

State of Louisiana Recovery Plan

American Rescue Plan Act - State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
2021 Report



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State of Louisiana

2021 Recovery Plan

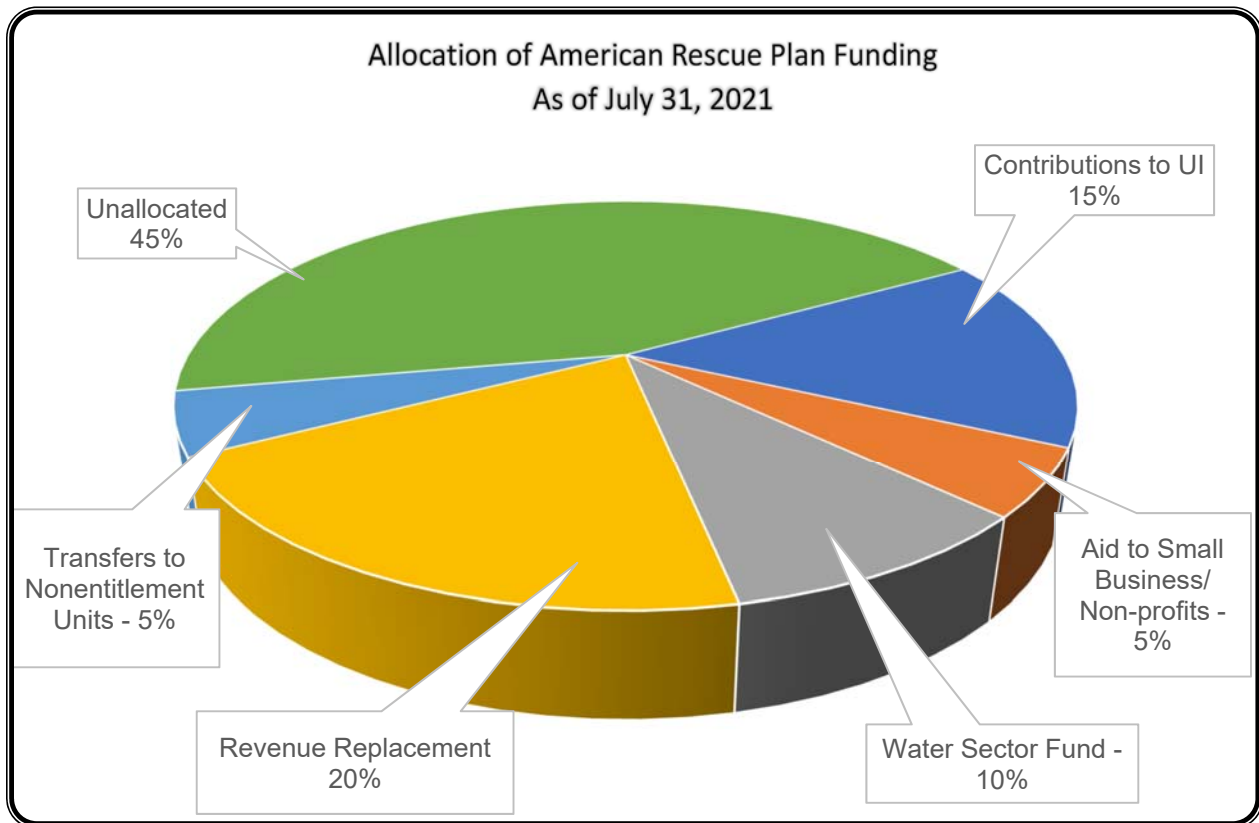
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Executive Summary

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by President Biden. Pursuant to Section 9901 of ARPA, Sections 602(b) and 603(b) were added to the Social Security Act (the Act), establishing the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, which together make up the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, as authorized by the Department of the Treasury (the Treasury). As part of this program, the Treasury has transferred over \$3 billion to the State of Louisiana (the State) to provide support for the State's response to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19. The Treasury has also allocated \$315.5 million for distribution to non-entitlement units of local government (NEUs) throughout the state and transferred the first tranche of this allocation to the state in June 2021.

The State's response to the impacts of the pandemic and the allocation of the SLFRF funding was a focus and priority throughout the State Legislature's 2021 Regular Legislative Session. The Louisiana Legislature passed Act 410 to immediately appropriate \$1.6 billion of this funding to new state programs focused on statewide recovery efforts. The State has allocated funding to replenish Federal payments made to the State's Unemployment (UI) Trust Fund, which was depleted during the height of the pandemic, to invest in critical water and sewer infrastructure, and to assist those small businesses and industries with significant negative impacts as a result of the pandemic.



Uses of Funds

Overview

The Act defines four general eligible uses and provides broad flexibility within these use categories for the recipients to best meet the needs of their communities. SLFRF Funds may be used for public health and economic impacts, premium pay, revenue loss, and investments in infrastructure. The State is currently implementing programs to distribute the first \$1.6 million in SLFRF funding to provide relief in many of the critically impacted industries and populations throughout the state.

Responding to the Public Health Emergency or its Negative Impacts

An immediate impact of the pandemic was the exponential growth in unemployment rates nationwide. Only a few months into the pandemic, the State's UI trust fund was depleted. The Federal government provided loans to states in order to provide critical assistance to workers who lost their jobs due to pandemic-related shutdowns and restrictions. The State appropriated \$490 million of SLFRF funding, in House Bill 1 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session, to repay the federal government for the federal unemployment insurance (UI) Title XII advances and to replenish the balance of the fund which was depleted by the unprecedented needs during the pandemic.

Though the pandemic had widespread effects on all people and businesses, certain industries and small businesses experienced detrimental impacts due to the type of service provided, statewide shutdowns of businesses due to social distancing requirements, the shortage of qualified workers, and other industry or size related restrictions. The programs created for the distribution of SLFRF funding focus on those entities in the most critical need of assistance for business continuity.

- The Nonprofit & Small Business Assistance Program, <https://esweb.revenue.louisiana.gov/SmallBusinessAssistance/Eligibility/>, will provide grants, of not greater than \$25 thousand, to eligible nonprofits and small businesses to assist in the administration of COVID-19 response and relief efforts.
- The Tourism Revival Program, <https://wwwcfprd.doa.louisiana.gov/TourismPortal/>, will support the efforts of state, local, and regional tourism entities to revive tourism in Louisiana by investing in programs focused on marketing and promoting Louisiana as a destination for in-state and out-of-state travel activity.
- The Port Relief Program, <https://wwwcfprd.doa.louisiana.gov/PortReliefProgram/>, will provide funding to Louisiana port authorities for revenue loss and reimbursement of expenses related to COVID-19 and port security measures.
- The Save Our Screens Program, <https://www.treasury.la.gov/screens-loggers>, will distribute grants, not exceeding ten thousand dollars per movie screen located in Louisiana, to eligible movie theater businesses impacted by COVID-19.
- The Louisiana Loggers Relief Program, <https://www.treasury.la.gov/screens-loggers>, will provide grants, not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars per business, to eligible timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses impacted by COVID-19.

- Major Events Fund will provide funding for entities within the state for the costs associated with attracting, hosting, and staging major events of area-wide, statewide, regional, national, or international prominence.
- Healthcare Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (HERO) Fund will provide for the current and growing needs of the nursing and allied health fields as well as to provide support and incentives to the healthcare fields.

Investments in and Improvements to Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure

The unprecedented effects of the pandemic also include a new focus on the critical needs related to water and sewer infrastructure across the state. The shift in usage and new stress placed on certain water and sewer systems highlighted the need for clean drinking water in all communities and exposed weaknesses in existing sewer systems. In response, the Water Sector Fund (WSF) was created to fund repairs, improvements, and consolidations of water and sewer systems as well as repairs and improvements necessitated by storm water.

The investment in broadband has become an even more critical need during the pandemic as businesses moved to remote work and schools implemented virtual education. Nearly every facet of everyday life has some reliance on technology and millions of Americans are without access to dependable internet in their homes. The state has dedicated ARPA-Capital Projects funding to a new grant program, Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities (GUMBO) program, which was created to fund broadband expansion statewide. The application period for the GUMBO program will begin on November 1, 2021. Additional details about this and other state broadband programs can be accessed via the Louisiana Division of Administration's Broadband Development and Connectivity website, <https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/comm/broadband-development-and-connectivity/>.

Revenue Replacement - Provision of Government Services

ARPA-SLFRF guidance provides for the calculation of revenue loss for the State as of four calculation dates beginning with December 31, 2020. As of the first calculation date, the State has calculated a revenue loss of \$1,983.71 million

The State plans to utilize SLFRF funding to programs to address critical needs including roads and bridges infrastructure, capital outlay projects, and rebuilding in the underserved areas of Southwest Louisiana that were faced with two major hurricanes during the height of the pandemic.

Additional State Programs under the American Rescue Plan Act

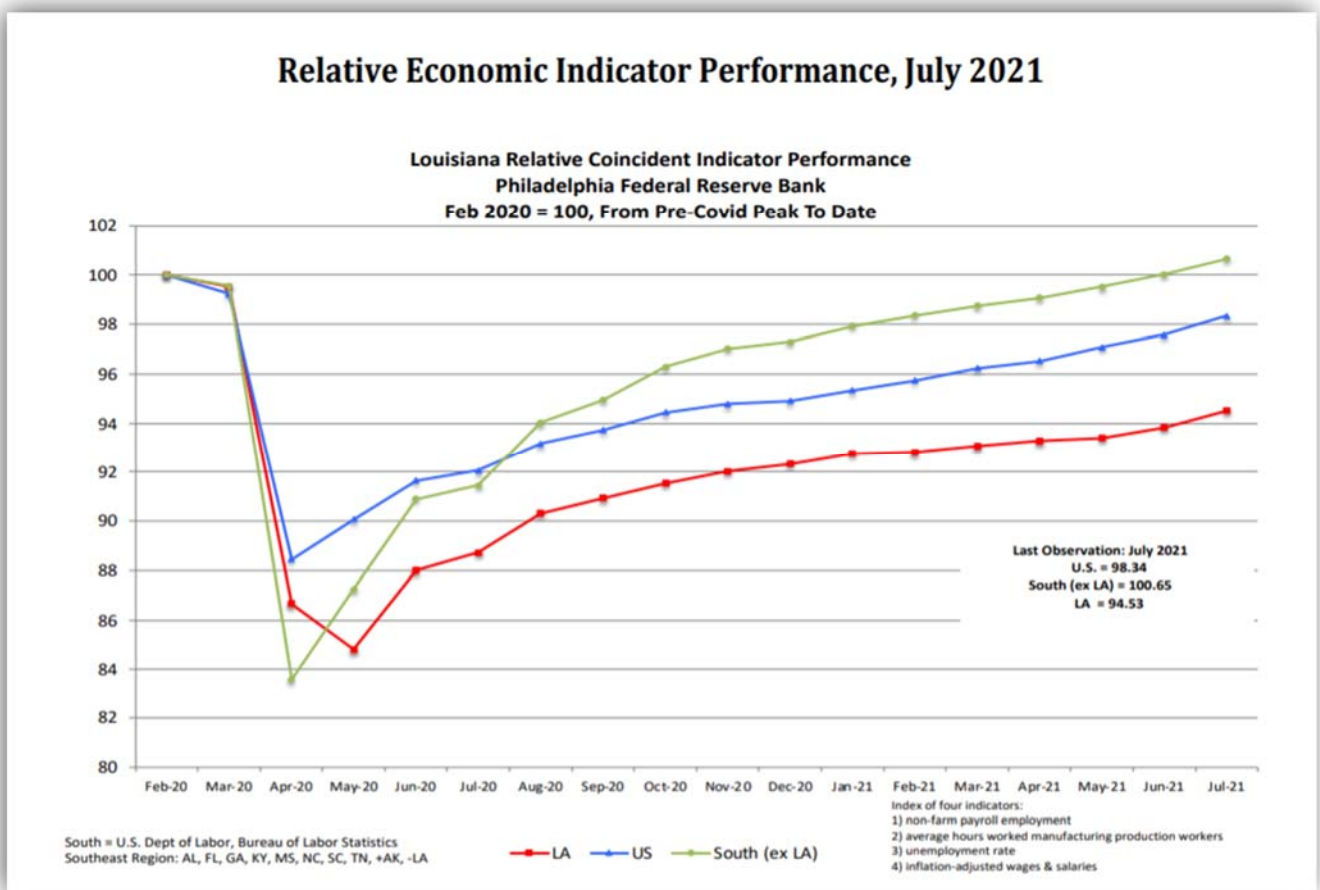
The State created a portal for the distribution of funds to the 291 NEUs within the state. Following Federal guidance and FAQs released on the NEU distributions by the Treasury, the State announced the program to all NEUs prior to receiving funds. The State's NEU portal collects the information and supporting documentation from the NEUs in order to determine eligibility. Progress made in this program will be announced in future reports.

Additional programs are currently in progress or will be launched soon including Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) - <https://www.lastaterent.com>, Capital Projects Fund programs, Homeowners' Assistance Programs - <https://www.lacovidhousing.com>, and Broadband Infrastructure programs - <https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/comm/broadband-development-and-connectivity>. Each of these

programs will be funded by additional ARPA-related funding outside of the SLFRF funding. Details regarding program launch and progress will be reported to the Treasury periodically as required by each funding program.

Promoting equitable outcomes

Louisiana was affected early on by the COVID-19 pandemic and has consistently reported high concentrations of cases throughout the pandemic. A report¹ by the state’s economist, Greg Albrecht, in July 2021, shows Louisiana’s sharp drop in economic indicator performance began in March 2020. Despite steadily increasing economic indicators since that time, as of July 2021, Louisiana remains 5.47% lower than March 2020, and lags behind both the average of southeastern states and the nation.



¹ Legislative Fiscal Office, Greg Albrecht, Chief Economist, July 2021 - http://lfo.louisiana.gov/files/revenue/1_RelPhillieIndicators_07_21_Covid.pdf

The State has allocated funds to specific needs related to recovering from the pandemic including targeted programs focused on those groups most significantly affected by the pandemic. As we establish these focused recovery programs, we are considering the specific impacts within each group of eligible applicants and identifying any sub-groups that may exist in order to promote the most equitable outcomes in each program. For instance, the replenishment of the UI Trust Fund aids the State in providing assistance to those who lost their jobs due to the pandemic.

Another example of promoting equitable outcomes is the State's focus on impacted industries, for instance, the MSRP – Save Our Screens and Louisiana Loggers Relief Programs. Louisiana's top community is the forest industry with more than 15M acres of state forest, valued at 3.49B in 2018². The impact of COVID-19 on the industry, coupled with \$1.25B in damages from Hurricanes Laura and Delta, were critical factors in the legislature directing the use of \$10M in ARP funds as economic relief to the industry. Similarly, Louisiana's movie theatres and theatres nationally have experienced an 80% reduction in ticket sales, or the worst sales in 40 years³.

We have considered program specific inequities that may naturally occur and have developed requirements to appropriately address these identified inequities and potentially refocus the programs as needed. We will also extend this awareness throughout the life of the programs and adjust requirements as necessary. Where appropriate, we plan to track data and demographics that will provide the ability to report on the equity of the recovery efforts including closing gaps, reaching universal levels of service, or disaggregating progress by race, ethnicity, and other equity dimensions.

Community Engagement

The State's allocation of ARPA – SLFRF funding was appropriated by the State Legislature through the State's statutorily required legislative process. During this process, all planned appropriations are heard by legislative committees in public meetings prior to passage into law. Members of the public may testify before these committees to express opinions and present alternative plans for use of funding. The Governor and members of the Legislature engage with the citizens of the State, including special interest groups, as part of the Legislative appropriation process. As the programs are launched, the administrators of each program will remain engaged with the citizens of the State so that the needs of the most vulnerable citizens are appropriately addressed.

Labor Practices

² Highlights of Louisiana Agriculture, Baton Rouge, LA: LSU Agriculture Center Communications, 2018.

³ Sarah Whitten, This Chart Shows 2020 had a chance to break box office records, but Covid caused lowest haul in decades, CNBC, December 29, 2020.

The State will include fair labor practices as the policies for ARPA infrastructure projects are developed. Currently, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) monitors federally funded construction projects over \$200,000 with prevailing wage requirements (the Davis Bacon Act) to ensure workers in various classifications are paid correctly for work being performed. These construction contracts contain standard specifications that address compliance requirements for prevailing wage requirements. Information pertinent to compliance with Prevailing wages is obtained and determined by local Workforce Development Areas through surveys conducted throughout the state. As projects are implemented, the State will report on additional labor practices that are required and included in the policies.

Use of Evidence

In determining the best use of SLFRF funding, the State considered all impacts of the pandemic in order to develop the best programs for the most critical needs of Louisianans. Within the project inventory descriptions, details regarding the evidence used to support each critical need are identified.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category as of July 31, 2021

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date (\$)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*	490,000,000	490,000,000

Project Inventory

As of July 31, 2021, the State has allocated over fifty percent of the SLFRF funding to the programs discussed within this plan and will report progress by project as funding activity begins. The projects currently allocated SLFRF funding are described below by expenditure category. Additional information including performance reporting will be included in future reports.

Project SLFRF1LA, Replenishment of UI Trust Fund - \$490 million

2.8 - Replenishment of UI Trust Fund

The State appropriated \$490 million of SLFRF funding, in House Bill 1 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session, to repay the federal government for the federal unemployment insurance (UI) Title XII advances and to replenish the balance of the fund which was depleted by the unprecedented needs during the pandemic.

Project SLFRF2LA, Louisiana Small Business and Nonprofit Assistance Program - \$10 million

2.9/2.10 – Small Business Economic Assistance (General)/ Aid to nonprofit organizations



The Louisiana Nonprofit & Small Business Assistance Program (*Louisiana Revised Statute (LRS) 39:100.44.2*) will be administered by the Louisiana Department of Revenue (“LDR”) and will provide grants, of not greater than \$25 thousand, to eligible nonprofits and small businesses to assist in the administration of COVID-19 response and relief efforts.

The acceptable uses of grant funds will depend on whether the applicant is a nonprofit or a small business. As part of the application process, applicants will be required to explain how the services and activities will assist in the COVID-19 response and relief efforts. Applicants should understand that these grant funds are taxpayer dollars received from the federal government, and strict compliance with federal law and guidelines is required.

For nonprofits, grant funding must be used to provide aid to individuals impacted by COVID-19. Priority consideration shall be given to nonprofit organizations that provide programs related to food, employment assistance, and education assistance. These activities and services must be made available to the broader community and not restricted to the nonprofits’ membership, congregation, or other limited groups. For churches and other houses of worship, there is no prohibition on religious liberties such as providing a Bible or other religious materials at the same time as offering these activities and services. However, the activities and services must be freely given and not in return for commitments to join or donate to a particular organization. Examples of eligible uses of grants funds include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Creating tutoring or afterschool programs to address educational disparities exacerbated by COVID-19.
- Creating job training programs to accelerate rehiring for unemployed workers.
- Creating an unemployed workers assistance fund to assist with transportation to and from a jobsite or interview, childcare assistance, or other rehiring efforts.

For small businesses, grant funding is available to provide workforce development activities, to current or prospective employees or the general public, that directly address a negative economic impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The funds must be used to develop Louisiana’s workforce by increasing the ability to secure and maintain gainful employment in light of the negative economic impacts of the pandemic. Priority will be given to those small businesses that can demonstrate the most impactful use of grant funds in the workforce development activity. These include any program, service, or activity that involves workforce preparation, vocational skills training, or that improves an individual’s employment opportunities, such as basic education, academic education, vocational, technical, or occupational education, job readiness training, or job search training.

Project SLFRF3LA, Louisiana Tourism Revival Program – \$77.5 million

2.11 - Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality



The negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in Louisiana were devastating. In fact, the pandemic cut visitor spending in the State by \$5.3 billion in 2020⁴. The Tourism Revival Program was created to support the efforts of state, local, and regional tourism entities to revive tourism in Louisiana by investing in programs focused on marketing and promoting Louisiana as a destination for in-state and out-of-state travel activity.

The Division of Administration (“DOA”) has established a portal into which applications for grants from the program shall be submitted. Notification of the establishment of this portal has been provided to the Louisiana Travel Association and all eligible tourism entities throughout the State. Grants will be awarded exclusively to official tourism commissions (“commissions”), convention and visitors bureaus (“bureaus”), and official destination marketing organizations (“organizations”) and will be based upon proof of “negative economic impact” incurred by the commission, bureau or organization.

Tourism Revival grants will be awarded by DOA based upon the receipt, review and approval of audited financial statements for calendar years 2019 and 2020. The difference in revenue between the two years shall be deemed the “negative economic impact” on each eligible commission, bureau or organization. Grants will be awarded, on a pro rata basis, depending upon the total calculated impact of all applicants. Total awards for the program will be \$60 million.

The commissions, bureaus and organizations may spend grant funds and/or distribute grant funds to local and regional agencies located within their respective jurisdictional boundaries by investing in programs focused on marketing and promoting Louisiana as a destination for in-state and out-of-state travel activity. Grant recipients will be required to report on the

⁴ Louisiana Office of Tourism – *Economic Impact of Visitors in Louisiana in 2020*, by Tourism Economics, <https://www.crt.state.la.us/Assets/Tourism/research/documents/2020-2021/2020%20Louisiana%20Tourism%20Economic%20Impact%20Report%20FINAL%20REV.pdf>

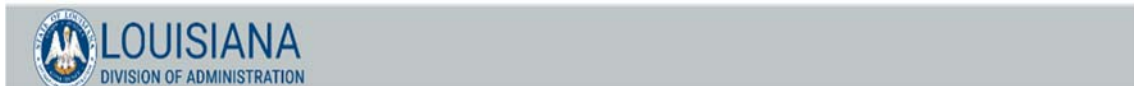
use of funds to DOA on a quarterly basis. Recipients must demonstrate that the awarded funds are expended, in accordance with ARPA-SLFRF, for one of the following purposes:

- to reimburse the loss of statutorily enabled revenues;
- to market, sell, promote, communicate and engage in activities that generate professional meetings and other events that create financial gain for and economic recovery on behalf of Louisiana workers and businesses, attractions, venues and other hospitality related enterprises;
- to drive economic gain that generates jobs recovery and re-creation of hospitality employment and to assist in efforts to provide job opportunities for and the connection of hospitality workers to career paths;
- to enable the restoration of festivals, major sporting events and international air travel; and/or
- to stimulate and incentivize the return of professional meetings, conferences, conventions, tradeshow and other gatherings.

An additional allocation of \$17.5 million in ARPA-SLFRF funds was allocated by the Legislature to the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism to support the Department's recovery efforts that are geared towards the tourism and hospitality industry.

Project SLFRF4LA, Louisiana Port Relief Fund – \$50 million

2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries



The Port Relief Fund was created to provide funding to Louisiana port authorities for revenue loss and reimbursement of expenses related to COVID-19 and port security measures.

The Division of Administration (“DOA”) has established a portal into which applications for grants from the Program shall be submitted. A pro rata share of the funds will be allocated and distributed to each port authority that qualifies for an award. In order to qualify for an award, port authorities must have had a physical and active operation in Louisiana as of March 1, 2020 and must have experienced a loss of gross revenue for the period of March 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Revenue loss is indicative of a negative impact of the pandemic on the industry. Applicants will provide proof of actual revenue for fiscal years 2019 and 2020, as well as 2021, if available. Upon the receipt, review, and approval of proof of revenue (financial statements or equivalent), awards will be calculated using the applicant's pro rata share of the program funding based on the entity's revenue loss. Reimbursement of port security expenses will be verified and awarded following the receipt, review, and approval of invoices and proof of payment.

Project SLFRF5LA, Louisiana Main Street Recovery Plan (MSRP) - Save Our Screens/Louisiana Loggers Relief Program – \$14.5 million

2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries



**LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF
TREASURY**



John M. Schroder



The Save Our Screens Program will distribute grants, not exceeding ten thousand dollars per movie screen located in Louisiana, to eligible movie theater businesses impacted by COVID-19. The Louisiana Loggers Relief Program will provide grants, not exceeding \$25 thousand dollars per business, to eligible timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses impacted by COVID-19.

To implement the programs directed by the Louisiana Legislature, the Louisiana Department of Treasury partnered with the Louisiana Forestry Association, the Louisiana Logging Association, and Theatre Owners of Mid-America to identify eligible applicants, hold webinars, and coordinate outreach activities. The application portal for both programs will be available on September 10, 2021, and by law will cease making awards on January 30, 2022. The link to the portal can be found on the Louisiana Department of Treasury website: <https://www.treasury.la.gov/> under the heading “Screens/Loggers.”

Project SLFRF6LA, Major Events Fund – \$10 million

2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries

The Major Events Fund was established to provide funding for entities within the state for the costs associated with attracting, hosting, and staging major events of area-wide, statewide, regional, national, or international prominence. No additional information is available on this program at this time.

Project SLFRF7LA, Healthcare Employment Reinvestment Opportunity (HERO) Fund – \$5 million

2.13 Other Economic Support

The HERO Fund was created to meet the current and growing needs of the nursing and allied health fields as well as to provide support and incentives to these healthcare field. Additional information will be provided in future reports.

Project SLFRF8LA, Water Sector Fund (WSF) - \$300 million

5.1 – 5.15 Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure

The Water Sector Fund (WSF) was created to fund repairs, improvements, and consolidations of water and sewer systems as well as repairs and improvements necessitated by storm water.

DOA has established a portal into which applications for grants from the Program shall be submitted. The applications will be reviewed by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) based on documentation submitted and data available to the reviewing agency. Louisiana Office of Community Development – Local Government Assistance and Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control will review scores submitted by LDH and DEQ and develop funding recommendations for submittal to the Water Sector Commission. A maximum of \$5 million will be allowed per application except for projects involving a consolidation of systems which can aggregate based on a \$5 million cap for each system involved in the project. An exception to the cap may be granted if approved by the Water Sector Commission and Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

The following are types of projects that are eligible under this program:

- Improvements to enable systems to comply with drinking water regulations.
- Infrastructure capital improvements, including the installation and replacement of failing treatment and distribution systems.
- Consolidation of existing drinking water systems.
- Construct, improve, and repair wastewater treatment plants.
- Control non-point sources of pollution.
- Improve resilience of infrastructure to severe weather events.
- Create green infrastructure.
- Protect waterbodies from pollution.
- Storm water repairs and improvements.

Ineligible activities include development of new systems for new housing construction or developments, improvements to eligible water/sewer systems owned by federal agencies, improvements to eligible water/sewer systems to foster growth, and refinancing debt of eligible water/sewer systems.

Scoring criteria for project review will be based on project severity and needs, consolidation, resiliency, sustainability, if the project is ready to proceed, and the amount of local cost share.

Project SLFRF9LA, Southwest Louisiana Hurricane Recovery Fund - \$30 million

6.1 Provision of Government Services

The Southwest Louisiana Hurricane Recovery fund was established to assist in repairing structural damages caused by the 2020 hurricane season in Southwest Louisiana and was allocated \$30 million of ARPA-SLFRF funding. Act 119 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session (HB 1) directed disbursement of the \$30 million in ARPA funds, pursuant to Schedule 20-945 (State Aid To Local Government entities), to twelve (12) recipients. The State Treasury has reached out to the 12 recipient entities via e-mail to notify them of the pending release of funds. Each recipient will be required to sign a Cooperative Endeavor

Agreement (CEA) and agree to comply with the program and expenditure reporting requirements for the use of the appropriation.

These recipients will provide written quarterly Progress Reports outlining the resources, initiatives, activities, services and performance consistent with the provisions, goals and objectives of the CEA and quarterly Cost Reports outlining the use of the appropriated funds. Adequate supporting documentation (including copies of invoices, checks and other appropriate records reflecting expenses incurred) will be required to be attached to the reports when submitted. All original documentation supporting the reports shall be maintained by the entities and shall be subject to audit.

Project SLFRF10LA, Construction Sub of TTF – \$563 million

6.1 Provision of Government Services

A critical need in the state is roads and bridges infrastructure. With the decreases in revenue that were caused by the pandemic, less state funding was available for allocation to these infrastructure projects. In accordance with Treasury guidance, the State allocated SLFRF funding to the Construction Subfund of the Transportation Trust Fund. DOTD administers the fund and operates with the mission to plan, design, build and sustain a safe and reliable multimodal transportation and infrastructure system that enhances mobility and economic opportunity.

There are 2 methods to identify projects to be added to the Highway Priority Program. The first method is to gather and analyze data. This analysis involves the consideration of the condition of the road, how the road operates, safety, and the congestion on the road. The second method is to seek customer input from the public, state and local elected officials, the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), regional and local planning officials as well as other state and federal agencies during the legislative public hearings and year round through letters, emails, and meetings.

DOTD Districts and the MPOs rank the projects based on technical analysis and customer input. The District then submits the suggested projects to the Project Selection Teams. The Project Selection Team makes the final selections based on District recommendations, technical analysis, customer input, available funding and the State Long Range Plan.

Per LRS 48 Section 229.1, DOTD must consider the following 8 objectives when prioritizing and selecting projects:

1. Brings the state highway system into a good state of repair and optimizes the usage and efficiency of existing transportation facilities.
2. Improves safety for motorized and non-motorized highway users and communities.
3. Supports resiliency in the transportation system, including safe evacuation of populations when necessitated by catastrophic events such as hurricanes and floods.
4. Increases accessibility for people, goods, and services.
5. Fosters diverse economic development and job growth, international and domestic commerce, and tourism.
6. Fosters multi-modalism, promotes a variety of transportation and travel options, and encourages intermodal connectivity.
7. Encourages innovation and the use of technology.

8. Protects the environment, reduces emissions, and improves public health and quality of life.

The selected projects are assembled into the proposed Highway Priority Program. The proposed Highway Priority Program is then submitted to the House and Senate Transportation Committees. The Joint Transportation Committee holds public hearings throughout the state for the Highway Priority Program and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Final decision on the Highway Priority Program rests with the House and Senate Transportation Committees and ultimately the full Legislature.

DOTD intends to provide budget relief to the following projects throughout the state of Louisiana along with an addition \$30 million for the Port Priority Program and \$20 million for rail and transit programs.

Project SLFRF11LA, Appropriations to the Capital Outlay Relief Fund – \$35 million

6.1 Provision of Government Services

Capital Outlay Projects are state construction projects that are reviewed and evaluated in accordance with constitutional and statutory provisions and eliminated from funding if they are deemed not feasible. These projects receive appropriations of state and federal funding. As SLFRF funding is allocated to these projects, additional details will be included in Treasury reporting.

Project SLFRF12LA, Legislative Capitol Technology Enhancement - \$15 million

6.1 Provision of Government Services

All expenditures from the fund shall be used by the Budgetary Control Council to fund construction, improvements, maintenance, renovations, repairs, and necessary additions to legislative chambers/meeting rooms, and other areas of the capitol complex for audio-visual and technology enhancements.

Project SLFRF13LA, Transfers to Non-entitlement Units - 1st Tranche

7.4 Transfers to Nonentitlement Units

The State began outreach to NEUs in May 2021. Many of the towns and villages throughout the state are not accustomed to the processes and procedures involved in receiving Federal funding. The Louisiana Office of Community Development dedicated employees to individualized outreach efforts ahead of the transfer of funding from the Treasury. Once funds were received in June 2021, the application portal was opened for all NEUs to accept funding and to provide budget and payment information. Distributions of funds began in the summer of 2021 as the State continued outreach to the remainder of the NEUs to provide every opportunity to each of them to accept funding before deeming these entities non-responsive.

Performance Report

There is no program specific performance to report on at this time. As the programs are launched, most during the second half of 2021, we will track performance indicators and report on each program as appropriate in the 2022 Recovery Plan, and going forward.

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision

The Tax Offset Provision is not relevant to the State's planned uses of SLFRF funds. There is no information to report.