

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recover Fund Project Request and Eligibility Determination

This document is to be completed by the person or persons requesting American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Coronavirus State and Local Government Fiscal Recovery Fund monies. The request will proceed through the [LOCAL GOVERNMENT NAME HERE]'s review process. The requestor will receive notice if the project is approved, with instructions on how to proceed.

BASIC INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTION

Program/Project Name:	<u>Ocean Isle Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant Centralization and Rehabilitation</u>
Program/Project Description:	<p>The project will provide centralized wastewater treatment and rehabilitate or replace existing wastewater treatment facilities. To regionalize wastewater treatment in the area, Brunswick County Public Utilities and the Town of Ocean Isle Beach have entered into an agreement whereby the town's aging wastewater treatment plant is conveyed to Brunswick County and the County will provide an additional 550,000 gpd of treatment capacity to meet the Town's existing permitted collection system tributary flows. Moreover, Brunswick County intends to decommission the aged, decrepit Sea Trail wastewater treatment steel package plant system with an original design capacity of 500,000 gpd and re-route flow to the centralized, regional Ocean Isle Beach WWTP. Also, through agreement with a developer, the County acquired the Ocean Ridge collection system, re-use system, and WWTP. The 500,000 gpd Ocean Ridge WWTP (100,000 gpd actual) was taken out of service and the capacity needs to be replaced. The 900,000 gpd re-use system needs significant rehabilitation or will need to be replaced with an alternative means of effluent disposal. A Preliminary Engineering Report will investigate a conjunctive re-use permit whereby there would be some direct discharge as well as new effluent disposal means such as high-rate infiltration basins or effluent re-use on other golf courses. The proposed project will result in the interconnection of the Ocean Isle Beach WWTP with the County's Carolina Shores WWTP to add additional operational flexibility. The non-discharge OIB WWTP and associated water reclamation spray fields must undergo significant rehabilitation to be able to meet the 1.60 mgd original design capacity of the system. Moreover, the installation of biosolids dewatering and residuals handling equipment as well as off-site digestion facilities will be part of the project. (Currently, a portion of the SBR treatment train must be used for residual storage.) It is anticipated that the failing spray irrigation fields that routinely result in Notice of Violations will be replaced with Re-use force mains to supply nearby golf courses with reclaimed water for irrigation, infiltration basins, and conjunctive re-use facilities to meet re-use application needs during wet weather periods. Additional land will be required for these facilities as there is not adequate land located on the existing OIB Wastewater Treatment site. The project will require the replacement of headworks facilities, the addition of biological treatment trains, filtration, disinfection, biosolids handling facilities (sludge thickening, sludge storage, sludge disposal), re-use facilities, and associated force mains. The rehabilitation of existing facilities, replacement of the decommissioned facilities, and regionalization commitments with the town and Ocean Ridge developer would necessitate an after-project capacity of the OIB WWTP of 2.2 mgd treatment capacity but a logical expansion based on the existing infrastructure would likely result in a 3.05 mgd after-project capacity that would match the 3.05 mgd of disposal capacity.</p>
Responsible Department:	Utilities
Program/Project Manager Name:	Brent Lockamy
Total Amount Requested:	\$5,314,733 - (\$4,942,733 ARPA + \$372,000 Pay-go funded)
Internal Account Code(s): (assigned by Finance)	<u>448275</u>
Treasury Expenditure Category Level:	<u>5 Infrastructure</u>
Treasury Expenditure Category:	<u>5.1 Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment</u>
Location:	Brunswick County
Will project contain Program Income? (i.e., increased rates, expansion projects, sale of equipment, etc.)	No

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Will there be additional county funding and post commitment? If yes, explain.	Yes, the amount requested is for land acquisition, preliminary design, and final design. Per 2023 CIP, additional costs for Arch/Engineer/Legal are estimated at \$1,712,267 with Construction costs of \$55,495,000 to be a county-funded post commitment. Total project costs are estimated at \$65,522,000.
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ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

Please select appropriate ARP/CSLFRF Category below and complete the required information. Note that each requested project may only be associated with one of the following categories: 1. Public Health; 2. Negative Economic Impact; 3. Premium Pay; 4. Water, Sewer, Stormwater Infrastructure; 5. Broadband; or 6. Revenue Replacement (Government Services). Please complete all information in the applicable category and attach any required additional justifications and documentation.

1. <u>Public Health</u>		
A. Enumerated Uses/ Safe Harbors (Must select one) <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 mitigation & prevention* <input type="checkbox"/> Medical expenses* <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioral health care* <input type="checkbox"/> Preventing & responding to violence* <input type="checkbox"/> Not on Enumerated List (Must complete Box B.)		
<i>*See detailed list of enumerated projects in each of these categories on pages 14-16 of the Overview of the Final Rule.</i>		
B. Written Justification (Please provide detailed responses to both these questions if checked "Not on Enumerated List" in Box A) (1) What is the specific negative public health impact or harm experienced by an individual or a class? (2) How does proposed project address the negative public health impact or harm?		
C. Is the project reasonably designed to benefit the individual or class that experienced a public health impact or harm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
D. Is the project related and reasonably proportional to the extent and type of public health impact or harm experienced?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
E. Does proposed project involve a capital expenditure between \$1 million and \$10 million?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Proceed to Box F.	<input type="checkbox"/> No – Proceed to Box G.
F. Is proposed project on enumerated list in Box A? <i>*Written justification must include the following elements:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the harm or need to be addressed; Explain why a capital expenditure is appropriate; and Compare the proposed capital expenditure to at least two alternative capital expenditures and demonstrate why the proposed capital expenditure is superior. . . 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Record written justification* in file, but not required in Project & Expenditure Reports	<input type="checkbox"/> No – Record written justification* in file and include in Project & Expenditure Reports
G. Does the proposed project involve a capital expenditure of \$10 million or more?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Record written justification* for file and include in Project & Expenditure Reports	<input type="checkbox"/> No – No further action required.

2. Negative Economic Impact

A. Enumerated Beneficiaries (Must select one)

*See detailed list of enumerated beneficiaries and income on pages 17 & 19 of the [Overview of the Final Rule](#).

Beneficiaries Who Experience Negative Economic Impact from the Pandemic

- ☐ Low-moderate income households or communities
- ☐ Household that experienced unemployment
- ☐ Households that experienced increased food or housing insecurity
- ☐ Households that qualify for the Children's Health Insurance Program, Childcare Subsidies through the Child Care Development Fund Program, or Medicaid
- ☐ When providing affordable housing programs: households that qualify for the National Housing Trust Fund and Home Investment Partnerships Program
- ☐ When providing services to address lost instructional time in K-12 schools: any student that lost access to in-person instruction for a significant period
- ☐ Small business that experienced decreased revenue or gross receipts, increased costs, financial insecurity, or other financial challenges due to the pandemic
- ☐ Nonprofit the experienced decreased revenue, increased costs, financial insecurity, or other financial challenges due to the pandemic
- ☐ Travel, tourism, hospitality industries
- ☐ Other industry that experienced at least 8% employment loss from pre-pandemic levels or is experiencing comparable or worse economic impacts as national tourism, travel, and hospitality sector
- ☐ Local government

Beneficiaries Who Experienced Disproportionately Negative Economic Impact from the Pandemic

- ☐ Low-income households and communities
- ☐ Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
- ☐ Households that qualify for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Free- and Reduced-Price Lunch (NSLP) and/or School Breakfast (SBP) programs, Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidies, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Head Start and/or Early Head Start, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Section 8 Vouchers, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and Pell Grants. For services to address educational disparities, Treasury will recognize Title I eligible schools as disproportionately impacted and responsive services that support the school generally or support the whole school as eligible.
- ☐ Small businesses operating in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
- ☐ Nonprofits operating in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)

☐ Not on enumerated list (Must complete Box B.)

B. Written Justification (Provide detailed response to this question if proposed beneficiary not on enumerated list in Box A)

Define the group/class/geographical area that experienced a negative economic impact from the COVID-19 pandemic. Be specific in defining group/class/area and in defining the negative economic impact to the group/class/area. **Provide QCT map.**

C. Enumerated / Safe Harbor Projects (Must Select One)

Projects for Negatively Economically Impacted

Households & Communities

- ☐ Food assistance & food banks
- ☐ Emergency housing assistance: rental assistance, mortgage assistance, utility assistance, assistance paying delinquent property taxes, counseling and legal aid to prevent eviction and homelessness & emergency programs or services for homeless individuals, including temporary residences for people experiencing homelessness
- ☐ Health insurance coverage expansion
- ☐ Benefits for surviving family members of individuals who have died from COVID-19
- ☐ Assistance to individuals who want and are available for

Projects for Disproportionately Negatively Economically Impacted

Households & Communities

- ☐ Pay for community health workers to help households access health & social services
- ☐ Remediation of lead paint or other lead hazards
- ☐ Primary care clinics, hospitals, integration of health services into other settings, and other investments in medical equipment & facilities designed to address health disparities
- ☐ Housing vouchers & assistance relocating to neighborhoods with higher economic opportunity
- ☐ Investments in neighborhoods to promote improved

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work, including job training, public jobs programs and fairs, support for childcare and transportation to and from a jobsite or interview, incentives for newly- employed workers, subsidized employment, grants to hire underserved workers, assistance to unemployed individuals to start small businesses & development of job and workforce training centers

- ☐ Financial services for the unbanked and underbanked
- ☐ Burials, home repair & home weatherization
- ☐ Programs, devices & equipment for internet access and digital literacy, including subsidies for costs of access
- ☐ Cash assistance
- ☐ Paid sick, medical, and family leave programs
- ☐ Assistance in accessing and applying for public benefits or services

- ☐ Childcare and early learning services, home visiting programs, services for child welfare- involved families and foster youth & childcare facilities
- ☐ Assistance to address the impact of learning loss for K-12 students (e.g., high-quality tutoring, differentiated instruction)
- ☐ Programs or services to support long-term housing security: including development of affordable housing and permanent supportive housing

Small Businesses

- ☐ Loans or grants to mitigate financial hardship, such as by supporting payroll and benefits, costs to retain employees, and mortgage, rent, utility, and other operating costs
- ☐ Technical assistance, counseling, or other services to support business planning

Nonprofits

- ☐ Loans or grants to mitigate financial hardship
- ☐ Technical or in-kind assistance or other services that mitigate negative economic impacts of the pandemic

Travel, Tourism, Hospitality Industry

- ☐ Aid to mitigate financial hardship, such as supporting payroll costs, lost pay and benefits for returning employees, support of operations and maintenance of existing equipment and facilities
- ☐ Technical assistance, counseling, or other services to support business planning
- ☐ COVID-19 mitigation and infection prevention measures (see section Public Health)

Local Government

- ☐ Public safety, public health, and human services salaries/benefits, to extent responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- ☐ Restoring pre-pandemic employment levels
- ☐ Effective service delivery

health outcomes

- ☐ Improvements to vacant and abandoned properties, including rehabilitation or maintenance, renovation, removal and remediation of environmental contaminants, demolition or deconstruction, greening/vacant lot cleanup & conversion to affordable housing
- ☐ Services to address educational disparities, including assistance to high-poverty school districts & educational and evidence-based services to address student academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs
- ☐ Schools and other educational equipment & facilities

Small Businesses

- ☐ Rehabilitation of commercial properties, storefront improvements & façade improvements
- ☐ Technical assistance, business incubators & grants for start-up or expansion costs for small businesses
- ☐ Support for microbusinesses, including financial, childcare, and transportation costs

☐ Not on enumerated list (Must proceed to Box D.)

D. Written Justification (Provide detailed response to this question if proposed project not on enumerated list in Box C.)

(1) What is the specific negative economic impact or harm caused or exacerbated by the pandemic?

(2) How does the proposed project address the impact or harm?

E. Is the project reasonably designed to benefit the individual or class that experienced a public health impact or harm?☐ Yes☐ No**F. Is the project related and reasonably proportional** to the extent and type of public health impact or harm experienced?☐ Yes☐ No**G. Does proposed project involve a capital expenditure between \$1 million and \$10 million?**☐ Yes – Proceed to H.☐ No – Go to Box I.**H. Is proposed project on enumerated list in Box C?****Written justification must include the following elements:*

- Describe the harm or need to be addressed;
- Explain why a capital expenditure is appropriate; and
- Compare the proposed capital expenditure to at least two alternative capital expenditures and demonstrate why the proposed capital expenditure is superior.

☐ Yes – Record written justification* for file, but not required in Project & Expenditure Reports☐ No – Record written justification* for file and include in Project & Expenditure Reports**I. Does the proposed project involve a capital expenditure of \$10 million or more?**☐ Yes – Record written justification* for file and include in Project & Expenditure Reports☐ No – No further action needed**3. Premium Pay**Please provide description of project and attach any necessary documentation. Must conform with requirements in 31 CFR 35.6(c). (More details on this expenditure category are available [here](#).)**4. Water, Sewer, Stormwater Infrastructure**

Please provide description of project and attach any necessary documentation. Must conform with requirements in 31 CFR 35.6(e)(1).

A Preliminary Engineering Report will investigate a conjunctive re-use permit whereby there would be some direct discharge as well as new effluent disposal means such as high-rate infiltration basins or effluent re-use on other golf courses. The proposed project will result in the interconnection of the Ocean Isle Beach WWTP with the County's Carolina Shores WWTP to add additional operational flexibility. The non-discharge OIB WWTP and associated water reclamation spray fields must undergo significant rehabilitation to be able to meet the 1.60 mgd original design capacity of the system. Moreover, the installation of biosolids dewatering and residuals handling equipment as well as off-site digestion facilities will be part of the project. (Currently, a portion of the SBR treatment train must be used for residual storage.) It is anticipated that the failing spray irrigation fields that routinely result in Notice of Violations will be replaced with Re-use force mains to supply nearby golf courses with reclaimed water for irrigation, infiltration basins, and conjunctive re-use facilities to meet re-use application needs during wet weather periods. The project will require the replacement of headworks facilities, the addition of biological treatment trains, filtration, disinfection, biosolids handling facilities (sludge thickening, sludge storage, sludge disposal), re-use facilities, and associated force mains. The rehabilitation of existing facilities, replacement of the decommissioned facilities, and regionalization commitments with the town and Ocean Ridge developer would necessitate an after-project capacity of the OIB WWTP of 2.2 mgd treatment capacity but a logical expansion based on the existing infrastructure would likely result in a 3.05 mgd after-project capacity that would match the 3.05 mgd of disposal capacity.

Choose eligible EPA Program from drop-down box below:

CWSRF-Centralized Wastewater Treatment

5. Broadband Infrastructure

Please provide description of project and attach any necessary documentation. Must conform with requirements in 31 CFR 35.6(e)(2).

6. Revenue Loss

This portion of ARP/CSLFRF funds may be used for the provision of government services. Please provide description of project and attach any necessary documentation. Note that water, sewer, stormwater, and broadband projects may be funded in this category, without having to meet all of the criteria specified in the other categories.

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Program Administration Information

Proposed Project Budget, delineated by Cost Item for Allowable Cost Review

U.G. Provisions	Cost Items	Estimated Amount	Necessary/ Reasonable	% Allocable	Required Documentation (as applicable to each project)
200.430	Compensation	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		Effort Certification forms for reporting, payroll records, pay schedule, timesheets (non-exempt)
200.431	Fringe Benefits	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		Written benefits policy
200.475	Travel	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		
200.439	Equipment & Other Capital <u>Land</u>	<u>\$3,520,000</u>	<u>Yes</u>		Additional justification for capital projects over \$1M, COI documentation, procurement documentation, property management
200.453	Materials & Supplies	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		Procurement documentation
200.318 & 200.92	Contractual Services & Subawards	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		Sub/Contractor Classification Checklist, Agreements, COI, risk assessment, monitoring plan, procurement documentation
200.459	Consultants / Professional Services <u>Architectural/Engineering/Legal</u>	<u>ARPA- \$1,422,733</u> <u>County- \$372,000</u>	<u>Yes</u>		Agreements, COI documentation, procurement documentation
200.465	Occupancy (Rent & Utilities)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		Agreements, COI documentation, procurement documentation, program income
200.471	Telecommunications	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		
200.473	Training & Education	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		
200.413 (c)	Direct Administrative Costs	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		
	Add'l Cost Item		<u>No</u>		
	Total Direct Costs	<u>N/A</u>	<u>No</u>		
Total Project Budget		<u>\$5,314,733</u>			

Administrative Classification

Administration Type	<input type="checkbox"/> In-House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contractor/Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/> Sub-Recipient/Subaward
If Contractor/Vendor or Sub-recipient, has this been verified using the Classification Checklist?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Program Sub-Recipient and/or Contractor List:

Name	Tax ID #	Completion of Classification Checklist?	Contractor or Sub-Recipient	DUNS #/UEI	Date checked SAM.gov
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.		

Key Project Dates

Due Date	Task Type	Task Description	Status
November 15, 2022	Project Task	Complete Selection of Consultant	Not Started
April 30, 2023	Project Task	Complete Preliminary Engineering Report	Not Started
April 30, 2025	Project Task	Complete Final Design	Not Started

Certification

I certify that I have reviewed the ARP Policy (link), [Final Rule](#), [Final Rule Overview](#) and [ARP Compliance and Reporting Guidance and Requirements](#) and understand the responsibilities as project manager in providing detailed documentation, maintaining proper monitoring and compliance and submitting complete quarterly reporting packages in a timely manner to ensure deadlines are met. **CERTIFY** ☒

Reports on all projects (including subawards) are due to US Treasury within 30 calendar days after the end of each calendar quarter. Departments will be required to submit detailed reporting requirements to Finance for review to meet quarterly deadline. ARP funds may be used to cover eligible costs incurred during the period of March 3, 2021 - December 31, 2024. Obligations incurred by December 31, 2024 must be expended by December 31, 2026.

ALL projects will have to be defended to the US Treasury in reporting.

ARPA Committee to Complete

PROHIBITIONS VERIFICATION:

By checking these boxes, the ARPA Committee attests that the statements are true based on information at the time of request.

☒ Project does not contravene the statutory purpose of ARP, including program, service, or capital expenditure that includes a term or condition that undermines efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19

☒ No Conflict of Interest

☒ Complies with all state and federal laws and local ordinance

☒ No pension fund deposit

☒ No borrowings or debt service

☒ No financial reserves

Uniform Guidance Compliance Requirements:

By checking these boxes, the ARPA Committee attests that the statements are true.

☒ Financial Management Compliance (adopted grant project ordinance; accounting system that tracks obligations and expenditures by project and provides comparison to budgeted amounts; appropriate journal entries completed and documented)

☒ Internal Controls (adopt and routinely monitor internal controls related to all financial processes for receiving, managing, obligating, and expending the federal award funds)

☒ Civil Rights Compliance (policy adopted and implemented)

☒ Eligible Project Documentation (policy adopted and this worksheet completed and approved according to the policy)

☒ Allowable Cost / Cost Principles Compliance (policy adopted and this worksheet completed and approved according to the policy)

☒ UG Procurement Compliance (only if applicable; policy adopted and implemented)

☒ UG Property Management Compliance (only if applicable; policy adopted and implemented)

☐ Program Income Compliance (only if applicable; policy adopted and implemented)

☐ Subaward Compliance (only if applicable; policy adopted and implemented)

Program/Project #:
Program/Project Short Name:

Legal to Complete

STATE LAW AUTHORITY:

G.S. 153A-276 financing public enterprise improvements

ARP ELIGIBILITY (Final Rule):

31 CFR 35 at 4-5 make necessary investment in water or sewer infrastructure

Signature Approvals

John Nichols

Requester/Department Head (Email Approval Accepted)

9/26/2022

Date

Haynes M. Brigman

Designated ARP Funding Manager (Email Approval Accepted)

9/28/2022

Date

Robert V. Shaver, Jr.

Legal

9/28/2022

Date

Aaron C. Smith

Director of Finance

9/28/2022

Date

Steven T. Stone

County Manager

9/28/2022

Date

Provide signed copy of ARPA Project Eligibility Determination and Documentation Template to ARPA Committee at ARPA.Committee@brunswickcountync.gov for review and approval.

Once approved, all projects require an agenda item for BOCC approval. ARP Committee MUST approve project template prior to agenda item being completed.