



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 11/19/2024

New Business

Department: Strategic Partnerships **Presenter(s):** Tyler Henry

Contact(s): Jamie Brown, Grants Manager
Tyler Henry, Grants Manager

Subject: Request for COVID Recovery Funding Reallocation

Brief Summary:

In 2021, Buncombe County was awarded a total of \$50,733,290 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“COVID Recovery Funding”) via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to invest toward recovery from COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts. These funds were awarded on a rolling basis to projects by Commissioners as selected via multiple Request for Proposals (RFP) processes. For details, visit: buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding

Hurricane Helene has had severe impacts on our community’s infrastructure and housing needs. The Ferry Road project requires an access road and other infrastructure to be built making the project more difficult to construct at this time because it would be competing against other projects/needs that currently exist in Buncombe County. The delayed timeline to construct Ferry Road would also put COVID Recovery Funds at risk of not being spent on time. The Coxe Avenue Affordable Housing project will be able to move much quicker, allowing funds to go towards meeting the need of affordable housing in the community while also meeting requirements set by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Reallocation of COVID Recovery Funds

Project	Increase	Decrease	Rationale
Ferry Road Infrastructure		(\$3,732,743.16)	Ferry Road requires an access road and other infrastructure to be built, which is now more difficult to construct and competes against other projects/needs in the County.
Coxe Avenue Affordable Housing Development	\$3,732,743.16		The Coxe Ave project will move quicker, allowing funds to be used sooner to provide needed affordable housing while also meeting requirements set by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Recommended Motions & Requested Actions:

Consider approval of changes to COVID Recovery Funding awards as listed:

- Reduce “Ferry Road Infrastructure” by \$3,732,743.16
- Create and allocate \$3,732,743.16 to “Coxe Avenue Affordable Housing Development”