



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 21-1493A, Version: 1

Subject:

Resolution supplementing the Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund Budget for unanticipated revenue from the Department of Treasury for the Emergency Rental Assistance program and from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for reimbursement of Red Tide expenditures.

Recommended Action:

Adopt a resolution to recognize and appropriate unanticipated revenue for a particular purpose in the Fiscal Year 2021 General Fund Budget.

- \$31,186,540.00 for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to help individuals who have experienced financial hardship due to or during COVID-19, demonstrate a risk of housing instability or homelessness, and have earnings less than 80% of the Area Median Income.
 - a.) \$21,428,218.80 was received from the U.S. Department of Treasury through the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Emergency Rental Assistance to be disbursed no later than September 30, 2022.
 - As of August 30, 2021, \$8.8M has been distributed to 1,261 unique households.
 - b.) Initial funds of \$9,758,334.16 were received from the U.S. Department of Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act for a second phase of Emergency Rental Assistance to be disbursed by September 30, 2025.
- In response to Red Tide, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has awarded the County \$3,000,000.00 for reimbursement of biological debris removal expenses.
 - a.) The agreement allows for reimbursement of \$670,454.00 to the City of St. Petersburg.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.4 Support programs that seek to prevent and remedy the causes of homelessness and move homeless individuals to permanent housing

Practice Superior Environmental Stewardship

3.3 Protect and improve the quality of our water, air, and other natural resources

Summary:

This resolution recognizes \$34,186,540.00 in unanticipated revenue into the FY21 General Fund budget. Funding is appropriated as follows:

- \$31,186,540.00 is appropriated to the General Government budget for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
- \$3,000,000.00 is appropriated to the Public Works department to support expenditures from the removal of biological debris from Red Tide.

Background Information:

As part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act, funding

was distributed among states and local governments to provide rental assistance to individuals financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pinellas County received \$21,428,218.80 from the Consolidated Appropriations Act to be disbursed to eligible recipients no later than September 30, 2022. The County has also received initial funding of \$9,758,334.16 from the American Rescue Plan Act for an additional phase of rental assistance that extends to September 30, 2025. The balance of the total award of \$24,395,835.40 will be available at a later date based on achievement of defined milestones.

As of August 30, 2021, \$8.8M has been distributed for rental and utilities assistance for 1,261 unique households. Program information continues to be distributed through community partners' websites, social media, and email outreach.

The County has also been awarded \$3,000,000.00 from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to reimburse Pinellas County for costs associated with biological debris removal resulting from Red Tide.

Fiscal Impact:

Adoption of this resolution recognizes revenue of \$34,186,540.00 and increases the FY21 operating budget for the General Fund by the same amount. This resolution is consistent with estimates included in the FY22 Tentative Budget.

Staff Member Responsible:

Cecilia McCorkell, Countywide Budget Division Director, Office of Management & Budget
Aubrey Phillips, Strategic Performance Manager, Office of Management & Budget

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

Resolution