United States Treasury (UST)
Office of State Budget Management (OSBM)
North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO)

Relief: short-term response efforts initiated by government and other entities from March 2020 – December 2020

Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF)

Recovery: medium-term response efforts initiated by government and other entities that help recover economy to January 2020 baseline

- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.
  - State and Local Fiscal Relief Funds
    - State Fiscal Relief Funds (SFRF): appropriated by the recent state budget
    - Local Fiscal Relief Funds (LFRF):
      - Counties and Larger Municipalities got their funds directly.
      - State was a pass-through for smaller, “non-entitled units” (NEU)s of local government

Where in NC is this park? Hint: Opei’s too?
Critical information points about ARPA

1. Dates of use
2. Final Rule vs. Interim final rule
3. Revenue replacement related projects
4. Uniform Guidance
5. Partnering allowability
6. Matching for other projects.
7. Capital projects when it’s not revenue replacement
8. Premium pay
9. Programs
10. Looking ahead to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill

Where in NC is this park? Joyn me for pecans?
$3.3 billion in Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
  • 100 counties receive funds directly from US Treasury
  • 26 largest cities receive funds directly from US Treasury
  • 525 smallest municipalities receive funds through NCPRO
    • Funds are received in 2 tranches
    • Allowable period started March 3, 2021
    • Local governments have until 12/31/2024 to obligate funds and until 12/31/2026 to spend funds

$5.4 billion in State Fiscal Recovery Funds
  • With the budget
    • State agencies and some direct recipients have funds.
    • Same use regulations apply, reporting can be different than "local ARPA" depending on the size of your local government
2. Final Rule changes, as they relate to parks

Final Rule takes effect April 1st, but you can take advantage of the changes now.

- **Replacing Lost Public Sector Revenue**
  The final rule offers a [standard allowance is now possible for revenue loss of $10 million](#), does not change to total amount

- **Public Health and Economic Impacts**
  In addition to programs and services, the final rule clarifies that recipients can use funds for capital expenditures that support an eligible COVID-19 public health or economic response. Parks are mentioned on page. 128-131 of Final Rule

- **Premium Pay**
  The final rule delivers more streamlined options to provide premium pay, by broadening the share of eligible workers. **Consider staff that were working to keep these essential facilities clean and safe, senior health programs, general health program staff or school support programs you have.**

- **Water, Sewer & Broadband Infrastructure**
  The final rule significantly broadens eligible broadband infrastructure investments to address challenges with broadband access, affordability, and reliability, and adds additional eligible water and sewer infrastructure investments. **If you have campground or want to add internet into your park systems, this might help the most.**
3. Revenue replacement change

$10 Million

- Most local governments will go the revenue replacement standard claim now.
  - Get ready to prepare your arguments for funds.

Revenue loss calculation

- For local governments that got more than $10M may be in a more unique situation.
  - Using lost revenue is still your most flexible option for use.

What can you use lost revenue for:

"Recipients may use funds up to the amount of revenue loss for government services; generally, services traditionally provided by recipient governments are government services, unless Treasury has stated otherwise."
4. Uniform Guidance (UG) for your projects

Even if you claim the revenue replacement option, you will still need to:

- You will need to outline what projects you plan to do
- Keep that in mind if you're looking at a project that's already slated for development
- You will need to follow federal Uniform Guidance

Where in NC is this park? It’s on the Cashee, Cashy, Cashimmimi. Whatever, it’s on a river and it’s awesome.
5. Combined projects are allowable

- Local governments are authorized, by the UST to transfer their ARPA funds to:
  - The State
  - Another unit of local government
  - Non-profit
  - Private entity

As long as it complies with:
- Award Terms and Conditions of 2 C.F.R. 200.
- State Laws and local ordinances
- *NC Law does not allow transfer to private entity or non-profits as a direct transfer*

See Final rule page 358 for more info.
6. Leverage other funds with ARPA funds

ARPA funds can be used for match with state programs such as:

- The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
- Complete the Trails Fund
  - *If you’re within a state trail corridor.*
  - Not clear if there is a match
- PARTF- Equipment and Facilities for the Disabled
- Land and Water Fund
- Coastal Beach Access

Federal Programs check first

- UST allows ARPA to be used as non-federal match unless the Federal entity has requested and been given a waiver.
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund: check with the National Parks Service
  - Recreation Trails Program Grant: Department of Transportation.

Complete the Trails Fund info can be found starting on page 325 of Appropriations Act of 2021.
Waiver information about non-federal match can be found on page 369 in the Final Rule.
7. Social Determinants of Health

If not using revenue replacement then you're likely looking at Section 3 categories.

Start with the end in mind


- Look at Appendix

Disproportionately Impacted Communities
Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) still matter, but "impacted is now recognized as broader"

Final rule now broader impacted populations:
1. Low-income household and communities.
2. Households in QCTs
3. Households that qualify certain federal benefits.
4. Household receiving services provided by Tribal governments.

Source: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/qct/1statetable.html?statefp=37.0&DDAYEAR=2021

**Premium pay**
- Maintenance staff
- Sanitation, disinfection and cleaning staff.
- Local government work force
- Those that work with assisted living and daily living.

**Programs**
"Any program, service, capital expenditure, or other assistance that provided to a disproportionately impacted community, household, population or community including"

- (iii) Investments in communities to promote improved health outcomes and public safety such as parks, recreation facilities, and programs that increase access to healthy foods;

Premium pay: a Non-exhaustive list of eligible employees can found on the Final Rule summary page
Programs: Page 420 of the US Treasury Final Rule.
10. Looking Foward

Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill
• Passed on November 6, 2021

Looks like it may have some benefits for:
• Pedestrian and bicycle trails, sidewalks, bikeways and connections within community or regions are named as part of the Active Transportation Network/Spine (pg. 184-189 of the bill)
  • The Active transportation infrastructure investment program seems to get a lot of ink in the bill. So this would keep an eye on this most closely.
    • Planning & Design grants are specifically mentioned (pg. 186 of the bill)
    • Admin costs
    • 2022-2026 looks like the time frame

• Parks that have FERC related benefits may be eligible for additional incentives. (pg. 596)

Link to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill

Where in NC is this park? Looks like a good place to enjoy a Cheerwine.