



**COUNTY** *of* **VENTURA**

# American Rescue Plan Act



**OVERVIEW & STRATEGY  
DEVELOPMENT**

October 5, 2021

# COUNTY COVID-19 FUNDING OVERVIEW



## Federal Assistance

### CARES Act

March 2020

CRF

Coronavirus Relief  
Fund

**\$167M**

PRF

Provider Relief  
Fund  
**\$44M**

OTHER

AAA  
CHC  
CDBG

**\$12M**

Public Health

ELC  
PHEP

**\$8M**

## Reimbursement of County Costs

### FEMA

Ongoing

Testing

**\$80M**

Great  
Plates  
**\$44M**

Project  
Roomkey  
**\$17M**

Other Expenses

**\$15M**

Vaccinations

**\$6M**

## Federal Grant

### ARP Act

March 2021

SLFRF

State & Local  
Fiscal Recovery  
Fund

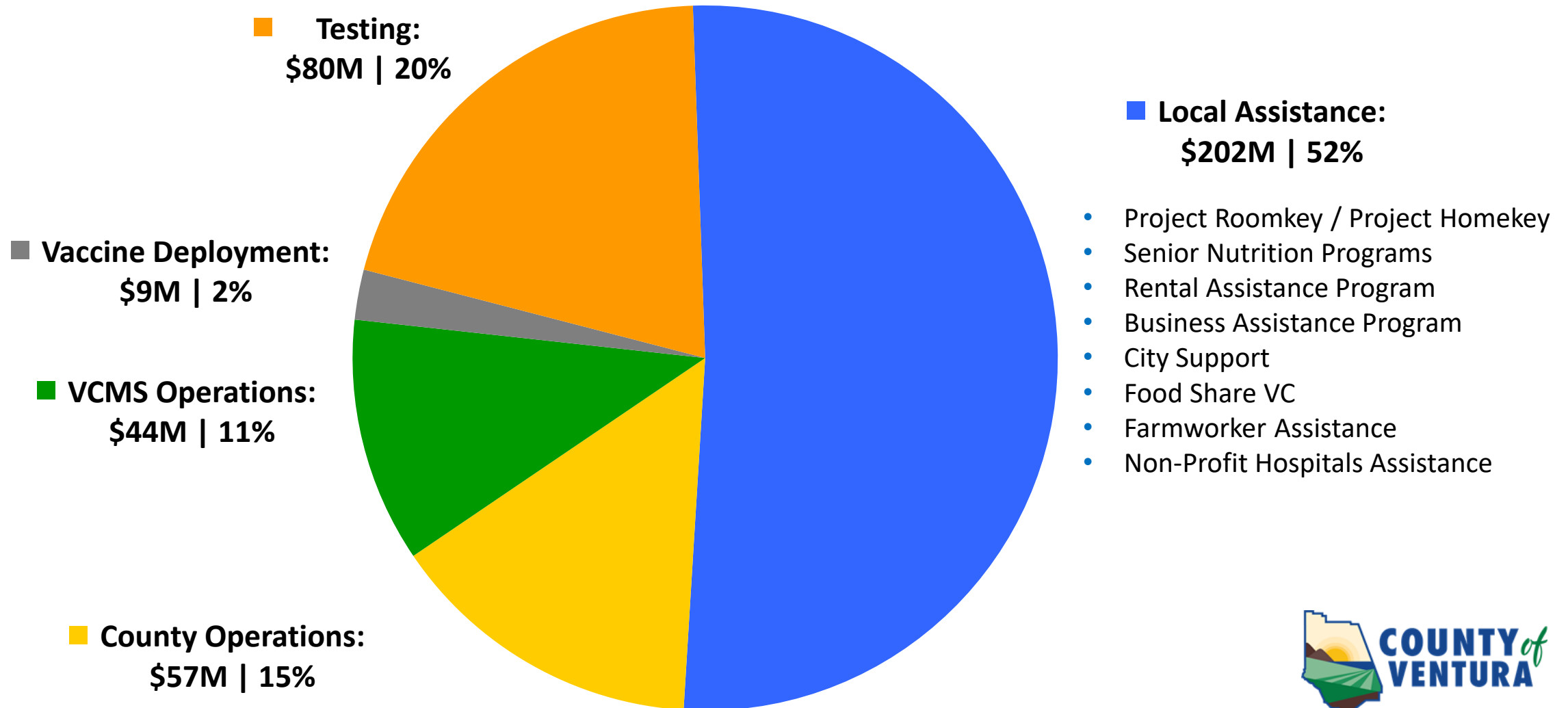
**\$164M**

Community  
Health Centers  
**\$15M**

Homeless  
Assistance  
**\$4.5M**

Older  
Americans Act  
**\$900K**

# COVID-19 Spending \$392M (CRF, PRF, & FEMA) Thru Sept 2021



# Estimated ARPA Funds to Date

## Estimated Amounts to the County

SLFRF (split into 2 tranches over 2 years)	\$ 164.3M
Emergency Rental Assistance 2 & Homelessness	\$ 20.7M
HCA (Ambulatory Care, Public Health, Behavioral Health)	\$ 25.3M
Other Departments (HSA, AAA, Airports)	\$ 3.2M
<b>Total Estimated to County</b>	<b>\$ 213.5M</b>

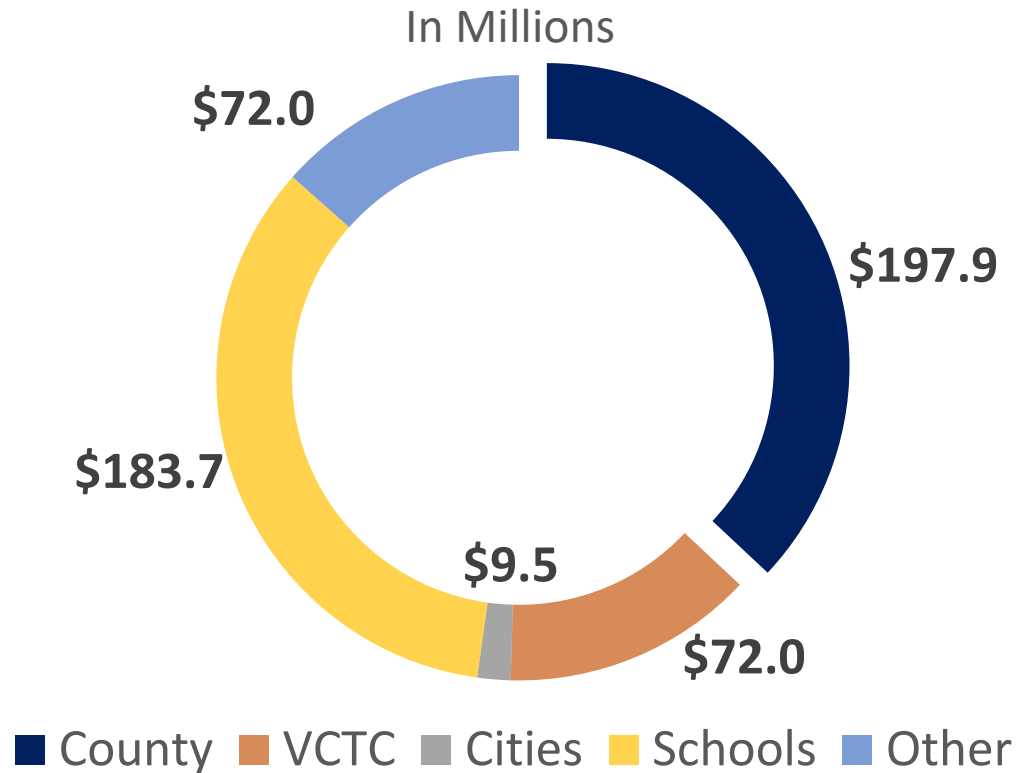
## Estimated Amounts to Other Entities in the County

Cities-SLFRF (split into 2 tranches over 2 years)	\$ 140.8M
Schools	\$ 148.0M
Restaurant Revitalization Fund	\$ 60.0M
Shuttered Venue Operators Grantees	\$ 11.8M
Emergency Rental Assistance 2-Oxnard	\$ 7.4M
HOME-ARP Oxnard and Ventura	\$ 4.4M
<b>Total Estimated Amounts to Other County Entities</b>	<b>\$ 372.4M</b>

# Over \$1.2B Federal Funding To Ventura County

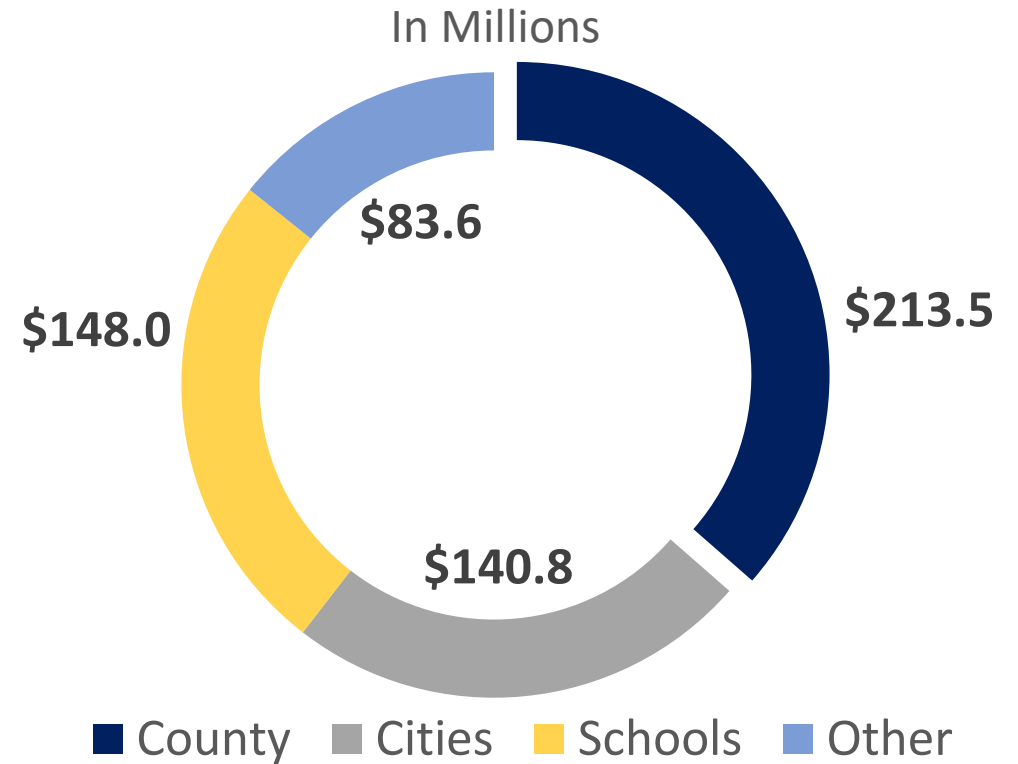
**\$535M**

**2020 CARES & Other Federal Funding**



**\$586M**

**Estimated 2021 ARPA Allocations**



# FEMA Reimbursement Status

## FEMA Project Status as of 10/5/2021

FEMA Status	Amount
Obligated to Date	\$ 104.2M
Under FEMA Review	\$ 8.4M
To Be Submitted	\$ 50.1M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 162.7M</b>

## FEMA Projects by Category as of 10/5/2021

FEMA Project	Amount
Great Plates	\$ 44.0M
Testing	\$ 80.4M
Project Roomkey & Motel Voucher	\$ 17.2M
Vaccination Costs	\$ 6.2M
Other Costs	\$ 14.9M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$162.7M</b>



# Audit and Reporting Compliance

- **Ongoing Efforts**

- In-depth audit of funds utilized in FY 20, 21, 22 (CRF, PRF, and FEMA)
- Long-term oversight & potential audits from Treasury OIG, State Department of Finance, and HHS
- Ongoing compliance & guidance review
- Daily attendance of federal, state, and organizational webinars and calls
- Extracting data from payroll and financial systems to support reporting and compliance
- Documentation organization, review, and retention
- Coordination across multiple County departments
- SEFA preparation & Single Audit
- Subrecipient Monitoring
  - Evaluate subrecipient risk of noncompliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward

- **Audit Compliance - Why is this Important?**

- Significant increase in audit sample size and compliance review
- Potential impacts on credit ratings
- Risk of funding clawback





# ARP Act Background

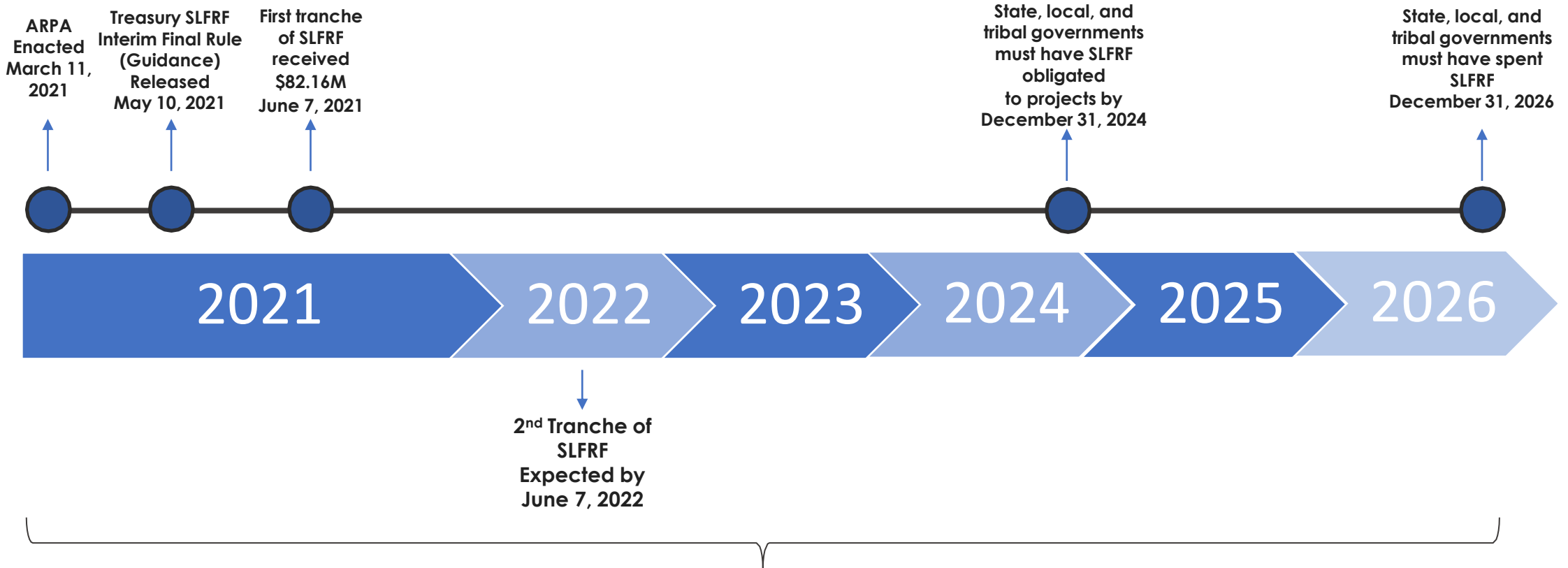
- On March 11, 2021, the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**, a federal funding plan approved by the Congress and the President of the United States
- Plan includes \$350 billion of funding to State and Local Governments to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and its related economic impacts
- Known as the **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF)**
- Two tranches: \$82 million received June 2021, \$82 million to be received in one year
- The ten cities in Ventura County collectively received approximately \$140M of funding



# Comparison of CRF to SLFRF

Category	2020 CARES Act CRF (Response) 	2021 ARP Act SLFRF (Recovery) 
Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200)	Limited	Substantially All
Program Reporting Compliance	Financial reporting only	Ongoing detailed financial, performance, and compliance reporting that <u>requires</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Equity focus</li> <li>b) Needs assessment</li> <li>c) Performance metrics</li> <li>d) Measured outcomes</li> <li>e) Evidence-based strategies</li> </ul>
Loss Revenue Replenishment	None	For Provision of Government Services
Expenditure Timeline	Short-Term Immediate need to fight COVID (3/1/20-12/31/21) (18 months)	Long-Term Strategic planning to sustain economic recovery Expenditures & costs after 3/3/21 Obligated by 12/31/24; Expended by 12/31/26

# SLFRF Timeline



**Period of Performance for SLFRF**  
March 3, 2021- December 31, 2026

# Eligible Uses for SLFRF Funds



1

## PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENSES

Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral health, and certain public health and safety staff



2

## NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Respond to negative economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector



3

## LOST REVENUE

Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic



4

## ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors



5

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, vital wastewater, stormwater infrastructure, and broadband

*“Treasury encourages uses of funds that promote strong, equitable growth, including racial equity.”*

Source: Treasury SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance

### SLFRF Restrictions:

- 1) Deposits into Pension Funds
- 2) Non-Federal Match
- 3) To service debt, satisfy a judgement or settlement, contribute to a “rainy day” fund



# Equitable Economic Recovery

*“...the Interim Final Rule [Treasury Guidance] aims to promote and streamline the provision of assistance to individuals and communities in greatest need, particularly communities that have been historically disadvantaged and have experienced disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.”*

*Source: Treasury Compliance and Reporting Guidance*

The SLFRF reporting guidance addresses priority areas for an equitable economic recovery, including provisions that:

- prioritize equity
- focus on economically distressed areas
- support community empowerment
- encourage strong labor practices
- spotlight evidence-based interventions

# Equitable Economic Recovery

## Treasury defines Equity per Executive Order 13985:

*“...the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.”*

**Source: White House Executive Order 13985**

***On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government***



# Reporting Requirements

*Accountable, Transparent, Focused on Recovery*

## ❖ Project and Expenditure Report

- Format and additional guidance from Treasury TBD
- Types of projects funded
- Financial Data
- Information on contracts, grants, and subawards over \$50,000
- First Report by 1/31/22 (Initially 10/31/21); Due Annually through 3/31/27

## ❖ Recovery Plan

- Broad & comprehensive, required for recipients' w/ population >250k
- Must be published on a County website
- Details approach and objectives
- Descriptions of funded projects
- Performance and evidence information
- Promoting equity
- Due Annually 7/31/22 through 3/31/27

# Strategic Planning

## TEMPORARY NATURE

- Avoid programs with ongoing costs
- Prioritize transformational projects that have non-recurring expenditures; i.e., critical infrastructure

## MEASURED APPROACH

- Use other dedicated grants and programs first when possible
- Reserve ARPA funds for priorities ineligible for other federal and state assistance programs
- Expenditures should be spread over the qualifying period to enhance budgetary and financial stability
- Evidence-based strategies

## MAXIMIZE FUNDING

- Consider state-level ARPA efforts, esp. infrastructure and enhancements of state funding resources & legislation
- Explore regional initiatives with other ARPA recipients to maximize funding

# County Goals & Implementation

## GOALS

- Public Health: Suppress Further Spread Of COVID-19
- Stimulate Economic Recovery
- Infrastructure
- Board Priorities
  - Mental Health
  - Housing/Homelessness
  - Sustainability

## IMPLEMENTATION

- Promote equitable outcomes
- Data-driven strategies
- Leverage community partnerships
- Outreach for diverse stakeholder input (social media engagement, public comment, etc.)
- Internal collaboration on program implementation



# Potential Projects & Programs

## **PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENSES**

- COVID 19 Expenses including Capital Investments Needed to Respond to COVID Emergency
- Other Public Health services including Mental Health, Substance Use, and Alternative Care Facilities

## **NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS**

- Aid to impacted individuals, industries, businesses, non-profits
- Job Training Assistance

## **SERVICES TO DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED COMMUNITIES**

- Housing Support including Affordable Housing & Services for Unhoused Persons
- Board & Care Facilities
- Education Assistance, Early Learning, Direct Aid

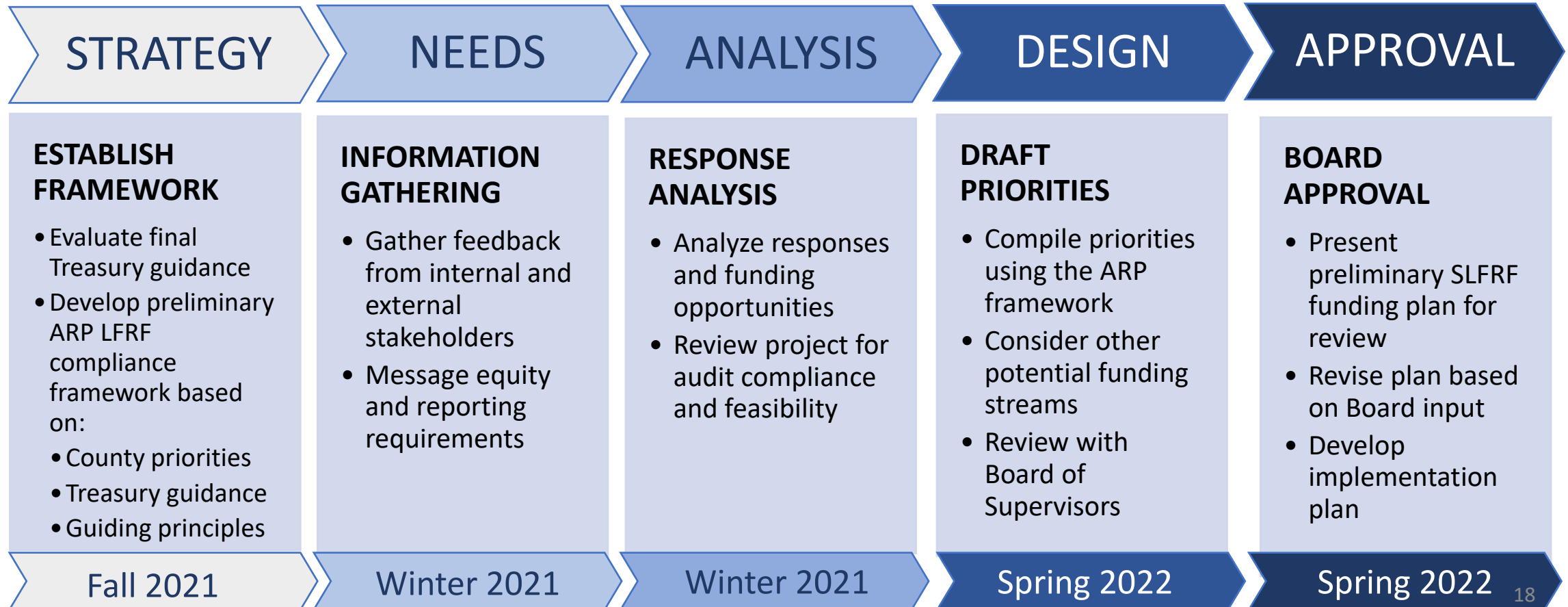
## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Water/Sewer Stormwater Infrastructure
- Broadband including “Last Mile” Projects
- Homeless Transitional Shelters, Permanent Supportive Housing
- Potential to Fund Other Infrastructure Needs in Disadvantaged Communities
- Potential to Fund Projects Other than Water/Sewer/Broadband Infrastructure



# American Rescue Plan

## STRATEGY & PLANNING PROCESS



# Next Steps

- Confirm eligible expenditures based on guiding principles and Final Rule (yet to be released)
- Identify appropriate data metric parameters for eligible costs
- Build capacity to administer ARPA funded programs
- Form team to execute strategy & delivery of funds
- Develop standards & approaches for data collection and audit readiness
- Continued engagement with your Board



**COUNTY** *of* **VENTURA**

**Questions?**