Southern Economic Advancement Project (SEAP)

Energy & Environment in Local ARP Spending
SEAP partners with policy thinkers and doers to amplify their efforts and bridge gaps in policy infrastructure. We act as a connector, convener, and policy entrepreneur across issues and states, translating good ideas to the Southern context. Our goal is to advance policies that improve economic security, healthcare access, and environmental justice for all Southerners.

www.theseap.org
Six Laws that Funded Pandemic Relief Programs

Source: https://www.pandemicoversight.gov/data-interactive-tools/funding-overview
American Rescue Plan: What is it?

Source: https://www.pandemicoversight.gov/data-interactive-tools/funding-overview
Local Recovery Funds: What to know first

The amount of funding is **significant**, and the shape of the program is very **flexible**

- **Cities/counties will each decide how to spend their SLFRF**
  - First time that all local governments have received money directly, without asking
  - First half (“tranche”) arrived Summer 2021, second half arriving now
  - Lots of time to decide how to use funds (decisions are required by 12/31/2024)
  - Additional time to complete spending (spending is required by 12/31/2026)

**Equity and community engagement are at the forefront of Treasury guidance.**

- **US Treasury guidelines say that local governments should:**
  - engage with residents to set priorities for spending
  - consider how SLFRF can support the most vulnerable, disproportionately impacted community members
  - seek transformative, strategic investments to help communities move forward
  - should be transparent, so residents can understand how these funds will be used
## Recovery In Action: Utility Assistance

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louisville-Jefferson County, KY</td>
<td>Negative Economic Impacts</td>
<td><strong>Utility Assistance Program</strong>&lt;br&gt;The purpose of this project is to pay electric and water/sewer expenses for residents who would otherwise have their utilities turned off.</td>
<td>$5 million</td>
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<td>Prince William County, VA</td>
<td>Negative Economic Impacts</td>
<td><strong>Community Alliance Program</strong>&lt;br&gt;County is partnering with the Human Services Alliance to administer grants to non-profit and faith-based groups who provide support to underserved COVID-19 impacted residents: rental assistance, mortgage assistance, utilities assistance, childcare support, emergency shelter, employment support, mental and behavioral health assistance.</td>
<td>$10 million</td>
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<td>Arlington County, VA</td>
<td>Revenue Replacement</td>
<td><strong>Eviction Prevention Program</strong>&lt;br&gt;Provides COVID-impacted residents with assistance to help cover the housing costs of rent, mortgages, arrearages, security deposits, and utilities as necessary to avoid evictions.</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pompano Beach, FL</td>
<td>Negative Economic Impacts</td>
<td><strong>Small Business Relief Program</strong>&lt;br&gt;Provide up to $25,000 in assistance to small businesses impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic to help mitigate financial hardship, such as declines in revenues or impacts of periods of business closure, for example by supporting payroll and benefits costs, costs to retain employees, mortgage, rent, or utilities costs, and other operating costs.</td>
<td>$2.5 million</td>
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### Additional Examples:
- Washington Cty, AR
- Lexington, KY
- Tucker, GA
- Chatham Cty, GA
- Fulton Cty, GA
- Plantation, FL
- Nashville, TN
- Gaston Cty, NC
- Glynn Cty, GA
- Winston Salem, NC
- Columbus, GA
- Lincoln Cty, NC
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<td>Danville, VA</td>
<td>Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities</td>
<td><strong>Energy Efficiency</strong></td>
<td>$1 million</td>
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<td>Develop and implement an energy efficiency program for low-income utility customers. Program will provide financial assistance to assess the customer's residence and utility consumption, as well as help offset the cost of energy efficiency measures, such as insulation of walls/attics, and installation of energy efficient appliances, windows, etc. to provide customers ongoing savings with utility costs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palm Beach County, FL</td>
<td>Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities</td>
<td><strong>Housing - Owner Occupied Housing Rehab</strong></td>
<td>$10 million</td>
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<td>Funding will be provided to income eligible homeowners to assist with substantial rehabilitation to correct code violations or incipient items that will become a code violation, eliminate housing conditions, which threaten the life, health or safety of occupants, connect residents to public utilities, and adapt residences to meet accessibility.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prince George County, MD</td>
<td>Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities</td>
<td><strong>Housing Rehab Assistance Program</strong></td>
<td>$1 million</td>
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<td>Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland (Habitat) will implement the ARPA Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program (ARPA - HRAP). The ARPA-HRAP program will provide income-qualified homeowners with Critical Home Repair, Accessibility and Weatherization improvements.</td>
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## Recovery In Action: Infrastructure

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<td>Deltona, FL</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td><strong>Water Meter Replacement Project</strong>&lt;br&gt;42.68% of the residents of Deltona identify as low- or moderate-income households. The system can achieve substantial impacts and benefits for customers and utilities, including reduced costs for metering and billing, more customer control over consumption and improved billing accuracy and leak detection.</td>
<td>$11 million</td>
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<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td><strong>HVAC/Air Quality in Schools</strong>&lt;br&gt;Improve ventilation and air quality in public schools through HVAC replacement. (Plus $50M for HVACs at Readiness Centers, $4 million at assisted living centers, $50M at behavioral health, $2M at museums)</td>
<td>$250 million ($500M total)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>Revenue Replacement</td>
<td><strong>Solar/Energy Storage Initiative</strong>&lt;br&gt;Provide solar equipment and battery storage as part of a pilot implementation program to assess the ability of this technology to effectively enhance climate resilience at one- or more City facilities to support continuous facility use for emergency operations and sheltering.</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
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<td>Collier County, FL</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td><strong>Collier GM – Harbor &amp; Holiday Lanes Stormwater Management, Green Infrastructure</strong>&lt;br&gt;Project involves the reconstruction of two neighborhood streets, using green infrastructure such as swales, to reduce flooding in the Brookside neighborhood of Collier County. This project addresses climate change through improved stormwater management practices.</td>
<td>$2.3 million</td>
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<td>Richmond, VA</td>
<td>Services to Disp. Impacted Communities</td>
<td><strong>Build Back Greener and More Resilient</strong>&lt;br&gt;Climate and sustainability projects; stormwater; and lead line replacement</td>
<td>$18 million</td>
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<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>Services to Disproportionately Impacted</td>
<td><strong>Green Residential Building Retrofits</strong>&lt;br&gt;Programs to support efficiency, electrification and renewable energy (e.g., solar PV, battery storage, heat pump installation) in residential buildings, including addressing barriers to such installations.</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>Negative Economic Impacts</td>
<td><strong>Low-Income Home Repairs/Maintenance</strong>&lt;br&gt;0% interest loans that are deferred and payable upon property sale. For long term maintenance, energy efficiency, systems replacement, and environmental hazard mitigation. (Plus Green Careers for BIPOC Communities $3M)</td>
<td>$2 million</td>
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<td>Auburn, NY</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td><strong>Urban Forest</strong>&lt;br&gt;Removal of trees and replanting of urban street trees in QCT</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<td>Madison, WI</td>
<td>Services to Disproportionately Impacted</td>
<td><strong>Occupy Madison Solar Project</strong>&lt;br&gt;Funds will be used to purchase solar panels and pay for installation at OM’s tiny house village. (Plus energy efficiency program for naturally occurring affordable housing)</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<td>San Diego County, CA</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td><strong>Energy conservation: SDRPIC-Water Energy Technology Launchpad</strong>&lt;br&gt;Create platform for public experimentation/innovation to help test, deploy, &amp; scale “hardware” solutions that address infrastructure gaps-- preparing for future pandemics, addressing local water pollution, expanding broadband connectivity, providing early detection &amp; monitoring to improve overall resilience to climate change.</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TOOLKIT

- Model Resolution
- Good Examples
- Community Engagement Guide
- Grab ‘n Go Policies
- Telling Your City’s Recovery Story
- U.S. Treasury Reporting Template
- Local Funds Tracker
- Community Needs Survey

Learn more at: www.theseap.org/arp-toolkit-2/
What We’re Hearing from the Community

- **Community Needs Survey**

- About 4,000 food-insecure households in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi

- New [report](#) highlights:
  - Personal debt, utilities, internet access some of the top personal challenges
  - Utilities, housing, debt, employment greatest community challenges
Spending decisions and categories of funds for 170+ cities across 5 states (AL, MS, GA, NC, WA)

Info on equity and engagement efforts

Q2 report highlights:
  ○ Majority of funds have yet to be allocated – still time to make an impact!
SEAP ARP Playbook

North Carolina: Budget and Tax Center, NC Black Alliance, Disaster Recovery Network, Local Progress
- Action hours with local advocates and nonprofits
- Bi-weekly virtual office hours for one on one assistance
- Information and knowledge sharing
- Postcard campaign with SEAP
- Scorecards for accountability

How You Can Help
- Learn about the funds arriving in your community
- Publicize the significance/opportunity of these funds
- Daylight the process leaders plan to use to determine how to spend (advocate for better process if needed)
- Provide input to your city/county on key needs
- Gather stories, data, surveys, priorities
- Identify community partners to deploy funds: shovel-ready and others
- Help local leaders highlight success and gather evidence
- Report up to Treasury if need be!

These funds can provide generational investments for local communities.
RECOVERY RESOURCES

ARP Toolkit
Visit: https://theseap.org/arp-toolkit-2/

Technical Assistance
Contact SEAP ARP Assistance Team:
SouthStrong@Rooseveltinstitute.org

New Climate & Infrastructure Guide
Download at:
https://theseap.org/investing-climate/