



County of Tulare CARES Act Funding Plan

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

JULY 14, 2020

Brief History

- On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into law.
- CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and appropriated \$150 million to the fund.
- Tulare County was allocated approximately \$48.9 million within the State of California's enacted budget for FY 2020/21.
- On July 7, 2020, your Board authorized the County Administrative Officer to sign and submit a certification for receipt of funds from the California Department of Finance CARES Act Funding and realignment backfill funding revenues.

County Certification

The County's certification will follow the proposed uses of the funds provided as direct payment under the applicable provisions of subdivision (d) of Control Section 11.90 of the Budget Act of 2020.

Funds will be used only for costs that:

- a. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- b. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020, for County of Tulare
- c. Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020

County Certification

The County is required to agree to all of the following as conditions of receipt of funding:

- a. Adhere to federal guidance and the State's stay-at-home requirements and other health requirements as directed in gubernatorial Executive Order N-33-20, any subsequent Executive Orders or statutes, and all California Department of Public Health orders, directives, and guidance in response to COVID-19 emergency
- b. Use the funds in accordance with all applicable provisions of subdivision (d) of Control Section 11.90 of the Budget Act of 2020
- c. Report on expenditures and summarize regional collaboration and non-duplication of efforts within the region by September 1, 2020, and return any funds that are unspent by October 30, 2020 (unless extended by the Department of Finance based on reported expenditures to date), and repay the State for any cost disallowed after federal review
- d. Retain records to support reported COVID-19 eligible expenditures and participate in audits as outlined by the federal government and State

CARES Act Funding Plan

The County's CARES Act Funding Plan allocates the \$48.9 million into the following categories:

1. Proposed Local Government Support: \$29.8 million
2. Proposed Community Investment: \$14.1 million
3. Contingency: \$5 million

The stated amounts may be subject to change based on operational needs for COVID-19 pandemic response as determine by the CAO.

CARES Act Funding Plan

Proposed Local Government Support: \$29.8 million

Countywide expenditures incurred due to COVID-19 in FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21

- Salary and Benefit Costs
- Retrofit County Facilities
- Telework Technology Upgrade
- Personal Protective Equipment and Disinfectant Procurement
- Mobile COVID-19 Testing and Health Screening
- Expand Services due to COVID-19
- Expand Testing Capability and Contact Tracing
- Other Eligible Countywide Expenses

CARES Act Funding Plan

Proposed Community Investment: \$14,100,000

Community investment expenditures due to COVID-19 in FY 2020/21

- Small Business Support
- Health Care Support
- Rental and Utility Assistance Program
- Food Assistance
- Homeless Transitional Housing
- Local Chamber of Commerce Educational Support
- Upgrade and Rehabilitate Parks
- Other Eligible Community Expenses

County of Tulare CARES Act Funding Plan

Contingency: \$5,000,000

Contingency funds are designated for unforeseen expenditures or impacts caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Contingency funds may be used to increase any previously mentioned allocations.

COVID-19 Business Assistance Program Guidelines

\$5,000,000 to support local small businesses impacted by COVID-19.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Attest to a loss of revenue as a result of COVID-19 pandemic
2. For-profit business physically located and operating in Tulare County
3. Ten or fewer full-time equivalent employees
4. Two full years of operation prior to March 19, 2020
5. No unpaid or delinquent property taxes
6. Business applicant will not be eligible to apply if business has been approved or has received disaster relief funding

Award

1. Up to \$5,000 per small business
2. \$1 million distributed per County Supervisorial District
3. Selection by lottery

Requests

- Approve the County of Tulare CARES Act Funding Plan for initial usage of \$48,938,000 of the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act funds due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 public health emergency for necessary expenditures incurred and all budgetary and accounting transactions necessary to process associated transfers and reimbursements to cover costs for fiscal years 2019/20 and 2020/21 as determined by the County Administrative Officer with Auditor-Controller concurrence.
- Review and provide direction to staff regarding the COVID-19 Business Assistance Program Guidelines to provide \$5 million in grants to small businesses for the implementation of COVID-19 health and safety measures.
- Direct the County Administrative Officer to provide a final CARES Act Expenditure Report.
- Approve the necessary budget adjustments per the attached AUD 308 (4/5ths vote required).