

# **City of Lincoln Nebraska Recovery Plan**

## **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

2021 Report

**City of Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**2021 Recovery Plan**

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

### **Executive Summary**

The City of Lincoln intends to pursue the following activities using American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery funds:

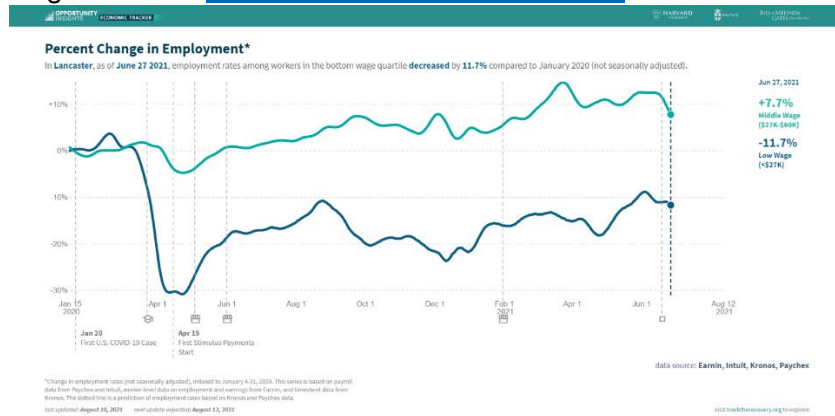
1. Address negative economic impacts: Deploy business mortgage and rental assistance to stabilize and grow businesses most impacted by the pandemic.
2. Address negative economic impacts: Develop job training programs that serve individuals most impacted by the pandemic, including low-wage workers and youth, and have a clear connection to workforce demand.
3. Revenue replacement: Ensure that city services that lost revenue due to the pandemic can provide stable services into the future.
4. Public health: Invest in public health programs including vaccine services and addressing health disparities.
5. Address negative economic impacts: Support travel, tourism, and business district initiatives under development in prior to the pandemic, such as Lincoln's music district and sports facilities.

### **Uses of Funds**

The City of Lincoln has planned the following uses of funds:

1. Address negative economic impacts: Deploy business mortgage and rental assistance to stabilize and grow businesses most impacted by the pandemic.
  - a. Lincoln is developing a grant assistance program designed for small businesses that have experienced significant revenue loss due to the pandemic. This assistance will be provided in compliance with Treasury Guidance:
    - i. State, local, and Tribal governments may provide assistance to small businesses to adopt safer operating procedures, weather periods of closure, or mitigate financial hardship resulting from the COVID-19 public health emergency, including:  $\text{\text{A}}$  Loans or grants to mitigate financial hardship such as declines in revenues or impacts of periods of business closure, for example by supporting payroll and benefits costs, costs to retain employees, mortgage, rent, or utilities costs, and other operating costs.
    - ii. Initial analysis predicts a 1.75 economic multiplier effect.
2. Address negative economic impacts: Develop job training programs that serve individuals most impacted by the pandemic, including low-wage workers and youth, and have a clear connection to workforce demand.
  - a. Lincoln is developing a competitive workforce development grant program for nonprofits and/or institutions of higher education implementing programs designed for unemployed workers and youth who were unemployed prior to the pandemic and seeking employment.

- i. These programs will provide approved job training per the Treasury guidance, such as: assistance to unemployed workers, including services like job training to accelerate rehiring of unemployed workers; these services may extend to workers unemployed due to the pandemic or the resulting recession, or who were already unemployed when the pandemic began and remain so due to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic.
- ii. Employment data illustrates a significant disparity in employment for low-wage workers. <https://opportunityinsights.org/>



3. **Revenue replacement:** Ensure that city services that lost revenue due to the pandemic can provide stable services into the future.
  - a. Lincoln intends to replace lost revenue to strengthen support for vital public services and help retain jobs
4. **Public health:** Invest in public health programs including vaccine services and addressing health disparities.
  - a. Lincoln will invest in public health initiatives per the Treasury guidance. A broad range of services and programming are needed to contain COVID–19. Mitigation and prevention efforts for COVID–19 that are planned for Lincoln include vaccination programs and supports for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services.
5. **Address negative economic impacts:** Support travel, tourism, and business district initiatives under development in prior to the pandemic, such as Lincoln’s music district and sports facilities.
  - a. Lincoln is developing a competitive grant program for nonprofits and/or business districts negatively impacted by the pandemic.
    - i. The program will be implemented per the Treasury guidance. Aid may be considered responsive to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic if it supports businesses, attractions, business districts, and Tribal development districts operating prior to the pandemic and affected by required closures and other efforts to contain the pandemic. For example, a recipient may provide aid to support safe reopening of businesses in the tourism, travel, and hospitality industries and to business districts that were closed during the COVID19 public health emergency, as well as aid

for a planned expansion or upgrade of tourism, travel, and hospitality facilities delayed due to the pandemic.

### **Promoting equitable outcomes**

The City of Lincoln intends to pursue the following equity initiatives using American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery funds:

1. Address negative economic impacts: Deploy business mortgage and rental assistance to stabilize and grow businesses most impacted by the pandemic.
  - a. Equity goals for this program include significant participation by small, female, and minority owned businesses, promoted through targeted outreach and awareness building in partnership with community organizations serving diverse communities. \$2 million will be dedicated to micro businesses, which have a larger representation of diverse business owners.
2. Address negative economic impacts: Develop job training programs that serve individuals most impacted by the pandemic, including low-wage workers and youth, and have a clear connection to workforce demand.
  - a. Equity goals for this program include alignment with the Greater Lincoln Workforce Development Board goals of living wages, promoting career pathways, increasing awareness of workforce programs, and enhancing youth employment. Initiatives should promote equity and address equity for all, including people of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality. Supporting programs located in or serving individuals in Qualified Census Tracts and/or programs serving unemployed individuals are a priority.
3. Revenue replacement: Ensure that city services that lost revenue due to the pandemic can provide stable services into the future.
  - a. This is based on a calculation of lost revenue that is not yet complete. Additional analysis is needed to identify the level of lost revenue and appropriate avenue for replacement.
4. Public health: Invest in public health programs including vaccine services and addressing health disparities.
  - a. Equity goals for this program include vaccine and public health promotion to diverse communities through strategic partnerships with cultural and religious organizations.
5. Address negative economic impacts: Support travel, tourism, and business district initiatives under development in prior to the pandemic, such as Lincoln's music district and sports facilities.
  - a. Equity goals for this program include a focus on disproportionately impacted communities. Strategies should result in opportunities that improve the Lincoln, Nebraska communities disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic as defined by their location in a qualified census tract. Promotion of the availability of funds will be proactive and engage diverse communities and entities that serve low-income communities.

## Community Engagement

The City of Lincoln consulted and leveraged the following reports, surveys, and commissions in plan development in order to incorporate written, oral, and other forms of input that capture diverse feedback from constituents, community-based organizations, and the community as a whole.

- Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan: This plan was developed with significant community feedback including citizen engagement, a nine-member citizen board, public hearings, and approval by the City Council.
- Downtown Lincoln Master Plan: This plan was developed with significant community feedback including community engagement and working groups, focus group by interest area, an online survey, and community open houses, as well as a representative and a stakeholder project committee and steering committee.
- Lancaster County Board of Commissioners Survey: This survey was made available to the entire County, encompassing the City of Lincoln.
- Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force Report: This report was developed by a diverse group of representative community stakeholders, including business leaders, diversity experts, and service providers.
- Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force Survey: This survey was conducted across the Lincoln Business community and resulted in engagement from a diverse group of business leaders in a variety of industries from numerous different perspectives and representing all areas of the city.
- Joint Budget Committee Priority Matrix: The Joint Budget Committee is an existing fund distribution committee with City, County, and Community representatives.
- Visitor's Promotion Committee: The Visitor's Promotion Committee is an existing fund distribution committee with City, County, and Community representatives, specifically including leadership from industries hardest hit by the pandemic, including travel and tourism.
- Lincoln/Lancaster County Board of Health: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Board of Health is an existing fund distribution committee with City, County, and Community representatives.
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Local Plan: This plan is developed by the Greater Lincoln Workforce Development board and includes a public hearing and public comment period. The Board includes diverse representation, specifically including service providers to individuals with disabilities and English as a Second Language learners.

## Labor Practices

The City of Lincoln does not currently have any specific plans in place to undertake infrastructure projects to which labor practices would be applied as referenced in the reporting criteria.

## Use of Evidence

The City of Lincoln has planned the following uses of funds that may incorporate an evidence informed or evidence-based approach.

1. Address negative economic impacts: Develop job training programs that serve individuals most impacted by the pandemic, including low-wage workers and youth, and have a clear connection to workforce demand.
  - a. Applicants will be asked to indicate their evidence-based or evidence informed approaches and will be supported in evidence building activities as appropriate.
2. Public health: Invest in public health programs including vaccine services and addressing health disparities.
  - a. Evidence based and evidence informed approaches will be used as programs are developed and implemented.

## Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

No funds have been expended to date.

| Category |   | Cumulative expenditures to date (\$) | Amount spent since last Recovery Plan |
|----------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1        | Expenditure Category: Public Health   |                                      |                                       |
| 1.1      | COVID-19 Vaccination  |                                      |                                       |
| 1.2      | COVID-19 Testing  |                                      |                                       |
| 1.3      | COVID-19 Contact Tracing  |                                      |                                       |
| 1.4      | Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)                       |                                      |                                       |
| 1.5      | Personal Protective Equipment   |                                      |                                       |
| 1.6      | Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)  |                                      |                                       |
| 1.7      | Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency |                                      |                                       |
| 1.8      | Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)                     |                                      |                                       |
| 1.9      | Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19                           |                                      |                                       |

| Category |   | Cumulative expenditures to date (\$) | Amount spent since last Recovery Plan |
|----------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.10     | Mental Health Services  |                                      |                                       |
| 1.11     | Substance Use Services  |                                      |                                       |
| 1.12     | Other Public Health Services  |                                      |                                       |
| 2        | Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts   |                                      |                                       |
| 2.1      | Household Assistance: Food Programs   |                                      |                                       |
| 2.2      | Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid   |                                      |                                       |
| 2.3      | Household Assistance: Cash Transfers  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.4      | Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.5      | Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention   |                                      |                                       |
| 2.6      | Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.7      | Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives) |                                      |                                       |
| 2.8      | Contributions to UI Trust Funds*  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.9      | Small Business Economic Assistance (General)  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.10     | Aid to nonprofit organizations  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.11     | Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.12     | Aid to Other Impacted Industries  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.13     | Other Economic Support  |                                      |                                       |
| 2.14     | Rehiring Public Sector Staff  |                                      |                                       |
| 3        | Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities                                       |                                      |                                       |
| 3.1      | Education Assistance: Early Learning  |                                      |                                       |
| 3.2      | Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.3      | Education Assistance: Academic Services   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.4      | Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.5      | Education Assistance: Other   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.6      | Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care  |                                      |                                       |
| 3.7      | Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.8      | Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System           |                                      |                                       |
| 3.9.     | Healthy Childhood Environments: Other   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.10     | Housing Support: Affordable Housing   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.11     | Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons  |                                      |                                       |
| 3.12     | Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance   |                                      |                                       |



| Category |  | Cumulative expenditures to date (\$) | Amount spent since last Recovery Plan |
|----------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3.13     | Social Determinants of Health: Other   |                                      |                                       |
| 3.14     | Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators |                                      |                                       |
| 3.15     | Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation                                |                                      |                                       |
| 3.16     | Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions                |                                      |                                       |
| 4        | Expenditure Category: Premium Pay  |                                      |                                       |
| 4.1      | Public Sector Employees  |                                      |                                       |
| 4.2      | Private Sector: Grants to other employers                                      |                                      |                                       |
| 5        | Expenditure Category: Infrastructure   |                                      |                                       |
| 5.1      | Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment                                  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.2      | Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance                  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.3      | Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.4      | Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.5      | Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.6      | Clean Water: Stormwater  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.7      | Clean Water: Energy conservation   |                                      |                                       |
| 5.8      | Clean Water: Water conservation  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.9      | Clean Water: Nonpoint source   |                                      |                                       |
| 5.10     | Drinking water: Treatment  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.11     | Drinking water: Transmission & distribution                                    |                                      |                                       |
| 5.12     | Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation                  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.13     | Drinking water: Source   |                                      |                                       |
| 5.14     | Drinking water: Storage  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.15     | Drinking water: Other water infrastructure                                     |                                      |                                       |
| 5.16     | Broadband: "Last Mile" projects  |                                      |                                       |
| 5.17     | Broadband: Other projects  |                                      |                                       |
| 6        | Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement                                      |                                      |                                       |
| 6.1      | Provision of Government Services   |                                      |                                       |
| 7        | Administrative and Other   |                                      |                                       |
| 7.1      | Administrative Expenses  |                                      |                                       |
| 7.2      | Evaluation and data analysis   |                                      |                                       |
| 7.3      | Transfers to Other Units of Government   |                                      |                                       |
| 7.4      | Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)                |                                      |                                       |

See Section C(7) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Project Inventory

**Projects**

The City of Lincoln has planned uses of funds but has not implemented any projects to date. Future reports will outline projects implemented and include appropriate specific information regarding funding amounts, categories, descriptions, and use of evidence.

Performance Report

**Performance Indicators**

The City of Lincoln has planned uses of funds but has not implemented any projects to date. Future reports will outline key performance indicators including input and outcome measures.

Ineligible Activities: Tax Offset Provision (States and territories only)

*For the initial reporting year, States and territories will report the following items related to the Tax Offset Provision 31 CFR 35.8. Baseline revenue or revenue-increasing covered charges are not required at this time.*

| Item                                | Amount |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes | \$     |

*See Section C(11) on page 28 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.*

*Additional guidance will be forthcoming for reporting requirements regarding the tax offset provision.*

Not applicable.