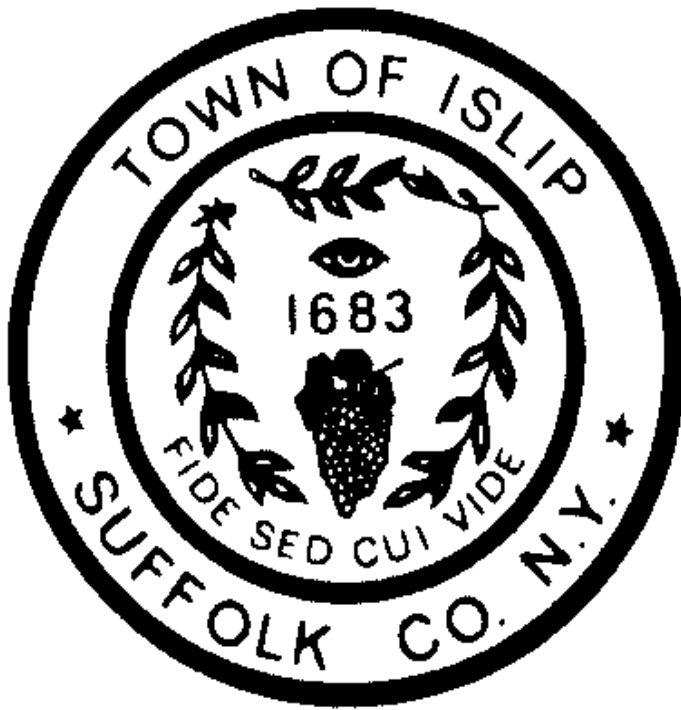


Town of Islip, New York **Recovery Plan**



State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2023 Report

Town of Islip, New York
2023 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

On May 10, 2021, the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), or Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) to provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. The focus of the SLFRF is to fight the pandemic and support businesses struggling with its public health and economic impacts, maintain vital public services, and build an equitable recovery by supporting long-term growth and opportunity in communities.

The SLFRF is designed to deliver \$47.6 million to the Town of Islip (Town), in two tranches, one year apart, of \$23.8 million each, to support the immediate pandemic response, bring back jobs and lay the groundwork for a strong and equitable recovery. The funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

The Department of Treasury adopted an interim Final Rule in May of 2021 and the Final Rule on January 6, 2022 to implement eligible use categories and other restrictions on the use of funds under the SLFRF program. The Final Rule took effect on April 1, 2022 and the interim final rule remained in effect until that time. The Final Rule is used as a guideline for state and local governments on how funding should be managed and distributed. The Treasury's Final Rule details the Town's compliance responsibilities and provides additional information on eligible and restricted uses of SLFRF award funds and reporting requirements.

The Town received its first \$23.8 million allocation on August 18, 2021, and its second allocation on September 6, 2022. This resource will help the Town meet pandemic response needs and rebuild a stronger and more equitable economy. The Town of Islip Board has adopted twenty-one specific projects and budgets to be funded by the SLFRF totaling \$17,255,453, of which \$12,621,139 has been obligated and \$8,940,378 for actual expenditures.

This Recovery Plan Report will be posted on the Town's website (<https://islipny.gov/departments/comptroller>)

Uses of Funds

SLFRF provide the eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments with a substantial infusion of resources to meet pandemic response needs and rebuild a stronger, more equitable economy as the county recovers. Within the categories of eligible uses, recipients have broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities.

The Islip Town Board considered the following expenditure categories as part of the first and second allocations of \$47.6 million:

- a. *Public Health (EC 1)* - The Town is currently evaluating projects to meet this eligible use category of the SLFRF.
- b. *Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)* – Pursuant to the Final Rule, Fiscal Recovery Funds may be used to assist households or populations, preferably those most disproportionately impacted, by the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Small businesses and non-profits throughout the Town of Islip faced severe challenges due to the pandemic resulting from shutdowns, decrease in revenue, and increased costs. Fiscal Recovery Funds will be allocated to address negative economic impacts in these sectors. To support businesses in weathering the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town continues to provide assistance targeted specifically to small businesses and non-profits impacted by the pandemic. The Town has established a Keep Islip Thriving (KIT) Grant and allocated \$2,000,000 to eligible businesses and organizations as part of the Town's rebuilding effort. The Town's ARPA COVID Relief Task Force has establish program guidelines for funding and marketing this opportunity through mailings, area chambers of commerce, and community groups.
- c. *Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3)* - The Town is currently evaluating projects to meet this eligible use category of the SLFRF.
- d. *Premium Pay (EC 4)* – Premium pay may be provided retroactively for work performed at any time since January 27, 2020. To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency, Town has allocated approximately \$350,000 of SLFRF funding to provide a premium payment to essential eligible workers that are key to efforts to recover from the pandemic and serving Town residents. Town's ARPA COVID Relief Task Force has defined criteria to assist in identifying eligible workers who fall within the Final Rule's definition of "essential worker."
- e. *Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)* – Downtown Central Islip was selected as the winner of the \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) in the Long Island region. Part of the initiative is to introduce a sewer system in downtown Central Islip to eliminate current limitations to the area's development and support a more varied and vibrant mix of commercial activities, including 'wet uses' like restaurants. This project consists of installing new sewer line along Carleton Avenue between Suffolk Avenue and Smith Street, promoting dense, mixed-use development along the corridor and laying the foundation for future investment. As the installation of sewers is considered critical to the project, original funding sources in excess of the DRI grant were deemed insufficient. Although other funding sources (such as the Town of Islip IDA grant, additional County funds and Federal EPA grants) are being pursued to help alleviate some of the burden to the original grant, the Town has allocated \$1,275,000 of SLFRF to provide additional financial assistance to the project upon the execution of an intermunicipal agreement between the Town and the County. The Town has currently added a town-wide drainage project and Lexington Village Sewer District project under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) guidelines and allocated \$2,000,000 and \$700,000, of ARPA funds respectively. The town-wide drainage project includes the upgrade, repair or replacement/construction of traditional pipe, storage and treatment systems and storm drain inlet protection on various roads throughout the Town. The Lexington Village Sewer District project involves the replacement of its failing on-site sewage treatment plant.

- f. *Revenue Replacement EC 6)* - The Town has calculated its Revenue Loss to be approximately \$22.4 million between fiscal years 2019 and 2020, based upon the Town's 2019 and 2020 Audited Financial Statements.¹ Sections 602(c)(1)(C) and 603(c)(1)(C) of the American Rescue Plan Act provide recipients with broad latitude to use the Fiscal Recovery Funds for provisions of government service, as defined under the Census Bureau's concept of "General Revenue from Own Sources" in the Annual Survey of State and Local Government Finances. Government services can include, but are not limited to, maintenance or pay-go funded building of infrastructure including roads; modernization of cybersecurity (including hardware, software, and protection to critical infrastructure); health services; environmental remediation; school or educational services; and the provision of police; fire and other public safety services.

Town's allocation of \$10,892,000 SLFRF funding towards town-wide park repairs and/or improvements. The Town of Islip, like many other governments, witnessed a significant increase in park usage during the COVID-19 pandemic. Investments in Town parks, public beaches and other outdoor recreation spaces will promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Promoting equitable outcomes

The Town continues to assess the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency and how to best utilize Fiscal Recovery Funds to achieve its goal to promote equitable outcomes and direct action towards low to moderate income areas. The Town has created various projects to provide impacted communities with improved outdoor facilities (such as parks, turf fields, playground equipment, etc.) in order to promote healthier living, outdoor recreation, and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, infrastructure improvements and small business and non-profit grant programs. The Town continues to design future SLFRF funded programs with equity at the center, highly target investment, focus outreach to individuals and household living in qualified census tracts and/or experienced disparities and structural barriers to personal and professional growth that have adversely impacted their quality of life.

Community Engagement

Town of Islip will incorporate substantial community engagement into planning for the allocation of SLFRF funding. This community engagement includes public hearings, outreach through social media networks and targeted community mailings to Town of Islip residents.

All allocations of Fiscal Recovery Funds by the Town will be made pursuant to Town Board Resolution. All resolutions and public hearings are advertised on the Town website and public hearing notices are in local newspapers prior to the public meeting. At Town Board Meetings, residents are afforded an opportunity to comment on matters before the Town Board during the public comment portion of the public meeting.

¹ The Town utilized the US Treasury's Template, and followed all guidance in the Final Rule and the Treasury's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) as of April 27, 2022, including the Appendix regarding eligible Revenues to include and exclude in the calculation.

All Town Board Meetings are live streamed through the Town's website and accessible thereafter on the Town's YouTube platform. Furthermore, all Town Board meetings are broadcasted on a dedicated Government and Education cable television channel, with multiple viewing times.

Additionally, the Town and each Town Councilmember maintain active social media pages and routinely inform and engage with Town residents on a wide variety of town related issues. Town's social media extends to the following platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. In addition to social networking outreach, Town residents are encouraged to stay informed and up to date on important news, alerts and by signing up for our E-Alerts on the Town's website (<https://islipny.gov/notify-me>).

The Town has established four councilmatic districts within the Town for councilmembers to engage with their respective constituents. Each councilmember also has social media and routinely interact with residents on a wide variety of town related issues.

The Town tries to make all reasonable accommodations to assist citizens, such as alternative formats, sign language, translations, interpretators, closed captioning/subtitling, review of accommodation requests outside of our ADA plan.

Labor Practices

Federal and State labor standards will be followed for all ARPA funds including ensuring that prevailing wages are paid, New York State WICKS Law followed, and Davis Bacon Wage standards are adopted. Additional required labor standards will be incorporated into each investment area as part of the planning process. Compliance with all required labor standards will be monitored by Town of Islip administration staff.

Use of Evidence

The Town will seek to apply evidence-based data as appropriate in all programs undertaken with SLFRF funding and may engage an expert consulting firm to assist if needed. The Town has yet to allocate any SLFRF funding to any such project, but is in the process of identifying and preparing SLFRF funding projects to be considered by the Town Board.

Performance Report

The Town manages project performance using various oversight and control processes which are customized to the specific project or project type. As a general overview, once a project is adopted by the Town Board, an accountable Project Manager or Department Head is assigned who is responsible for ensuring the project adheres to all Town policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Treasury Final Rule for use of American Rescue Plan Act monies. Oversight and monitoring are conducted by Town control functions, including the Supervisor's Office, the Comptroller's Office, and the Purchasing Department. In addition, most of the infrastructure projects have an internal or external Engineer assigned, who assists in the development of bid specifications, provides guidance in the evaluation of Bid and/or RFP responses, provides construction oversight and inspections of work, and reviews and certifies to the Town invoices for payment.

The Town has an established ARPA committee comprised of the Town Supervisor, Chief of Staff, Town Attorney, Assistant Town Attorney, Comptroller, Secretary to Comptroller, Economic Director, and Foreign Trade Zone Director. The committee meets regularly to discuss new projects and the status and progression of previously board approved projects.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project F.6410.49200.00.ARP29: KIT Grant

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.9, Small Business Economic Assistance

Project Overview

- The KIT Grant Program will assist eligible candidates who demonstrate a negative financial impact due to COVID. This effort consists of a grant program designed to provide direct financial aid and outreach to support local businesses and nonprofit organizations with a focus on those in greatest need. Small businesses and nonprofits that qualify for the KIT Grant can receive upwards of \$5,000, with no re-payment required.
- KIT is located on the Town's website at: <https://islipny.gov/town-news/covid-19/1574-town-launches-k-i-t-keep-islip-thriving-business-grant-program-2#:~:text=The%20KIT%20Grant%20Program%2C%20coordinated,with%20no%20re%20Dpayment%20required.>

Project F.4999.19200.00.ARP29: Premium Pay

Funding amount: \$349,303

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1, Public Sector Employees

Project Overview

- To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the Town that are performing such essential work. Premium pay is designed compensate workers that, by virtue of their employment, were forced to take on additional burdens and make great personal sacrifices as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project F.8110.39200.00.ARP55: Central Islip Sewer

Funding amount: \$1,275,000

Project Expenditure Category: 5.5, Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure

Project Overview

Downtown Central Islip was selected as the winner of the \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) in the Long Island region. Part of the initiative is to introduce a sewer system in downtown Central Islip to eliminate current limitations to the area's development and support a more varied and vibrant mix of commercial activities, including 'wet uses' like restaurants. This project consists of installing new sewer line along Carleton Avenue between Suffolk Avenue and Smith Street, promoting dense, mixed-use development along the corridor and laying the foundation for future investment. As the installation of sewers is considered critical to the project, original funding sources in excess of the DRI grant were deemed insufficient. Although other funding sources (such as the Town of Islip IDA grant, additional County funds and Federal EPA grants) are being pursued to help alleviate some of the burden to the original grant, the Town has allocated \$1,275,000 of SLFRF to provide additional financial assistance to the project upon the execution of an intermunicipal agreement between the Town and the County.

Project LR001: Casamento Zipline

Funding amount: \$125,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to design and construct a zipline at Casamento Park in Bay Shore.

Project LR002: Brentwood Recreation Center Gym

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to replace and update windows, air conditioning, floors, bleachers, bathrooms and paint at the Brentwood Recreation Center Gym.

Project LR003: Central Islip Community Park

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is for the installation of a pre-fabricated building for bathrooms and a concession stand at the Central Islip Community Park.

Project LR004: Eastview Field

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to install turf fields at Eastview.

Project LR005: East Islip Marina

Funding amount: This project has been cancelled

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to install turf fields for multipurpose use at East Islip Marina.

Project LR006: Pickleball and Tennis Courts

Funding amount: \$370,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to expand the footprint of courts already in use that will then accommodate three tennis courts and two pickleball courts in Holbrook.

Project LR007: Little League of the Islips

Funding amount: \$700,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to install turf for three little league fields at Westbrook.

Project LR008: Sayville Marina Park

Funding amount: \$822,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to replace playground equipment and new fence at Sayville Marina Park.

Project LR009: Broadway Avenue Park

Funding amount: \$1,325,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to install a turf field for multipurpose use.

Project LR010: West Islip Little League

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to install turf infields, improve fencing, dugouts and replace concession building at West Islip Little League.

Project LR011: 401 Main Street Park

Funding amount: \$1,650,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to install turf for soccer fields at 401 Main Street.

Project LR012: Brookwood Hall

Funding amount: \$1,150,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to install turf fields at Brookwood Hall.

Project LR013: Patrol Bikes

Funding amount: \$10,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the purchase of two patrol bikes and related equipment for its Public Safety Bike Patrol Unit. These patrol bicycles will allow rangers to patrol the Town's marinas and parks.

Project LR014: Computer Software

Funding amount: \$29,150

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the purchase of computer software for the implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 87, Leases. This software program will aid the Town in required financial statement disclosures.

Project LR015: Computer Software

Funding amount: \$250,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1, Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the investment in parks and public outdoor recreation spaces to promote healthier living environments and outdoor recreation and socialization to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This project is to rehabilitate the courts at Broadway Avenue.

Project INFRASEW001: Lexington Village

Funding amount: \$700,000

Project Expenditure Category: 5.3, Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the replacement of the District's failing on-site sewage treatment plant.

Project INFRASEW002: Town-wide Drainage Project

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 5.6, Clean Water: Stormwater

Project Overview

The Town has allocated funds for the upgrade, repair or replacement/construction of traditional pipe, storage and treatment systems and storm drain inlet protection on various roads throughout the Town. These projects include new recharge basins, excavating, grading and drainage. This project addresses the increased volumes of stormwater likely due to climate change.