



Lucas County, Ohio

**Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery  
Funds**

2021 Report

Lucas County, Ohio  
2021 Recovery Plan

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## **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

### **Executive Summary**

Lucas County will finalize State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) investment strategy when two particular benchmarks are met:

1. The U.S. Department of the Treasury releases its Final Rule
2. Feedback from County offices and the public at large is obtained

Upon the attainment of these targets, the Lucas County Board of Commissioners will synthesize collected data and use a data-driven approach to allocate to maximize the impact of SLFRF funds to achieve the following objectives:

- Support COVID-19 mitigation in order to slow the spread of the virus to protect vulnerable populations
- Ensure that the county-delivered services on which Lucas County residents depend are subject to as little disruption as possible
- Stabilize the local economy to speed the recovery and facilitate the growth of opportunities for businesses and households, paying particular attention to equity for traditionally underserved populations

Lucas County has yet to commit any portion of our SLFRF funds. The Board of Lucas County Commissioners is working with the Lucas County Auditor to develop an accurate picture of county-wide revenue loss. In addition, the Commissioners have begun to develop a public engagement strategy designed to obtain and integrate community input into the spending plan.

### **Uses of Funds**

As stated in the Executive Summary, Lucas County has neither spent nor committed any SLFRF funds from its allocation. The Commissioners plan to utilize them to address the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19, bring the pandemic under control, and facilitate broad-based access to government services provided by Lucas County.

Lucas County has also received Emergency Rental Assistance funding both through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and through the American Rescue Plan. To actualize economies of scale and to simplify the application process for our residents, Lucas County has collaborated with our county seat, the City of Toledo, to create a unified program managed by the City.

Our Office of Management and Budget is in contact with the Lucas County Auditor's office to ensure that revenue replacement calculations accurately reflect actual gaps in revenue in compliance with the formula provided by the Treasury.

### **Promoting equitable outcomes**

Lucas County is developing a strategy to deploy SLFRF funds in a manner that will provide a measurable benefit to communities of color and low to moderate-income Lucas County residents in conjunction with our Diversity and Inclusion Director.

The particular uses of SLFRF are not finalized. Lucas County is however committed to the development of an outreach strategy that includes a survey that is currently in development. In its process of SLFRF fund allocation, Lucas County is committed to equity in both access and impact and is actively engaging our Diversity and Inclusion Director to ensure that the access to and impacts of the funding reflect the needs of the diverse residents of the county. We are in consultation with our Diversity and Inclusion Director to produce a process whereby barriers to participation resulting from race, ethnicity, gender, and income are effectively addressed.

### **Community Engagement**

Lucas County is currently in the process of developing an outreach strategy that prioritizes community engagement through a community survey. The survey will be promoted through earned and social media. We have also initiated discussions with the City of Toledo and stakeholders and partners throughout Lucas County to foster a transparent and inclusive process as the County determines the most impactful uses of SLFRF funds.

### **Labor Practices**

While Lucas County has not committed any funds to date for infrastructure projects, the county is dedicated to ensuring labor for projects funded through Lucas County meet a minimum threshold for labor fairness. In all instances where the law permits, therefore, contractors performing construction projects with dollars directed by Lucas County in an amount greater than \$100,000 must agree to a project labor agreement (PLA). The PLA helps to ensure that skilled tradespeople are employed on these projects, are compensated fairly, and enjoy safe worksites.

To ensure that Lucas County's commitment to fair labor practices are prioritized as we deploy SLFRF funding, we will engage the Toledo Lucas County Workforce Development Board, area workforce partners, businesses throughout the county, and the labor community to evaluate and implement the strategy to invest these dollars.

### **Use of Evidence**

The Lucas County Board of Commissioners is prioritizing evidence-based criteria for all SLFRF-funded projects. Allocation of county-allocated SLFRF funds will measure not only outputs, but will predict outcomes as well to ensure that uses of funds:

- Make a measurable impact on the slowing of the COVID-19 virus in order to ensure that Lucas County makes a meaningful contribution to bringing the pandemic to an end
- Provide Lucas County residents and businesses with expanded opportunity to obtain employment and business growth
- Bring government staffing levels for those operations harmed by the pandemic to pre-pandemic levels so that County-delivered services continue to meet the needs and expectations of our residents

**Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category**

Lucas County has not expended any funds through August 31, 2021.

**PROJECT INVENTORY**

Lucas County has not initiated any projects as of August 31, 2021.