband projects is provided in the Project Inventory section of this report.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The County of San Luis Obispo is steadfast in promoting equity and inclusion in managing and implementation of its ARPA plan. The County is committed to and is working diligently to ensure that the Board's directives prioritize and target communities most impacted by the pandemic. This includes a focus on homelessness populations, some of the most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The County's Public Health Department has developed a Vaccine Action Plan for Persons Experiencing Homelessness and identified the following objectives within the plan:

Objective 1	Have trusted messengers conduct outreach and administer vaccinations at convenient locations
Objective 2	Determine priorities for selecting encampments and shelters for outreach vaccinations
Objective 3	Increase vaccination rates - vaccinate 60 unhoused persons between 12/31/21 and 6/30/22
Objective 4	Increase opportunities for unhoused persons to get vaccines including boosters

The County solicited requests to provide SLFRF funding support to community-based organizations. As part of its request for funding, the County has directed applicants to consider specific objectives identified in the Treasury Final Rule, including goals of equity. In evaluating requests for funding, the County prioritized requests that best meet stated objectives of the Treasury Final Rule. The County considered both specific SLFRF eligibility requirements as well as overall goals of promoting equitable outcomes and reaching underserved groups. Requests for funding require applicants to set specific goals and provide quantifiable measured outcomes.

Community Engagement

To reach the broad community, the County implemented processes for soliciting requests for SLFRF funding utilizing direct outreach to Community Based Organizations.

To achieve transparency, access, and equity, the County has formed Advisory Committees made up of community members in the areas of housing/homelessness, business, non-profits, and childcare. The Advisory Committees determined the funding request processes and created ranking criteria in their subject matter areas. The Advisory Committees evaluated and ranked requests from the community at large and were later presented to the County Board of Supervisors for approval during their public meetings.

Labor Practices

San Luis Obispo County completes several Federally funded contracts per year. The Federal contracts contain Federal Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage requirements, which include Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) programs; prevailing wage payment oversight, review, and verification; apprenticeship or trainee programs; and subcontractor designation requirements to promote fair bidding. Most Federally funded projects are highway infrastructure, with Caltrans review and oversight. Staff also receive formal training from Caltrans in contract administration and prevailing wage compliance.

Locally funded contracts include prevailing wage requirements under CA law, with oversight by the CA Department of Industrial Relations. As a result, County construction management staff and consultants hired by the County are experienced with administering prevailing wage requirements and providing oversight of these contracts.

Use of Evidence

The County will use strong data and analytics for SLFRF funded projects when applicable. Using evidence and/or program evaluation will be critical in reviewing how the various programs are proceeding with their implementation plans. The County will perform regular performance assessments to ensure that program goals are being met and if necessary, make course corrections.

The County of San Luis Obispo has been successful in implementing new and innovative programs that use evidence-based interventions and program evaluation. Examples include:

- Batterers Intervention Program (news article no longer available) (https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Probation/Probation-News/The-County-Launches-A-New-Batterer-s-Intervention-.aspx)

- SLO Health Counts (https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Health-Agency/Public-Health/Department-News/SLO-County-Health-Data-Now-at-Your-Fingertips.aspx)

- Mental Health Diversion Court & other Treatment Courts (https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Administrative-Office/Countywide-Projects-Programs/Stepping-Up-Initiative/Accomplishments.aspx)

The success of these programs highlights that the County has the knowledge and experience in using evidence-based practice to provide the most effective outcomes for its community members. Future reports will illustrate how the San Luis Obispo County community has benefited from the programs implemented because of the SLFRF funding provided.

Performance Reporting

While many projects have yet to start, other than the infrastructure projects, the County anticipates reporting on key performance indicators for its major projects in future reporting.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

	Category	Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	-	-
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	-	-
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing	-	-
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)	-	-
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment	-	-
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)	-	-
1.7	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (Including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)	-	-
1.8	COVID-19 Assistance to Small Businesses	-	-
1.09	COVID-19 Assistance to Non-Profits	-	-
1.10	COVID-19 Aid to Impacted Industries	-	-
1.11	Community Violence Interventions	-	-
1.12	Mental Health Services	-	-
1.13	Substance Use Services	-	-
1.14	Other Public Health Services	-	-
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	-	-
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid	-	-
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers	-	-
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs	-	-
2.5	Household Assistance: Paid Sick and Medical Leave	-	-
2.6	Household Assistance: Health Insurance	-	-
2.7	Household Assistance: Services for Un/Unbanked	-	-
2.8	Household Assistance: Survivor's Benefits	-	-
2.9	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers	-	-

	Category	Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.10	Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)	-	-
2.11	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care	-	-
2.12	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting	-	
2.13	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System	-	-
2.14	Healthy Childhood Environments: Early Learning	-	-
2.15	Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing	-	-
2.16	Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons	-	-
2.17	Housing Support: Housing Vouchers and Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities	-	-
2.18	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	-	-
2.19	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators	-	-
2.20	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation	-	-
2.21	Medical Facilities for Disproportionately Impacted Communities	-	-
2.22	Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety	-	-
2.23	Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation of Properties	-	-
2.24	Addressing Educational Disparities: Aid to High-Poverty Districts	-	-
2.25	Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services	-	-
2.26	Addressing Educational Disparities: Mental Health Services	-	-
2.27	Addressing Impacts of Lost Instructional Time	-	-
2.28	Contributions to UI Trust Funds	-	-
2.29	Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship	-	-
2.30	Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning	-	-
2.31	Rehabilitation of Commercial Properties or Other Improvements	-	-
2.32	Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance	-	-
2.33	Enhanced Support to Microbusinesses	-	-
2.34	Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)	-	-
2.35	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality	-	-
2.36	Aid to Other Impacted Industries	-	-
2.37	Economic Impact Assistance: Other	-	-
3	Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity		

	Category	Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
3.1	Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers	46,118	46,118
3.2	Public Sector Workforce: Rehiring Public Sector Staff	-	-
3.3	Public Sector Workforce: Other	-	-
3.4	Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery	-	-
3.5	Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs	-	-
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	-	-
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers	-	-
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	26,012	26,012
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance	-	-
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater	-	-
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows	-	-
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	36,498	36,498
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	-	-
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation	-	-
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation	1,042	1,042
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source	-	-
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment	-	-
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	167	167
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation	-	-
5.13	Drinking water: Source	153,814	153,814
5.14	Drinking water: Storage	39,766	39,766
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure	-	-
5.16	Water and Sewer: Private Wells	22,368	22,368
5.17	Water and Sewer: IIJA Bureau of Reclamation Match	-	-
5.18	Water and Sewer: Other	30,265	30,265
5.19	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects	7,776	7,776
5.20	Broadband: IIJA Match	-	-
5.17	Broadband: Other projects	-	-
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	5,047,161	5,047,161
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses	-	-
7.2	Transfers to Other Units of Government	-	-
7.3	Transfers to No entitlement Units (States and Territories only)	-	-

Project Inventory

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
Install New Storage Tank	PW1	3,100,000	5.14-Drinking water: Storage	The project will install a new welded steel water storage tank to meet Operations Fire and Emergency water storage requirements. Completion of the project will provide the community of Shandon (CSA 16) with adequate fire and emergency water storage to meet CA fire code. In addition, a new second tank will improve water service reliability and install new infrastructure to improve system resiliency and ensure an additional 50 years of service life.
Centre St Waterline Upgrade	PW2	1,400,000	5.11-Drinking water: Transmission & distribution	The project will implement upgrades in the Shandon/CSA16 drinking water system as recommended in the System Optimization and Preliminary Engineering Report (expected completion during 2022). The project will implement priority improvements including replacement of existing 6-inch diameter pipe with 10-inch pipe in Centre Street, replacement of aging pipeline in First Street, and replacement of water meters. Implementation of this project will result in improving the Shandon/CSA 16 system to meet normal daily demands optimize operations and improve fire flow.
Cyanotoxin Detection System	PW3	150,000	5.13-Drinking water: Source	Cyanotoxin Detection System (CDS) - Includes sampling and analytical equipment for monitoring cyanotoxins in raw water (surface water or groundwater under the influence of surface water), treat water, and recycled water systems with open reservoirs. Additional work will include updating the Cyanotoxin Management Plan. Harmful algal blooms (HABs) in freshwater systems are becoming increasingly common and present critical threats to drinking water systems and recreational waters. Cyanotoxins may enter a drinking water supply because of HAB growth in surface water, recycled water, and ground water under the direct influence of surface water. The monitoring and measurement of algal toxins is essential for the effective management of water resources and compliance with regulatory advisories

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
Replace Bolted Water Tank	PW4	1,000,000	5.14-Drinking water: Storage	The project will install a new welded steel water storage tank to meet Operations, Fire, and Emergency water storage requirements. Project activities include demolishing existing bolted water storage tank and replacing it with new welded steel water tank. The existing bolted steel water tank (157,500 gallons) is old and leaking. Completion of the project will provide the community of Santa Margarita (CSA 23) with adequate fire and emergency water storage to meet AWWA standards and CA fire code. In addition, a new second tank will reduce water losses through leakage add system resiliency and ensure an additional 50 years of service life
Install Water Storage Tank	PW5	1,000,000	5.14-Drinking water: Storage	The project proposes to install a new water storage tank with capacity of approximately 150,000 gallons. The recommended location for the new tank is next to the existing tank serving Avila Valley MWC, within the existing FC District easement on APN 076-521-002. There is an existing pipeline that connects the Avila Valley MWC tank to the Lopez Pipeline in Ontario Road. This pipeline will be connected to the proposed new tank at the tank site so there should be minimal additional disturbance for the pipeline connection and additional valving. There is an existing pipeline that connects the Avila Valley MWC tank to the Lopez Pipeline in Ontario Road. This pipeline will be connected to the proposed new tank at the tank site so there should be minimal additional disturbance for the pipeline connection and additional valving.

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
Install Water Storage Tank COC	PW6	2,750,000	5.14-Drinking water: Storage	Install new storage tank to improve site, storage, fire flow, and reduce the County Operations Centers dependency on California Men's Colony facilities. This project will install a new welded steel water storage tank with 200,000-gallon capacity and approximately 2,000 feet of new 8-inch pipe to connect to the distribution system near Woods Humane Society. The recommended location for the new tank is on the east side of the County Operations Center. A new water storage tank would improve site storage, fire flow, and reduce the County Operations Centers dependency on California Men's Colony facilities
Water Billing Software Hardware	PW7	50,000	5.18-Water & Sewer: Other	Upgrading our current Water billing database software to cloud based system offering streamlined billing and payment options to our customers. The new system will also offer additional reporting to better understand water usage for each residence within our CSAs.
Install New Storage Tank	PW8	1,480,000	5.14-Drinking water: Storage	Install new welded steel water storage tank to replace aging infrastructure to improve system resiliency for the Lopez Recreation Area, which serves the Lopez Lake Campground, Marina, and associated staff housing. Existing tank is deteriorated, in poor condition, and in need of replacement. A second tank will add redundancy and safety to the water system
Dry Well Health Inspections	PW9	100,000	5.8-Clean Water: Water conservation	Waive Health Permit fee inspection costs for dry well replacements during drought periods

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
Effluent Pump Station VFDs	PW11	275,000	5.1-Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Effluent pump station variable frequency drive (VFD) units will provide pressure control operation to the Los Osos Recycled Water Facility's recycled water system. Scope of work is to install enclosures within one of the plant's MCC rooms. These drives would replace the existing soft starters for the pumps to give a combination of reduced start up current draw, energy savings as well as giving better control over the pumps. The effluent pumps operate at varying flows. By installing the drive's operations will achieve flow adjustments through pressure setpoints and discharge pressure monitoring.
Cl2 Analyzer at the gate of treatment plant to measure residual after reaction p	PW12	150,000	5.1-Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	Providing a chlorine (CL2) analyzer saves Cl2 costs by providing a real time chlorine residual process variable to SCADA to trim chlorine dose to a setpoint thereby optimizing disinfection in the recycled water pipeline to recycled water users, while reducing aquifer THMs/HAAs to the subsurface leach fields by trimming overdosing. Current operation is chlorine dose is based on a flow process variable with no trim for chlorine consumed for disinfection in the pipeline. With varying recycled water disinfection demands and a time lag reaction in the pipeline before the demand is complete, the Cl2 analyzer sample point will be located far enough away from the dosing point to properly measure a more stabilized chlorine residual. Residual data measured by the analyzer will also be historically tracked by the plant's SCADA system.

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
Leach field Improvements Project	PW13	130,000	5.5-Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	Maintenance project involves upgrading equipment in the Los Osos Water Recycling System leach fields including replacing Cla-Val and flowmeter at Broderson leach field and replacing Cla-Val at Bayridge leach field. Existing Cla-Val valves are oversized for required flowrates and must be replaced with smaller valves that can be adjusted to meet actual flow requirements. Flowmeter at Broderson is necessary to better report flows discharged at Broderson leach field where no flowmeter exists, and staff must rely on calculating flows that involve meter readings taken at other locations throughout the day leading to inaccuracy.
Connections to other REW users	PW14	350,000	5.8-Clean Water: Water conservation	To reduce pumping demands in the Los Osos groundwater basin the Los Osos Recycled Water System has additional potential users that are not connected. Connections require plumbing modifications both off and onsite. Targeted connections will help reduce groundwater pumping for turf irrigation in the basin. The project will fund piping materials and appurtenances, required recycled water signs and purple sprinkler heads, etc. for users to incentivize their connection and use of recycled water. Connections identified will maximize use on large turf areas within the basin for businesses and agencies willing to connect.
Polishing Pond Effluent Pump Station Project	PW15	365,000	5.1-Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment	The existing effluent flowmeter and wet well at the Oak Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant have both reached the end of their service lives. This project is to restore the structural integrity of the wet well with either a modern precast concrete or FRP structure and upgrade the treatment plant's effluent flowmeter. In addition, the wastewater plant's finishing pond has become an excessive quantity of sewage sludge affecting proper treatment with a potential for fines to the system. The sludge will be removed. The effluent suction piping in the pond will be inspected for subsurface damage and repaired.

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
CSA 7A Interceptor Design Development Project	PW16	600,000	5.5-Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure	The Oak Shores Sewer Collection System's sewer interceptor is exposed in several areas along the Nacimiento reservoir shoreline, a drinking water supply. During high lake levels, the interceptor is completely submerged beneath the lake. A sewer spill that would shut down the lake operation including service to downstream water users, which include major cities in north San Luis Obispo County. The sewer interceptor, a 45+ year old existing pipe is ductile iron pipe and is pitting on the outside. This project would only cover efforts to achieve bid documents. This project is needed to evaluate the system and design a solution for repairing and/or replacing the sewer interceptor pipeline for the community of Oak Shores that substantially reduces the risk of a sewer spill into the lake, or a substantial inflow of lake water into the sewer interceptor. Consulting services are needed to make a condition assessment of the existing sewer system that is approaching the end of its service life, perform geotechnical evaluations, and develop alternatives and project phasing and an initial final design of a sewer interceptor bypass/replacement project.
Study Alternatives to mitigate community flooding from increasing tide levels	PW22	100,000	5.6-Clean Water: Stormwater	Study to identify a preferred solution to reduce the risk of flooding to homes, businesses, roads, and the public parking lot near First Street in Avila Beach. An in-depth study is necessary to identify a feasible/preferred solution and develop the scope and budget to seek funding for implementation of a project that will reduce flooding risks. Protection of public and private property from flooding. Water quality improvements for San Luis Obispo Creek, Avila Beach Lagoon, and San Luis Bay. Decreased operational costs for County Roads to respond to potential flooding.

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
Fiber to DSS Paso Robles	PW23	270,000	5.19-Broadband: Last Mile projects	Install fiber optic cable and conduit to the Department of Social Services building. Extending county fiber to the site will provide more reliable connectivity with greater bandwidth for both improved client services to the Social Services Department and Health Agency as both will connect to the fiber.
Extend fiber to DSS in Arroyo Grande	PW24	650,000	5.19-Broadband: Last Mile projects	Install fiber optic cable and conduit to the Department of Social Services. Extending county fiber to the site will provide more reliable connectivity with greater bandwidth for the Social Services Department client services.
Fiber to South County Regional Center	PW25	240,000	5.19-Broadband: Last Mile projects	Install fiber optic cable and conduit to the South County Regional Center. Extending county fiber to the site will provide more reliable connectivity with greater bandwidth for clients served by the county departments located at the South County Regional Center.
Fiber to DSS Atascadero	PW26	740,000	5.19-Broadband: Last Mile projects	Install fiber optic cable and conduit to the Department of Social Services. Extending county fiber to the site will provide more reliable connectivity with greater bandwidth for the Social Services Department to better serve clients.
Fiber to DSS Morro Bay	PW27	100,000	5.19-Broadband: Last Mile projects	Install fiber optic cable and conduit to the Department of Social Services. Extending county fiber to the site will provide more reliable connectivity with greater bandwidth for serves to clients of the Social Services Department.

Project	Project Number	Adopted Budget	Subcategory	Project Description
Public Health COVID Response	PH BAR 2122074	149,432	3.1 -Public Sector Workforce Payroll and Benefits for Public Health Public Safety or Human Services Workers	Staffing augmentations to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Public Health Department, to provide critical resources in support of a broad range of COVID-19 response activities, including Human Resources and Finance support; Public Information communications; and ongoing Information Technology (IT) support received. Staff will prioritize activities to support those most vulnerable to the impacts of the disease and to support overall operations of the pandemic response.
Restoration of Govt Services	Admin#1	11 million	6.1 Provision of Government Services	The County chose to allocate $11M of its ARPA award eligible under the Revenue Replacement Eligible Use category to County operations by soliciting requests from departments for needs meeting the intent of ARPA regulations. Department requests were prioritized based on the extent of direct pandemic impacts to the department or to individuals served by the department. Requests were further evaluated and prioritized based on the strength of nexus to a service, program, or population impacted by the pandemic. Departmental revenue shortfalls related to the pandemic were also considered. A recommended departmental allocation to departments was approved by the County Board of Supervisors in January 2022.