



# Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

## Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 12/17/2024

### 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](http://buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding)

Hurricane Helene had a profound impact on Buncombe County, straining resources and requiring significant budgetary adjustments. Emergency response, housing recovery, and infrastructure repair became immediate priorities, redirecting staff time and administrative costs from planned areas of focus. These demands placed pressure on the FY2025 budget, emphasizing disaster recovery and long-term resilience being a continued focus, staff is recommending the following reallocation of funds based on current needs and U.S. Department of Treasury requirements.

### Reallocation of COVID Recovery Funds

Project	Increase	Decrease	Rationale
Clean Energy Upgrades for Low-Income Households		\$ (17,590.54)	Green Built Alliance has concluded all eligible activities under this contract. Remaining funds are being reallocated in accordance with U.S. Department of Treasury requirements.
Community Paramedics		\$ (246,000.00)	Restructuring of the project budget will allow for needed upgrades to the mobile command center to occur and allow project activities to continue with 3 full-time, grant funded positions.
Capital Outlay Equipment		\$ (93,203.72)	All needed capital outlay equipment has been purchased. Remaining funds are being reallocated in accordance with U.S. Department of Treasury requirements.
Advancing Community Safety: Violence Prevention and Intervention		\$ (300,000.00)	The project end date is being adjusted to align with FY2025. Remaining funds are being reallocated in accordance with U.S. Department of Treasury requirements.
Helene Recovery Personnel	\$ 656,794.26		Due to impacts of Hurricane Helene, administration costs such as salaries & benefits have increased pressure on the FY2025 budget. Reallocating funds will assist with alleviating some of that pressure and allow the County to meet the U.S. Department of Treasury's obligation deadline of 12/31/2024.

### Recommended Motions & Requested Actions:

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

- Reduce identified ARPA projects by \$656,794.26
- Create and allocate \$656,794.26 to “Helene Recovery Personnel”

**County Manager’s comments and Recommendations:** recommends as presented.