Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska

ARPA SLFRF Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2026 Report

Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska

2026 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

To respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 and its impacts, the Municipality of Anchorage has taken a proactive approach to provide tools and resources to communities, residents, and businesses. In the initial process, the Anchorage Assembly and Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Mayor's Office worked to identify the harmful effects of COVID-19 within our community. These governmental groups spent over two months to identify the needs of Anchorage residents and businesses; convened meetings and townhalls with members of the public, businesses, nonprofits, and social service groups; and conducted two separate day-long meetings on March 19, 2022 and March 26, 2022 to develop the framework, guiding principles, and proposed relief measures for Anchorage Assembly Resolutions (AR) for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 2 grant funds.

The Municipality of Anchorage was awarded $103,317,366 in Federal ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) in 2021 and chose to receive their disbursement from the U.S. Department of Treasury in two tranches. The first tranche of funds (ARPA 1) in the amount of $51,658,683 was disbursed to approximately 92 subrecipients in 2021. The second tranche of funds in the amount of $51,658,683 was disbursed to approximately 72 subrecipients beginning in the 3rd quarter 2022 and continued into 2024.

This sixth annual MOA Recovery Plan report describes past performance of the Municipality of Anchorage and its subrecipients who received funds from Tranches 1 and 2 of the U.S. Department of the Treasury ARPA SLFRF grant from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Prior Financial Compliance Activities

As a steward of federal public funding, the Municipality of Anchorage conducted a mandatory financial compliance review of MOA ARPA subrecipients. This consisted of questions related to expenditures, evaluation of grantee performance and a financial statement covering the subrecipients' grant period. Reports from 102 subrecipients were received between November 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024.

Uses of Funds

The goal of the Municipality of Anchorage was to fund nonprofits and municipal government agencies and thus achieve a strong and equitable recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the community's subsequent economic downturn. The funding was allocated to specific Expenditure Categories (EC) as identified by the Federal Government. The funds were used specifically to support individuals, families, communities, and organizations throughout the municipality that were adversely affected by the pandemic. The Assembly resolution for allocating these funds is linked here:

Assembly Resolution (AR) 2021-167 (s)

Assembly Resolution (AR) 2022-178 (s)

Public Health (EC 1) – The COVID-19 pandemic not only affected the local economy but public health and welfare of the community at large. The funds allocated in this category addressed not only specific underserved communities but also mental health wellbeing, and COVID-19 mitigation. For this category, the Municipality of Anchorage awarded funds to various organizations to remain sustainable and help those in our community recover from the negative mental and physical impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. These awards protect our economy and the health and wellbeing of our city's residents, businesses, and nonprofits. These awards include expansion of behavioral health services to the LGBTQ community and also outreach and communication to promote COVID mitigation.

Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2) – The negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic not only affected the local economy but also services and resources to our community. The funds used in this category address how our allocations were spent to assist these areas in need. The Municipality of Anchorage awarded funds to various organizations to remain sustainable and help those in our community recover from the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This allowed us to rebuild our economy in ways that enhance self-sufficiency and reduce supply chain vulnerability. These awards include:

- Aid to nonprofit organizations for voucher distributions to families for daily expenses, skill training & job search assistance, and operational expenses to keep nonprofit doors open
- Programs that address the immediate needs and barriers for underserved and unemployed youth, families, and adults
- Small business economic assistance for business personal property tax relief and stabilization grants
- Tourism business relief grants
- Relief for tourism businesses experiencing hardships
- Websites for accessible job search assistance
- Community outreach for small businesses that provide resources for government services
- Assistance to families to access federal benefits and relief funding
- Repair, expand, and upgrade food pantry/storage and distribution facilities

Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3) - Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, our city addressed challenges with providing tools and resources for our vulnerable population experiencing homelessness. With the ARPA relief funds, the Anchorage Assembly collaborated with key community nonprofits and activists to expand and fund housing assistance.

Housing Assistance & Support: Part of the funding in this category was used to support the rapid rehousing of homeless youth transitioning out of shelters, and to provide temporary housing awaiting host home placement. Funding also provided for housing, addiction treatment, vocational training for the homeless, and transitional housing for homeless young adults 16-24 years. Part of the funding in this category was used to hire housing-intensive case managers to help people transition out of homelessness, especially those who did not qualify for the federal rental relief.

Healthy Childhood Environment, Education, Mental Health & Social Services: Funded school based mental health services for children’s and youths’ mental health needs exacerbated by the pandemic. Funded a social media campaign to help recruit foster homes. Provided funding for the expansion of a public health clinic and for the purchase and installation of “COVID-proofing” equipment and systems at the clinic.

Data System: Funds were used to expand a data system that will track and analyze performance measures. This included a component that will track successes and challenges and report monthly to the Anchorage Assembly Committee on Housing and Homelessness on barriers and progress.

Premium Pay (EC 4) - No funds allocated.

Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5) - There is one broadband project to provide broadband capacity, internet services and security cameras to the Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center.

Revenue Replacement (EC 6) -

<u>Government Services</u>: During the COVID-19 pandemic many government departments saw an increase in their expenses to provide services to their employees. There was also a decline in revenue due to mandatory shutdowns which caused many user fees that government relies on to be waived and/or postponed to a later date.

For many of the local government entities, grant relief focuses on the following economic harm:

- *Covering payroll*
- *Mortgages or rent for buildings*
- *Operating costs*
- *Providing sick leave resources to employees*

<u>Recovery:</u> Funds were allocated to connect unemployed workers with job opportunities. Grants included a comprehensive job search tool that would benefit both the employer and the future employee.

<u>Miscellaneous:</u> Other grant funding was used for improving direct services to citizens. These government services included road infrastructure, increasing public safety measures, environmental revitalization, and other local government improvements.

Promoting equitable outcomes

The Assembly looked to frame disbursements to serve and support identified underserved and disadvantaged communities within the Municipality of Anchorage.

a. Goals: The Assembly identified underserved communities including:
    - Youth 18-24 - Grants for youth displaced from their homes or traditional care due to the pandemic.
    - Homeless – Grants to provide services, support, resources, and temporary and permanent housing to this vulnerable and underserved population.
    - BIPOC community – Grants to provide services and support in addition to economic recovery, education, and community action for this community.

b. Awareness: Grants were given to businesses and nonprofits to promote awareness of services and resources provided by ARPA funds. Specific grants were targeted for outreach to BIPOC and underserved communities.

c. Access and Distribution: Grants were distributed to organizations that provided much-needed resources and services at the individual and street level. Realizing that many of the hard to reach and marginalized communities have difficulty accessing resources due to fear or lack of knowledge, grants were disbursed to organizations that work with specific underserved populations and are proactive at collaborating with these recipients and beneficiaries.

d. Outcomes: Under the lens of promoting equitable outcomes, the Assembly and the Mayor's office intend to provide equal services to all the citizens of Anchorage. This includes the homeless, the marginalized and others from historically disadvantaged communities. Our grant reporting, including our Quarterly Project & Expenditure reports that are located on the Municipality website, focuses on specific metrics and numbers of those served.

    Specifically, the Municipality of Anchorage has put an emphasis on funding Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2) to address areas of promoting equitable outcomes. Grants in Expenditure Category 2 include: assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits to address impacts of the pandemic which have been most severe among low-income populations. This also includes assistance with food, housing, and other needs; employment programs for people with barriers to employment who faced negative economic impacts from the pandemic (such as residents of low-income neighborhoods, minorities, disconnected youth, the unemployed, formerly incarcerated people, veterans, and people with disabilities); services to provide long-term housing security and housing supports, address educational disparities, or provide child care and early learning services; and other strategies that provide impacted and disproportionately impacted communities with services to address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic. These projects are further defined in the project reports.

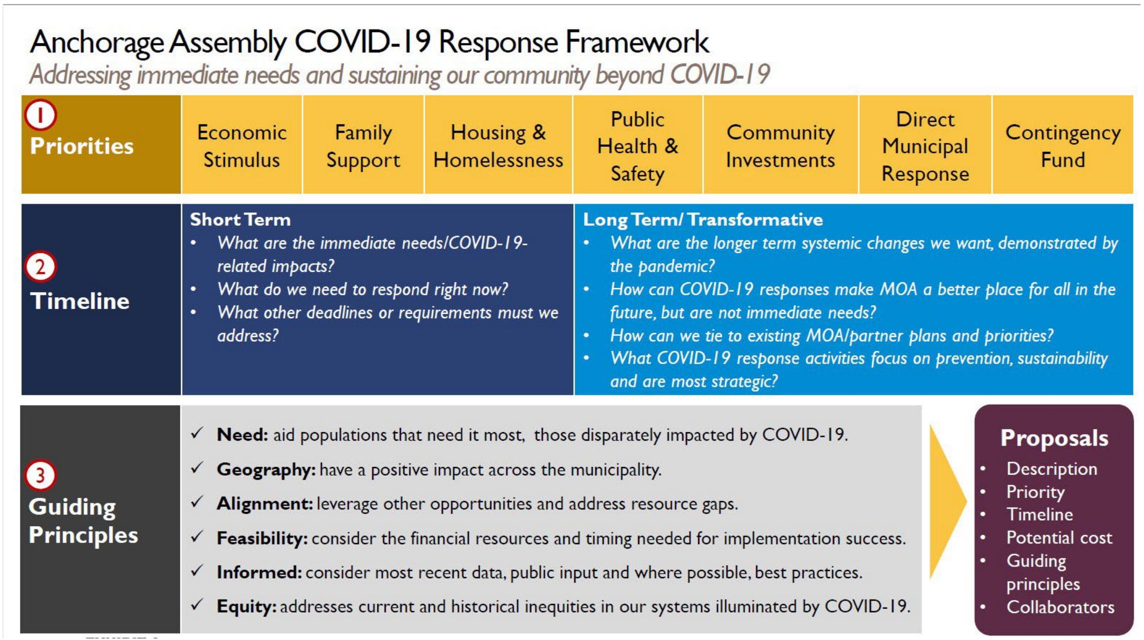
    In 2022, the Municipality of Anchorage Mayor's office began acquiring quantitative report data to assess and report back on the equitable distribution and serving of various underserved and disadvantaged communities. In 2026 we will continue to acquire and report to the Department of Treasury how we are serving these underserved communities.

    Anchorage Assembly members each represent a specific geographic area within the Municipality. Each member engaged in a process to ensure that each Assembly district had targeted funds. Realizing that certain districts contained traditionally marginalized communities, the Assembly targeted increased funding to these areas that demographically contained most of the marginalized and underserved individuals and nonprofits.

Community Engagement

Beginning in 2022, the Assembly and the Mayor's office promoted and engaged in 5 "ARPA Investment Reviews". This series of in-person and online sessions allowed the Assembly and community to hear back from the subrecipients as to their use of grant funding and the positive impact it has had for their organizations/businesses and the community. Link to the YouTube videos of these sessions is here.

In 2022, the Assembly and the Mayor's office engaged in 5 work sessions to discuss and identify future tranche 2 funding. These funding requests for the second tranche were advertised and promoted to all communities and nonprofits and resulted in over 200 applications for ARPA tranche 2 funding. Link to the work session's YouTube videos is here.



Labor Practices

Beginning in 2023 the Municipality of Anchorage began tracking through its Project & Expenditure report the status of infrastructure projects. MOA will track and report back to the U.S. Department of Treasury as to labor practices including project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring for the limited number of funded infrastructure projects.

Use of Evidence

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was a federal stimulus package aimed at providing economic relief to individuals, businesses, and state and local governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ARPA allocated funds to various municipalities and local governments, including the Municipality of Anchorage in Alaska.

The specific requirements for performance reporting under ARPA may vary depending on the guidelines set by the federal government. However, generally speaking, performance reports for ARPA funds typically involve demonstrating how the allocated funds were utilized to achieve the intended goals and outcomes.

When it comes to the Municipality of Anchorage's use of evidence for the ARPA performance report, several key components are involved:

1. **Data Collection and Documentation:** The municipality needs to gather relevant data on how the ARPA funds were spent. This may include financial records, invoices, contracts, and other documentation showing the expenses and projects funded by the ARPA funds.
2. **Project Outcomes and Objectives:** The municipality will need to outline the specific objectives and outcomes they intended to achieve with the ARPA funds. These could be related to economic recovery, public health, infrastructure improvement, or other areas directly impacted by the pandemic.

3. **Quantitative Metrics:** To demonstrate the effectiveness of the ARPA spending, the municipality asks for and uses quantitative metrics wherever possible. For example, they could report the number of jobs created, businesses supported, individuals vaccinated, or infrastructure projects completed.
4. **Qualitative Evidence:** In addition to quantitative data, qualitative evidence may also be included in the performance report. This could involve testimonials, case studies, or narratives from individuals and businesses impacted positively by the ARPA-funded initiatives. In 2022 the Assembly and the Mayor's office engaged in 5 work sessions to discuss and identify evidence for future tranche 2 funding. These funding requests for the second tranche were advertised and promoted to all communities and nonprofits and resulted in over 200 applications for ARPA tranche 2 funding.
5. **Comparative Analysis:** It may be beneficial for the municipality to compare the current situation to the pre-ARPA conditions or to similar regions that did not receive ARPA funds. This analysis can help demonstrate the effectiveness of the measures taken using the allocated funds. Through the use of key performance indicators, anecdotal and subgrantee report-backs we can compare present situations to pre-ARPA intervention.
6. **Transparency and Accountability:** The performance report should be transparent about how the funds were allocated and used. It should address any challenges or setbacks faced during the implementation of ARPA-funded programs. All performance reports are available on the Assembly website and quarterly project and expenditure reports are available upon request.
7. **Compliance with Reporting Requirements:** Finally, the Municipality of Anchorage must ensure that its performance report meets all the reporting requirements set forth by the federal government or relevant state authorities. The Municipality of Anchorage ensures that all Performance reports have been and presently are meeting all compliance reporting requirements set forth by the Department of Treasury.

It's important to note that the specific guidelines and requirements for ARPA performance reporting have evolved or changed since our last update. Therefore, for the most up-to-date and accurate information, it is advisable to consult official sources, such as the U.S. Department of the Treasury website or the Municipality of Anchorage's official website, for the latest guidance on ARPA performance reporting.

Performance Report

The Municipality of Anchorage is presently tracking performance of their ARPA SLFRF through report-backs, quarterly expenditure and project reports and discussions/conversations with subrecipients as to challenges and concerns in implementing their projects. In 2026 the Municipality of Anchorage's key performance indicators (KPIs) presently in place are as follows:

1. **Funding distribution**: This measure shows how quickly and efficiently funds are being distributed to eligible subrecipients. The percentage of ARPA funds distributed to date, or the number of businesses, organizations, or nonprofits that have received funding and other financial metrics are available upon request.
2. **Job preservation/creation**: Given that one of the primary goals of ARPA is to alleviate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, a key indicator is the number of jobs created or

sustained. Specifically, the MOA ARPA funds assisted subgrantees in Expenditure Categories such as NEI-2.10 Job Training Assistance, NEI-2.32 Business Incubators, and NEI-2.9 Small Business Economic Assistance, among others. Detailed data available upon request.

3. **Community impact**: This includes metrics that measure community impact, such as the number of people helped, services provided, or improvements in community indicators (like reduced homelessness, increased food security, etc.) The MOA ARPA grant tracks quarterly this key performance indicator and in the last quarter (Apr 1 – Jun 30 2026) Anchorage households were assisted (many households are recipients of services from multiple subgrantees) by ARPA subrecipient organizations. Detailed data available upon request.
4. **Financial management**: This would measure how effectively the funding is being managed, potentially including audits or assessments of financial controls and procedures. Each year the Municipality of Anchorage undertakes an audit of their finances. The ARPA grant is one among many areas that the auditors look at. Reports are available upon request.

The following is the project inventory for subgrantees that have been disbursed funds from the Municipality of Anchorage ARPA State and Local Fiscal Relief Fund. The project inventory is a listing of subgrantees that had a disbursement of ARPA funds from ARPA 1 (2021) and ARPA 2 (2022). All 91 subgrantees of ARPA 1 have had their fund disbursed including Expenditure Category 6.1 (they are classified as “Revenue Replacement” and are by and large internal Municipality of Anchorage departments and are not required to report quarterly or annually). All eligible ARPA 2 subgrantees including E.C. 6.1, have received their funds.

The following subgrantees were required to report annually their grant amount received, description of the grant, project overview, their evidence-based intervention, and their key performance indicator. Subrecipients report only on activities conducted during the 2026 Performance Report period, July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Four subrecipient projects are included in the 2026 Project Inventory.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Alaska Department of Fish and Game / Rabbit Creek Community Council	Potter Marsh Wildlife Viewing Access, Sanitation, and Pedestrian Safety Improvements	$771,091	Negative Economic Impacts – Aid to Tourism, Travel or Hospitality

Project Overview

The project improves tourist and resident access to wildlife-viewing and recreational opportunities at Potter Marsh. Its scope includes improvements intended to protect health and safety by providing vaulted toilet facilities and safer pedestrian connections between the parking area and wildlife-viewing structures.

Project Use of Evidence

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is providing tourism, health, and safety improvements to the Anchorage community with MOA ARPA funding. The identified community problem is unsafe pedestrian access to undeveloped wildlife-viewing areas and the lack of a proper facility to contain human waste. The evidence supporting the intervention was information collected from Rabbit Creek Community Council residents and Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff in February 2022.

Key Performance Indicator

Output measure: More than 25 visitors use the site per day during high seasonal-use periods.

Outcome measures: 100% appropriate use of the toilet facilities at the site and zero pedestrian incidents in the parking area where visitors connect to the wildlife-viewing structures.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Girdwood Inc.	Girdwood Workforce Childcare Project	$1,600,000	Assistance to Households

Project Overview

Girdwood Inc. and Little Bears Playhouse are addressing the community's workforce and childcare crisis by constructing a new childcare and early-learning facility. The existing facility, built by volunteers in the 1960s, has structural deficiencies and insufficient capacity to meet local demand. The new facility will expand childcare access, strengthen workforce participation, and provide a safer, more functional learning environment.

Project Use of Evidence

Access to childcare has been limited in Girdwood. This is due to several factors. One, the only full-time licensed childcare facility (in Girdwood) is operating out of a building built in the 1960s by volunteers. The capacity has been limited due to lack of adequate facility space. Additionally, the lack of commercial land zoned for childcare has been an issue, as well as high infrastructure costs for undeveloped parcels. There is currently no commercial land for sale on the Multiple Listing Service, nor has a commercial lot sold in Girdwood within the last 12 months. This evidence-based statistic is an example of the land scarcity to meet this community need.
The community has already demonstrated their support for building a new childcare facility on several occasions.

Locating a new site for Little Bears Playhouse was included in the 2014 Girdwood South Townsite Master Plan as a priority goal. This is evidence that the need for safe and affordable childcare is well known and has been highlighted in community planning efforts.
The demand for more childcare is evidenced by Little Bears Playhouse having a waitlist continuously for many years. The current waitlist is nearly equal to current enrollment. A community needs assessment was conducted by surveying local parents to better understand capacity demand.

Structural issues were identified in 2011 when municipal engineers/contractors surveyed the building. Frequent roof shoveling is required to continue operations. Parents cannot simply choose another facility, as Little Bears is the only full-time licensed facility in Girdwood.

Key Performance Indicator

The primary key performance indicator for the project is completion of the new childcare facility. Previous steps identified:

1. Securing site control (complete)
2. Design and planning (100% complete)
3. Project fully funded (98% complete)
4. Break ground & site preparation (100% complete)
5. Exterior shell to drywall (100% complete)
6. Drywall to finish (100% complete)

7. Outdoor play area (50% complete, remaining 50% expected within one month)

8. Certificate of occupancy (Conditional certificate of occupancy received from Municipality April 2026)

9. Childcare licensing approval (In process, application submitted)

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
Providence Health and Services - Alaska	Crisis Stabilization Center Workforce Development	$884,762	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Project Overview

The project supports recruitment of a diverse workforce to staff the Crisis Stabilization Center. Alaska's limited labor market and the broader shortage of healthcare and behavioral-health caregivers create significant recruitment challenges. Because the project may require recruiting and relocating caregivers from outside Alaska, in-person networking both inside and outside the state is an important strategy.

Project Use of Evidence

Providence is focusing on workforce recruitment and development to support the timely opening of the Crisis Stabilization Center. The Center is based on the Crisis Now model. Recruitment and hiring decisions are informed by the planned staffing model and by input from consultants with experience developing similar crisis stabilization centers in Alaska and the Lower 48.

Key Performance Indicator

Output measure: At the launch of the Crisis Stabilization and Crisis Residential program, hire 50% of the total required staffing.

Outcome measure: Ensure that newly onboarded caregivers receive evidence-based, trauma-informed training designed to support retention and resiliency.

Name	Project	Amount	ARPA Category
RurAL CAP	Affordable Housing Deferred Maintenance Project	$475,000	Negative Economic Impacts – Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Project Overview

The project supports interior and exterior building repairs and upgrades, ADA-compliant accessibility modifications, building-system and energy-efficiency improvements, and water and sewer line repair or replacement.

Project Use of Evidence

Anchorage faces a shortage of safe, affordable housing, particularly for low-income residents and people with disabilities. RurAL CAP's project addresses this need by preserving existing affordable units through deferred-maintenance repairs, ADA accessibility improvements, building and energy-system upgrades, and water and sewer repairs. These improvements will extend the useful life of the properties, improve safety and accessibility, and support long-term housing stability.

Key Performance Indicator

Output measure: Deferred-maintenance repairs and upgrades benefited 150 households living in RurAL CAP affordable housing properties.

Outcome measure: The project preserved and improved affordable housing for 150 households by enhancing safety, accessibility, energy efficiency, and long-term habitability.