



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony for Budget Amendment 2021

To: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Rafiu O. Ighile 
Director of Finance

Kelly Cimino [K. Cimino](#)
Director of Housing and Community Development

Date: May 27, 2021

This emergency legislation amends the FY2021 Operating Budget in order to receive multiple grant awards in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. First, the County has been allocated to receive up to \$31,630,732 in funding from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, representing the first half of the grant. The ARP was signed into law on March 10, 2021. The funds can be used to support urgent pandemic response efforts, replace lost revenue where applicable to support vital public services and retain jobs, support immediate economic stabilization for households and businesses, make needed investment in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure, and address other public health and economic challenges. The covered period for expenditures is March 3, 2021 through December 31, 2024. The second half of funds is expected to be received within one year.

Second, the County has been informed that additional grant funds in the amount of \$7,702,895 have been awarded by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to continue to provide rent and utility assistance to County residents affected by the COVID-19 health emergency. Third, the County has also been awarded an additional \$1,757,012 in HOME grant funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. These funds can be used to address homeless assistance activities including the production or preservation of affordable housing; tenant-based rental assistance; supportive services, including homeless prevention services and housing counseling; and the purchase or development of non-congregate shelter for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Finally, the County has been awarded \$1,043,712 in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Grant funds and \$250,000 in Mobile Integrated Community Health Program (MICH) Grant funds from the Howard County Health Department to provide funding to the County for costs associated with staffing community vaccination clinics led and funded by the Health Department and to fund the County's MICH program. This program led by the Department of Fire and Rescue Services is focused on equitable distribution of vaccine to hard-to-reach communities.

cc: Jennifer Sager