

# Prince George's County, Maryland Recovery Plan

## **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

2023 Report

#### Prince George's County, Maryland

#### 2023 Recovery Plan

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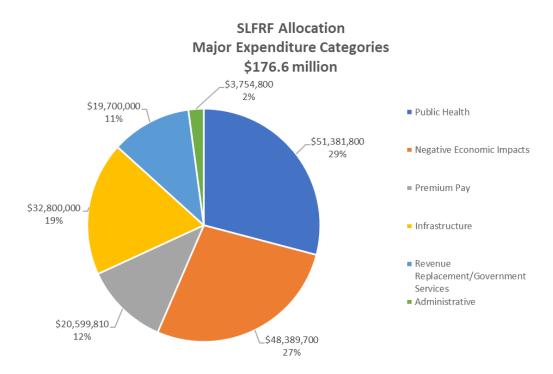
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#### **Executive Summary**

Prince George's County was awarded \$176.6 million through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). The County has adopted a comprehensive approach in allocating SLFRF funds with major focuses toward:

- Improving and expanding access to quality healthcare services with a special emphasis
  on the uninsured population and residents suffering from mental health and substance
  abuse challenges.
- Reducing violent crimes in targeted, high-risk communities.
- Providing assistance to residents, small businesses, and non-profit organizations negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including expanding affordable housing opportunities for our residents and transitioning unemployed residents into new jobs.
- Providing premium pay to our dedicated employees who continued to provide services during the pandemic.
- Improving stormwater infrastructure across the County.
- Expanding the County's digitization efforts and cybersecurity technology.
- Ensuring a clean and safe facilities for our employees and visitors.

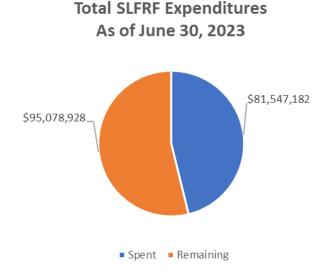
The chart below shows the spending plan allocation of the SLFRF across the seven major expenditure categories:



The largest allocation of spending is public health, accounting for \$51.4 million or 29% of the SLFRF funds. Allocations to programs to mitigate the negative economic impacts on our residents and communities is the second highest expenditure category at \$48.4 million or 27%

of the funds. Improving the County's stormwater infrastructure is third with \$32.8 million or 19%. Fourth is providing additional pay to the County's employees at \$20.6 million or 12%. Next is various allocations under the revenue replacement/government services category at \$19.7 million or 11%, including cybersecurity enhancements and an expansion of digitalization efforts. The remaining allocation (\$3.8 million or 2%) is directed towards administrative costs.

Through June 30, 2023, the County has spent approximately \$81.5 million, or 46%, of the SLFRF allocation.



Selected SLFRF program accomplishments during the past year include:

- Administered over 5,308 vaccinations (first and second doses, boosters).
- Reimbursed 1,250 uninsured patient visits at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), approximately 33,300 patient visits since inception.
- Conducted 9,731 methadone treatment visits.
- Supported 204 incarcerated individuals for behavioral health needs.
- Preserved 441 affordable housing units.
- Assisted 202 small businesses, primarily BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) owned, with various technical assistance.
- Assisted 159 unemployed residents in finding employment.
- Completed 30 housing rehabilitation projects.
- Completed Phase 1 of the Swan Creek Storm Drain upgrade project.

#### **Uses of Funds**

Although Prince George's County plans on spending the \$176.6 million in SLFRF across the seven expenditure categories, approximately 75% (\$132.6 million) of the funds will be used on public health, negative economic impacts, and infrastructure. The remaining funds will be spent on premium pay, provision of government services, public sector capacity building, and administrative costs.

Highlights of programs funded under each major expenditure category are provided below:

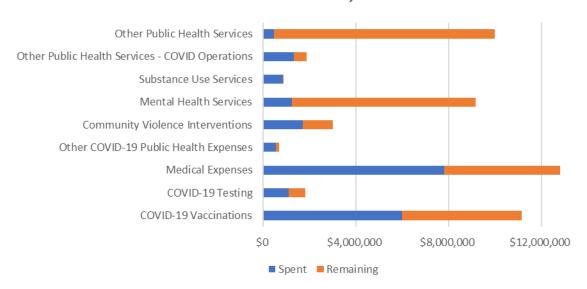
#### **Public Health Expenditures (\$51.4 million)**

Under the County's investments in public health, the primary goals are to address health disparities magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic, provide easier access to health services, continue to respond the COVID-19 pandemic through additional testing and vaccination services, and reduce violent crime in targeted communities. Public health investments include:

- \$12.9 million for continued COVID-19 testing and vaccination programs.
- \$12.8 million to enhance services for 30,000 uninsured residents through the Health Assures Access Fund through Federally Qualified Health Centers.
- \$10.1 million to enhance behavioral health programs and substance abuse services, including a methadone program, a behavioral health information technology program, an incentive fund to hospital-based psychiatric beds/units, and pediatric home visitation program.
- \$10 million for the relocation of the Cheverly Health Clinic to provide greater access to clinical, mental health, and substance abuse needs of our residents.
- \$3.0 million for an anti-violence program that will be targeted to communities located within Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) in collaboration with community partners and law enforcement.
- \$0.8 million for continued COVID-19 communications to our residents.
- \$0.7 million to improve coordination of COVID-19 services and conduct an "after-action" report to improve the County's response and recovery efforts for future disasters.

As of June 30, 2023, the County has spent approximately \$21.0 million on public health programs and services.

### Public Health Expenditures As of June 30, 2023



Accomplishments during the past year under the Public Health programs include:

- Administered 5,308 vaccinations, including 487 first doses, 469 second doses, and 4,352 booster/additional doses.
- Administered 2,629 COVID-19 tests at 2 permanent Health Department facilities and a partner-operated clinic at the First United Methodist Church of Hyattsville.
- Reimbursed an additional 1,275 uninsured patient visits at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) for a cumulative program total of 33,291 visits.
- Provided funding to 23 nonprofit organizations which comprise the Hope In Action Collective to provide mental health services, after-school programs, food assistance programs, and workforce development programs.
- Supported 204 incarcerated individuals for behavioral health needs.
- Served 94 individuals for opioid disorders.
- Conducted 9,731 methadone treatment visits.

#### **Negative Economic Impacts (\$48.3 million)**

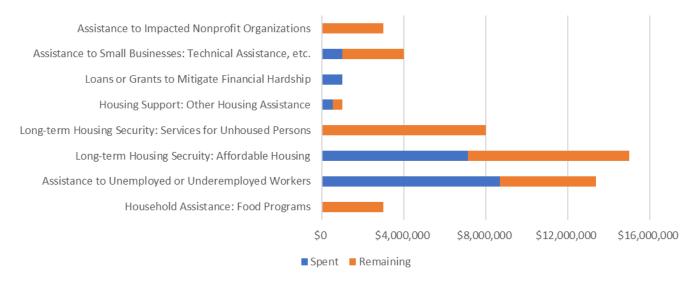
Under the County's investments in addressing the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the County's goals are to reduce food insecurity, assist unemployed residents gain employment, increase the number of affordable housing units, expand services to the County's homeless population, assist small businesses in the film and entertainment industry, and expand the capacity of non-profit organizations to provide services. Investments include:

- \$15 million to expand affordable housing inventory through the County's Right of First Refusal Program.
- \$9 million for a Rapid Re-employment program that provides incentives to employers to hire or rehire unemployed residents.

- \$5 million for various workforce development and training programs, including career accelerator and apprentice programs.
- \$4 million to assist small business, especially BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) owned, expand through various technical assistance, leadership, and other training programs.
- \$8 million to permanently add up to 65 emergency shelter beds for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- \$3 million to continue food distribution to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.
- \$3 million to expand non-profit organizations capacity to provide services.
- \$1 million to assist County-based small arts and entertainment businesses that were negatively impacted by the pandemic.
- \$1 million to implement a Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program that will assist approximately 22 income-qualified homeowners with critical home repairs, accessibility improvements, and weatherization improvements.

As of June 30, 2023, the County has spent \$18.3 million.





Accomplishments during the past year under the Negative Economic Impact programs include:

- Provided food to 3,060 individuals through 12 community distribution events.
- Assisted 1,170 small businesses with various technical assistance programs (coaching, networking opportunities, accounting, marketing, etc.) through FSC First's Level Up Program.
- Preserved 441 affordable housing units.

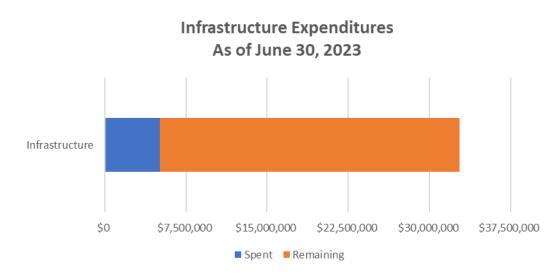
- Assisted 202 small businesses, primarily BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) owned, with C-Suite training programs, franchise training programs, and podcast training programs through the County's Economic Development Corporation.
- Completed 30 housing rehabilitation projects in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland.
- Awarded grants to 4 nonprofit organizations for capacity building.
- Awarded grants to 3 County-based filmmaker/production companies negatively impacted by the pandemic.
- Held 1<sup>st</sup> ever Prince George's County Film Festival with nearly 600 participants.
- Assisted 159 unemployed residents find employment.

#### Infrastructure (\$32.8 million)

Under the County's investments in infrastructure, our goals are to improve the County's stormwater infrastructure to reduce risks of flooding and improve water conservation efforts in targeted communities. Infrastructure investments include:

- \$17.4 million for various MS4/NPDES stormwater projects.
- \$6.5 million for three storm drain projects.
- \$2.3 million for a flood study to assist in flood protection efforts in vulnerable communities.
- \$6.1 million for various flood protection projects.

As of June 30, 2023, the County has spent \$5.1 million on Infrastructure projects.



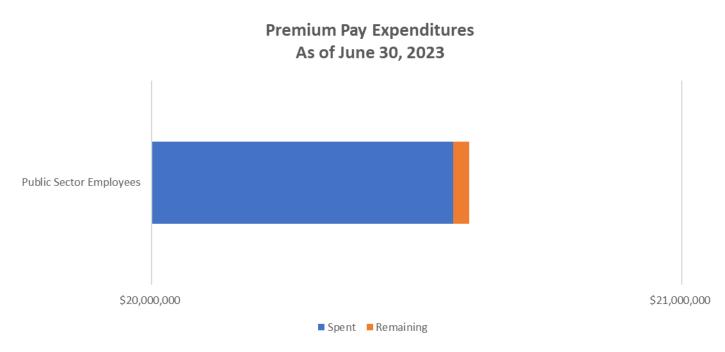
Accomplishments during the past year under the Infrastructure programs include:

- Completed Phase 1 of the Swan Creek Storm Drain upgrade project.
- Completed 3 flood protection projects (Franklin Avenue, Joslyn Place, Linwood Avenue).
- Commenced design and construction on various other stormwater and flood protection projects.

#### Premium Pay (\$20.6 million)

To provide additional compensation to the County's dedicated employees who provided vital services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the County allocated \$20.6 million in SLFRF funds for premium pay to over 2,500 employees. Retroactive premium pay of \$350 per pay period for public-facing essential employees, and \$200 per pay period for non-public facing essential employees was negotiated with the County labor unions for the period starting September 27, 2020 through April 17, 2021.

As of June 30, 2023, the County has spent \$20.6 million on premium pay to County employees.



Accomplishments during the past year under Premium Pay include:

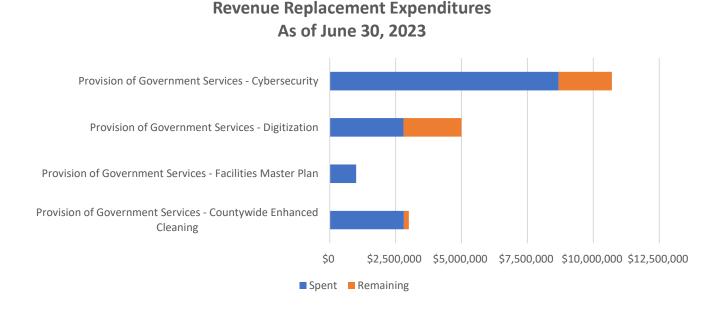
Processed bi-weekly payments for over 3,300 employees.

#### Revenue Replacement/Provision of Government Services (\$19.7 million)

Under the County's investments in government services related to revenue replacement, the County's goals are to enhance cybersecurity technology to better protect vital information technology enterprise systems, increase digitalization efforts to improve the efficiency of government operations and improve service delivery, improve the safety and cleanliness of County facilities, and identify deficiencies in facilities and systems. Investments include:

- \$10.7 million in various cybersecurity enhancements, including additional risk assessments, multi-factor authentication, network equipment replacement, and firewalls.
- \$5.0 million for implementing the County's "Going Paperless" initiative in order to enable employees to perform government services virtually, eliminate paper processes and documents, and expand scanning and imaging of paper files.
- \$3.0 million for additional cleaning of County facilities to provide environmentally clean and safe work environments for County employees and visitors.
- \$1.0 million to assess the state of County facilities and critical building systems.

As of June 30, 2023, the County has spent \$15.3 million on provision of government services.



Accomplishments during the past year under the Revenue Replacement programs include:

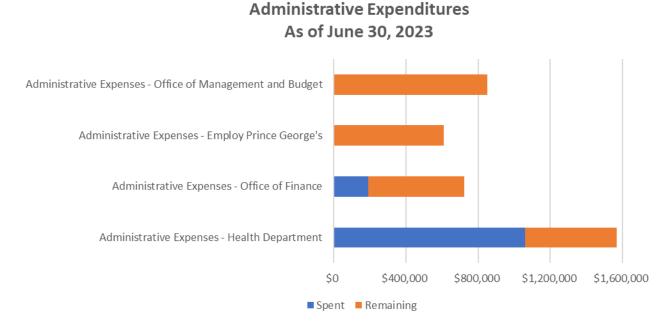
- Completed building inspections on 20 County facilities under the Facilities Master Plan activities.
- Increased the percentage of County agencies that have been digitized from 46% to 88%.

#### Administrative (\$3.8 million)

Under the County's SLFRF plan, investments in various administrative functions will strengthen the County's administrative capabilities, assist in reporting and compliance requirements related to SLFRF, and enhance grant management. Investments include:

- \$1.6 million for the Health Department to hire additional administrative support staff to meet the growing service demands.
- \$1.6 million to support additional staffing resources related to accounting, managing, and reporting of SLFRF expenditures.
- \$0.6 million to support administrative costs associated with various workforce development programs.

As of June 30, 2023, the County has spent \$1.3 million on administrative costs.



Accomplishments over the past year under Administrative programs include:

• Filled 4 additional administrative support positions in the Health Department to assist with meeting the expanding service demands.

Please refer to **Appendix - Attachment 1** of this report for a complete description of all proposed projects to be funded with federal dollars, as well as strategies and expected outcomes.

#### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes**

Prince George's County has maintained efforts to promote equity by utilizing key performance indicators related to equity dimensions to develop and maintain services and programs that impact our residents with the greatest need. Whether that is by building partnerships with community-based organizations to target neighborhoods considered food insecure or lack access to healthy food options, or by replacing storm drain infrastructure to prevent flooding in the County's oldest and most at-risk communities. We are constantly working to develop strategies that protect our communities and provide them with the essential resources to improve their quality of life. The County has developed tracking mechanisms and strategies to regularly meet with key stakeholders about their goals to discuss their progress and intervene when necessary. Prince George's County has over 900,000 residents with 65% of them identifying as Black or African American, and 20% identifying as Hispanic or Latino. Most of the services and programs will aid individuals, families and institutions that reside in QCTs. The SLFRF programs will serve majority minority communities, minority owned businesses and community-based organizations that serve special populations and traditionally lack access to government resources such as, grants, capital, and technical support. The resources from the SLFRF funding will support individuals, families, and communities in QCT designated communities to improve and develop infrastructure to address community related challenges such as behavioral health infrastructure, job training and skill development, housing, and flood prevention because of climate change.

Although the County is recovering from the impacts caused by the pandemic, job loss, housing challenges, and other circumstances continue to impact the County's residents. According to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' *Homelessness in Metropolitan Washington* report (May 2023), the Washington Region has 8.944 individuals experiencing homelessness, an increase of 1,339 persons from 2022 (an 18% increase). Prince George's County experienced an increase of 15% in homeless individuals from 2022. Additionally, despite a significant drop in the unemployment rate (a 2.3%¹ unemployment rate in May 2023), approximately 11,500 County residents remain unemployed.

Services provided under such programs as Rapid Re-Employment, Warm Nights Homeless Shelter, Affordable Housing Right of First Refusal, and Housing Rehabilitation Assistance will expand workforce development and training, improve access to affordable housing and single-family housing rehabilitation in targeted QCT communities, increase capacity to serve homeless individuals.

As programs continue to be implemented to address these challenges, agencies have developed evidence-based and/or comprehensive data driven outcome measures to closely track performance and develop interventions to meet program targets.

The County maintains language access programs and community outreach programs which promote equity and access. We also have additional capacity through our public institutions to assist with applications and other eligibility requirements; public libraries, schools, recreation centers and community-based partnerships. As SLFRF programs are executed, the County will engage local businesses and community-based organizations to further enhance our capacity to serve the targeted populations and educate residents about the SLFRF services. In addition, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Not seasonable adjusted.

County will engage residents and other key stakeholders about SLFRF services during our public budget hearings and during various community outreach events. With a constantly growing and diverse population, the County has resources and services that meet the needs of all community members to address access and disparity concerns.

#### **Community Engagement**

The initial Prince George's County SLFRF spending plan primarily received feedback through the County's legislative process in June/July 2021. The public process included introduction of the spending plan as legislation before the Prince George's County Council. The legislative process included multiple public presentations over a two-month period. The proposed detailed spending plan was presented before the County Council's Committee of the Whole standing committee for comment and review by the public and Legislative Branch. Further, in February 2022, the County provided a progress update on implementing the SLFRF program. In April 2023, the County provided another briefing on various COVID-19 funding programs, including the SLFRF spending plan. All County Council meetings are public meetings where the residents and organizations can provide oral or written comments to the Council Clerk for dissemination. Any testimony and comments received are part of the public record of the meeting.

The County is committed to a robust engagement process with the public regarding all aspects of the SLFRF program. A public website is available to communicate, track, and monitor all SLFRF projects. County residents can provide on-going comments about the spending plan through the website as well as access reports and updates on current projects. Additionally, the current spending plan will be available for continuous public engagement as it covers multiple fiscal years. Community residents and organizations will be able to provide feedback and input through various budget public forums held during every budget formulation process.

#### **Labor Practices**

All infrastructure projects using SLFRF funding fall under the guidance of the Prince George's County prevailing wage requirement. The County has a Wage Determination Board whose mission is to adopt, establish, repeal, modify, change, or amend schedules of prevailing hourly rates of wages to be paid to workers and apprentices employed on certain public works construction projects. The Board, mandated under Section 1009 of the County Charter, holds hearings, conducts studies to ensure that private contractors working on County projects employ competent, qualified personnel as well as ensures wages, including the building construction and high construction wage rates paid by contractors, are comparable to area standards. Additionally, service contracts are subject to the County's wage requirements law for service contracts under Subtitle 10A-144 of the Prince George's County Code. A contract for the procurement of services must require the contractor and any of its subcontractors to comply with the County wage requirements subject to specific exceptions in the County code. The prevailing wage rate effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 was \$15.60 per hour. This rate changes annually.

In addition, the County has mandated that all contracts utilizing SLFRF funds must achieve a minimum of 20% certified County-based minority business enterprise participation and an

additional 40% certified County-based small business participation notwithstanding the contract amount. Implementation of this policy will allow for expanding job opportunities for local workers.

#### **Use of Evidence**

The County makes evidence-based decision making a priority across all agencies and departments. Several projects focused on addressing Negative Economic Impacts and Public Health have strong bases of evidence to support relevant interventions. For those interventions without significant bases of evidence researchable in relevant data clearinghouses, we have been and will continue to work with the implementing agencies to track data, monitor outputs and outcomes, and discuss potential program evaluations when appropriate.

Relatedly, each department/agency which requested funds was responsible for submitting a logic model alongside their proposed project. This was required to not only gain information on what the intended goals, objectives, inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes, and impacts were, but also to help the departments/agencies think through whether their intended intervention activities were in alignment with the impact they were hoping to have on the community. The various outputs, outcomes, and other metrics identified for tracking by the departments/agencies serve as a vehicle for evidence building across the County. Consistent monitoring and recording of programmatic data, as well as the execution of potential program evaluations being planned will provide the County with a strong basis of evidence for future interventions.

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

As of June 30, 2023, \$81.5 million in SLFRF funds have been spent to date.

		Cumulative Expenditures to	Amount Spent Since 2022
	Category	Date (\$)	Recovery Plan
1	Public Health	(,,	
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination	\$5,988,181	\$3,193,263
1.2	COVID-19 Testing	\$1,084,884	\$210,884
1.6	Medical Expenses	\$7,800,000	\$5,000,000
1.7	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses	\$556,477	\$406,477
1.11	Community Violence Interventions	\$1,692,847	\$826,938
1.12	Mental Health Services	\$1,234,597	\$838,795
1.13	Substance Use Services	\$859,238	\$475,712
1.14	Other Public Health Services	\$1,803,953	\$1,068,424
2	Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs	\$0	\$0
	Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed	\$8,684,582	\$5,362,964
2.10	Workers	\$0,004,302	\$3,302,904
2.15	Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing	\$7,120,000	\$7,118,038
2.16	Long-term Housing Security: Services for	\$0	\$0
	Unhoused persons		
2.18	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance	\$538,203	\$516,112
2.29	Small Business Assistance: Loans or Grants	\$1,000,000	\$790,957
2.30	Small Business Assistance: Technical Assist., etc.	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
2.34	Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations	\$0	\$0
4	Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees	\$20,569,625	\$1,112,989
5	Infrastructure		
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater	\$5,068,662	\$5,068,662
6	Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services	\$15,295,650	\$15,295,650
7	Administrative and Other	4	4
7.1	Administrative Expenses	\$1,250,284	\$788,890
	Total	\$81,547,183	\$49,074,754

#### **Project Inventory**

As of June 30, 2023, Prince George's County's spending plan totals \$176.6 million and includes 60 projects. The projects reflect various planned activities that will be completed by County agencies over the grant period. Please refer to **Appendix - Attachment 2** of this report for detailed descriptions of all proposed projects including a project overview, timeline and description of any evidence-based interventions as required.

#### Prince George's County, Maryland Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)

#### PROJECT INVENTORY - SUMMARY BY EXPENDITURE CATEGORY AND AGENCY

Category Agency Total SLFRF Allocation Allocation  EC1 - Public Health  Health Department \$ 48,031,800 \$ 31,686,400	# of SLFRF Projects	Page #
Health Department \$ 48,031,800 \$ 31,686,400		· ugu
·		
	8	2
Office of Community Relations \$ 3,000,000 \$ 1,000,000	1	10
Department of Corrections \$ 350,000 \$ -	_ 1	11
Sub-Total \$ 51,381,800 \$ 32,686,400	10	
EC2 - Negative Economic Impacts		
Arts and Humanities Council \$ 1,000,000 \$ 500,000	1	12
Office of the County Executive \$ 6,000,000 \$ 2,000,000		14
Department of Housing and Community \$ 16,000,000 \$ 5,500,000 Development	2	16
Department of Social Services \$ 8,000,000 \$ 8,000,000	1	18
Employ Prince George's \$ 13,389,700 \$ 9,500,000	7	19
Economic Development Corporation \$ 1,500,000 \$ 1,500,000	1	27
Financial Services Corporation \$ 2,500,000 \$ 2,500,000	<u>1</u>	29
Sub-Total \$ 48,389,700 \$ 29,500,000	15	
EC4 - Premium Pay		
Various \$ 20,599,810 \$ -	<u>1</u>	30
Sub-Total \$ 20,599,810 \$ -	1	
EC5 - Infrastructure		
Department of the Environment \$ 25,800,000 \$ 9,796,000	21	31
Department of Public Works and \$ 6,500,000 \$ 980,000	3	52
Transportation		_
To Be Determined (TBD) \$ 500,000 \$ 500,000 <b>Sub-Total \$ 32,800,000 \$ 11,276,000</b>	<del>-</del>	55
, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
EC6 - Revenue Replacement		
Office of Central Services \$ 4,000,000 \$ 1,000,000		56
Office of Information Technology \$ 15,700,000 \$ 5,200,000	<u>2</u>	58
Sub-Total \$ 19,700,000 \$ 6,200,000	4	
EC7 - Administrative		
Health Department \$ 1,568,400 \$ 1,568,443	1	60
Office of Finance \$ 723,600 \$ 241,200	1	61
Office of Management and Budget \$852,500 \$767,503	1	62
Employ Prince George's \$ 610,300 \$ 610,258	<u>1</u>	63
Sub-Total \$ 3,754,800 \$ 3,187,404	4	
TOTAL \$ 176,626,110 \$ 82,849,804	60	

#### **Performance Report**

Please refer to **Appendix - Attachment 3** of this report for the detailed performance report. This report lists the various metrics and programmatic data that will be monitored, including the measures required by the SLFRF guidelines. Additionally, **Appendix - Attachment 4** of this report reflects a detailed performance indicator and programmatic data inventory highlighting activities and outcomes achieved thus far.

#### **Appendix**

ATTACHMENT 1 – USE OF FUNDS

ATTACHMENT 2 - PROJECT INVENTORY

ATTACHMENT 3 – PERFORMANCE REPORT

ATTACHMENT 4 – OUTCOMES PROGRESS REPORT