



City of Orlando, Florida

Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2024 Report

City of Orlando, Florida
2023 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

I. Executive Summary

The City of Orlando, Florida (“City”) received \$58,032,405 in American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) funding. After several public meetings, the City of Orlando made a decision to use its entire allocation of ARPA funding for government services under the (EC 6) Revenue Replacement Expenditure Category. As of the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2022), the City of Orlando had completed its expenditure of ARPA funding.

The decision to use the ARPA allocation to fund government services allows the City to leverage \$58M in general revenues to fund projects that address our community’s most daunting challenges, including projects that are intended to respond to and equitably recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. Our “Accelerate Orlando” initiative focuses on:

- Affordable, bridge, and permanent supportive housing;
- Homeless services;
- RISE Employment and Training Program;
- Community Violence Intervention; and
- Broadband Access.

The City has an ARPA website set up to communicate information to the public and also has an email address if anyone from the public wants to ask any questions. The City’s ARPA website address is:

<https://www.orlando.gov/Our-Government/Departments-Offices/OBFS/Management-and-Budget/American-Rescue-Plan-Act>

Questions can be sent to: arpa_questions@orlando.gov

II. Use of Funds

On July 18, 2022, the City held a public workshop and presented a plan to use the entire ARPA allocation for government services, under the (EC 6) Revenue Replacement Expenditure Category. On July 25, 2022, the City of Orlando’s Budget Review Committee, (“BRC”) approved allocating and appropriating the entire ARPA allocation to government services. The City Council approved the appropriation of ARPA funding for government services at its August 15, 2022, City Council meeting.

In August, 2022, reflecting City Council’s approval, \$53,908,412 was allocated to city salaries and \$4,123,993 was allocated to city benefit expenditures. The approximate breakdown of costs by department was as follows:

Department	Amount
Business and Financial Services	\$3.3M
Economic Development	\$1.8M
Executive Offices	\$3.5M
Families, Parks & Recreation	\$4.8M
Fire	\$20.1M
Housing	\$0.1M
Human Resources	\$0.7M
Police	\$22.2M
Public Works	\$0.2M
Transportation	\$1.3M
Total	\$58M

Salary and benefits were allocated according to the city’s current pay structure, and no funds were allocated towards premium pay. No funds have been directly deposited into a pension fund, have gone to offset a reduction in net tax revenue, been allocated to service debt or satisfy a judgment or settlement or contribute to a “rainy day” fund. All ARPA funds have been used for staffing government services, including providing public safety and administering parks and recreation centers.

The City has successfully leveraged other Federal funding, including, such as the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (“ERAP”) Round 1 and Round 2 to support a strong and equitable recovery and help those most affected by COVID. Through September 30, 2022, the City had spent \$15,540,490 in Emergency Rental Assistance Program funds. ERAP funds were used to ensure housing stability and prevent homelessness for City of Orlando low-to-moderate income renters.

III. Promoting Equitable Outcomes

The City of Orlando is a city for everyone. As a diverse, welcoming, multicultural community, we are committed to the equality of our residents, to ensuring that every person has access to quality housing that is safe and affordable, and to providing opportunities that help our young residents thrive. Thus, the City has used its ARPA allocation to leverage \$58M in general funds for the Accelerate Orlando initiative, which is being used to provide affordable housing and homeless

services, to train and place unemployed and underemployed residents in new careers, to interrupt gun violence among young people and to improve access to broadband.

Current plans for use of the Accelerate Orlando funds include investing in daytime services for persons who are experiencing homelessness; developing permanent supportive housing, workforce housing and other affordable housing units; expanding down payment support and housing repair for low-to-moderate income residents; connecting residents to job training and employment opportunities along with comprehensive wrap-around services and case management to succeed in new career paths; expanding broadband access; and engaging young residents at high risk for gun violence in mentoring relationships that seek to pivot participants towards nonviolent, economically and socially productive lives.

Updates about these programs can be found on the following websites:

Accelerate Orlando:

<https://www.orlando.gov/Our-Government/Departments-Offices/OBFS/Management-and-Budget/Accelerate-Orlando>

RISE Employment and Training Program:

<https://www.orlando.gov/Our-Government/Departments-Offices/Executive-Offices/CAO/RISE-Employment-Training-Program>

Community Violence Intervention:

<https://www.orlando.gov/Our-Government/Departments-Offices/FPR/Community-Violence-Intervention>

Although these programs are being implemented with non-federal funds, the City of Orlando has targeted these initiatives to persons and households most in need of support to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic: people without stable or affordable housing, people who are unemployed or underemployed and young people at risk from gun violence—all uses that would be presumed to be allowable under the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Final Rule had we used ARPA funding to support these programs directly.

IV. Community Engagement

The City and its Mayor and Commissioners have strong engagement with its residents, community-based organizations, and the community in general. The workshop presented on July 18, 2022 provided the opportunity for community input and participation both live and virtually. There were additional public engagement opportunities during the Budget Review Committee meeting on July 25, 2022, and the City Council meeting on August 15, 2022. Members of the public have opportunities to make live or written comments in advance of the meeting by completing an online comment form, sending an email, mailing in a comment, or by addressing a comment virtually or in-person to the Council. Members of the public requiring assistance to participate in the meeting are provided with a phone number and email address to request a reasonable accommodation, language assistance, or other help to enable them to participate.

Additionally, the City has maintained a City ARPA website and an email address where the community can ask questions to staff about ARPA. The City's website is:

<https://www.orlando.gov/Our-Government/Departments-Offices/OBFS/Management-and-Budget/American-Rescue-Plan-Act> and emails can be sent to arpa_questions@orlando.gov.

V. Labor Practices

On July 18, 2022, the City held a public workshop with a plan to use the entire ARPA allocation for government services, under the (EC 6) Revenue Replacement Expenditure Category. On July 25, 2022, the City of Orlando's Budget Review Committee, ("BRC") approved allocating and appropriating the entire ARPA allocation to government services. The City Council approved the appropriation on August 15, 2022. Since the City used the entire ARPA allocation to fund government services, under the Revenue Replacement Category (EC 6), this section of the performance report is not applicable.

VI. Use of Evidence

On July 18, 2022, the City held a public workshop with a plan to use the entire ARPA allocation for government services, under the (EC 6) Revenue Replacement Expenditure Category. On July 25, 2022, the City of Orlando's Budget Review Committee, ("BRC") approved allocating and appropriating the entire ARPA allocation to government services. The City Council approved the appropriation on August 15, 2022. Since the City used the entire ARPA allocation to fund government services, under the Revenue Replacement Category (EC 6), this section of the performance report is not applicable.

VII. Performance Report

The City fully spent its ARPA allocation prior to September 30, 2022. Since all funds were allocated to the EC 6 Revenue Replacement Expenditure Category, no goals or outcome measures were identified or tracked.

VIII. PROJECT INVENTORY

On January 24, 2022, the Orlando City Council originally allocated \$3,000,000 of ARPA funding for the Community Violence Intervention Initiative (Project FPR0061_G). On February 21, 2022, the Council allocated \$2,600,000 of ARPA funding to the RISE Employment and Training Program (Project MBE0002_G).

On July 18, 2022, the City held a public workshop with a plan to use the entire \$58M ARPA allocation for government services, under the (EC 6) Revenue Replacement Expenditure Category. On July 25, 2022, the City of Orlando's Budget Review Committee, ("BRC") approved allocating and appropriating the entire ARPA allocation to government services. City Council approved the appropriation on August 15, 2022.

Following City Council approval, the Community Violence Intervention Initiative (Project FPR0061_G) and the RISE Employment and Training Program (Project MBE0002_G) were defunded from the ARPA allocation, and all \$58,032,405 in funding was allocated to Revenue Replacement (Project NON0002_G).

At the same time, the City of Orlando allocated \$58M of general revenues to the Accelerate Orlando Fund. The Community Violence Intervention Initiative and the Rise Employment & Training Program will be funded through the Accelerate Orlando Fund as will affordable housing and homeless services initiatives, broadband access and program administration.

Project# NON0002_G

Project Name: Revenue Replacement

Funding Amount: \$58,032,405

Project Expenditure Category: (EC 6) Revenue Replacement

6.1 Provision of Government Services

Project# MBE0002_G

Project Name: RISE Employment and Training Program

Funding Amount: \$0

Project Expenditure Category: (EC 2) Negative Economic Impacts

2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Project# FPR0061_G

Project Name: Community Violence Intervention Initiative

Funding Amount: \$0

Project Expenditure Category: (EC 1) Public Health

1.11 Community Violence Interventions