

Hidalgo County, Texas

**Recovery Plan Performance Report**



**State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

2021 Report

# Hidalgo County, Texas

## 2021 Recovery Plan

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### **Executive Summary**

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law, and established the (1) Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and (2) Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, which together make up the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“SLFRF”) program. This program is intended to provide support to State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments in responding to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain and mitigate its impact on our communities, residents, and businesses.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hidalgo County applied for their allocation of SLFRF Recovery Funds and received half of the allotted funds in June 2021 and will receive the remaining funds in June 2022.

In accordance with Treasury guidance, this initial Recovery Plan Performance Report has been created to keep the public and Treasury informed as to the projects being considered and possibly undertaken to ensure program outcomes are achieved in an effective, efficient and equitable manner. The Recovery Plan Performance Report will be updated on an interim basis to reflect the most up to date information. Current and historical reports will be found on the Hidalgo County Website (<https://www.hidalgocounty.us/>).

## Uses of Funds

As of the end of the July 31, 2021 reporting period, the County had not expended any funds for any eligible category. Projects are currently being evaluated and finalized to ensure that they comply with SLFRF (ARPA fund) requirements and best serve the needs of the County, neighborhood communities, and residents. As part of our due diligence efforts, the County's Department of Budget and Management Office DBM is evaluating project eligibility in line with the Department of Treasury's guiding principles for developing effective compliance including strict adherence to the statutory uses of the County's SLFRF (ARPA fund) award. The County intends to apply a consistent methodology to assure adherence to eligible uses of funds including the evaluation of impacts of the pandemic on the County and its impacted residents.

Table 1 below reflects projects currently identified and estimated budgets as of July 31, 2021.

County Wide Projects	ARPA Category	Estimated Budget
Improved Access to Primary Care	EC 1	17,000,000
Vaccination Efforts	EC 1	4,650,000
Electronic Medical Records Program	EC 1	500,000
Premium Pay	EC 4	9,500,000
Public Health Announcements	EC 1	250,000
COVID-19 Effects on Judiciary & Case Backlog	EC 2	17,250,000
Public Health/Safety Substantially Dedicated Work	EC 1	13,200,000
Personal Protective Equipment	EC 1	1,000,000
Facility Retrofits / Equipment	EC 1	250,000
Lost Revenue Projects	EC 6	13,000,000

As of 07/31/2021                      76,600,000

## **Categories of expenditures:**

### **Public Health EC1**

Hidalgo County will utilize funding in this category to build, renovate and reconstruct County Health Clinics, expand vaccination efforts, purchase and update electronic medical records programs, communicate public health announcements, purchase additional public safety supplies and equipment, and install additional facilities retrofits and equipment necessary to help address the current and future pandemics.

### **Negative Economic Impacts EC 2**

Hidalgo County is currently proposing to hire additional court staff and/or attorneys to increase speed of case resolution, and other expenses to expedite case resolutions.

### **Premium Pay EC 4**

Hidalgo County will utilize funding in this category to support premium pay to eligible county employees.

### **Revenue Replacement EC 6**

Based on the first revenue replacement calculation ending 12/31/2020, the County plans to allocate \$13,000,000 to utilize funding for County projects.

## **Promoting equitable outcomes**

As the County develops, approves and formalizes projects, funding will be geared toward providing equitable outcomes that will close gaps in economic equity and promotes equitable growth

## **Community Engagement**

The County will develop an outreach plan to communicate the projects under consideration.

## **Labor Practices**

The County and subrecipients utilizing funds for infrastructure projects will follow Federal guidelines to promote local labor recovery and will pay prevailing wages for labor utilized.

## **Use of Evidence**

The County will utilize evidence-based practices and metrics where appropriate to insure funds are achieving the desired outcomes proposed by the County or subrecipient.

## **Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category**

There were no expenditures incurred during the reporting period. Future interim reports will illustrate ARPA project expenditures for the reporting period and cumulatively.

## **Project Inventory**

The preliminary project inventory is listed above and once finalized, will be reported on future interim reports.