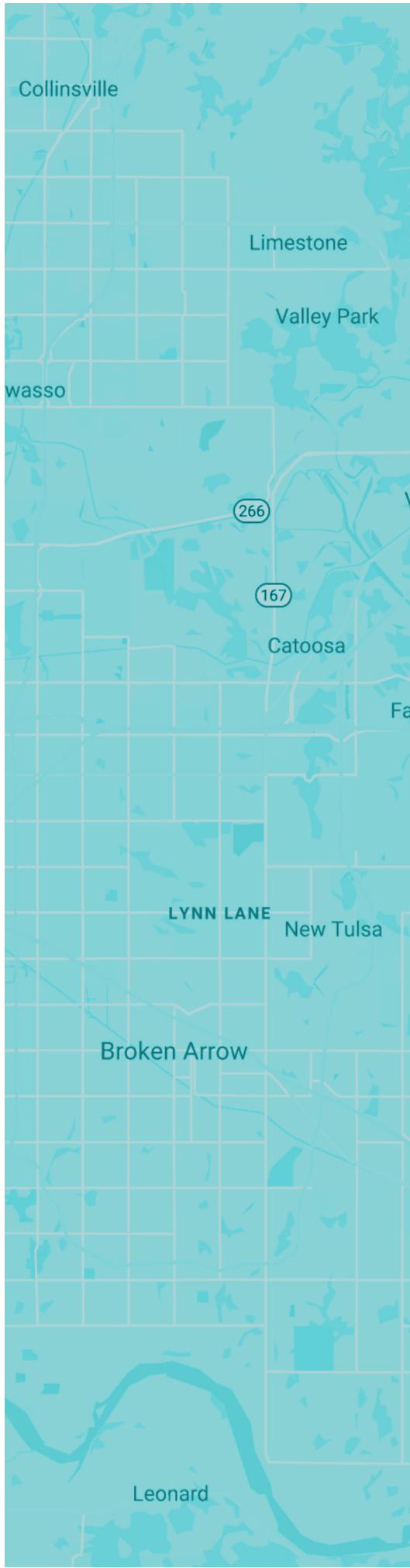


# 2021 TULSA COUNTY RECOVERY PLAN





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# Executive Summary

Tulsa County received \$63 million (\$63,278,169) May 25 through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and is scheduled to receive an additional \$63 million in 2022. As guidance from the Department of the Treasury rolled out through the summer, a Tulsa County ARP committee that had previously met on CARES funding began to meet with community leaders to learn about the most significant needs and research best practices for expending funds.

The Tulsa County Board of County Commissioners approves all ARP expenditures during weekly public meetings. The Tulsa County ARP Committee is an advisory group that meets frequently to hear and discuss project proposals that meet ARP guidelines. The committee consists of one Tulsa County Commissioner, two deputy commissioners, the Tulsa County Clerk, the Tulsa County government affairs director and representatives from support staff including purchasing, accounting and communication personnel.

The committee has hosted dozens of community leaders and evaluated dozens more proposals to assess the overall needs for economic recovery and public health in Tulsa County. Committee representatives have also brought Tulsa County's approach to external community groups, including the Tulsa Regional Chamber board of directors, Tulsa Community Foundation funders roundtable, Tulsa Area United Way, Greenwood Chamber, Visit Tulsa, tribal leaders, city leaders, area state representatives and state senators, and more.

## Tulsa County Priorities

As research continues, Tulsa County's ARP Plan focuses on five priorities. Through July 31, Tulsa County allocated \$6.3 million, or 5% of total anticipated ARP funding. The following are Tulsa County's top priorities:

### Respond to COVID-19

**Amount allocated through July 31: \$2.52 million**

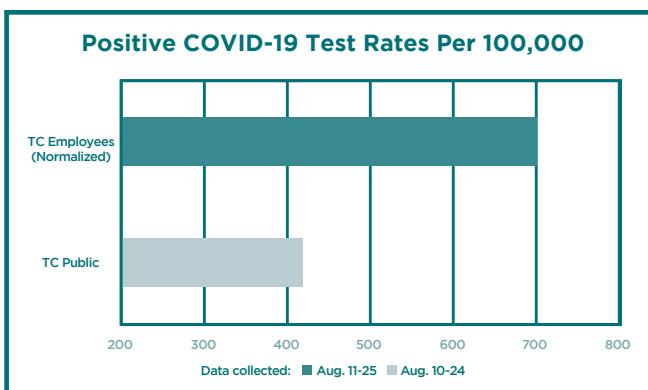
As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Tulsa County has an increased focus on responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenditures in this category include internally and externally focused projects. Internally, Tulsa County must ensure that its employees and the residents they interact with are able to continue operations and services safely. Externally, Tulsa County is working with community leaders in various industries to support public health. Overall, this priority includes a broad approach to public health, including support of expanded mental and physical health services; support for organizations that provide necessities such as food and shelter; purchasing and dissemination of personal protective equipment; supporting access to testing, remote working assistance and more.

Several key datasets dominate this priority. Internally, Tulsa County is tracking its COVID-19 rates among about 1,000 employees to minimize exposure compared to the Tulsa County population. Externally, Tulsa County is working with the Tulsa Health Department to monitor and respond to County-wide data trends.

Tulsa County began tracking employee outages and positive tests by department on Aug. 11. Through Aug. 25, 14 employees were out of office in total with seven confirmed positive tests.

Cases in Tulsa County residents for a similar timeframe, Aug. 10-24, were at 421 per 100,000. Assuming a correlation, the Tulsa County employee positive test rate compares at about 700 per 100,000. This shows a 66% increased COVID-19 rate among Tulsa County employees for this two-week period.

As Tulsa County collects more data over time, the correlation should become stronger and provide a better look at performance.

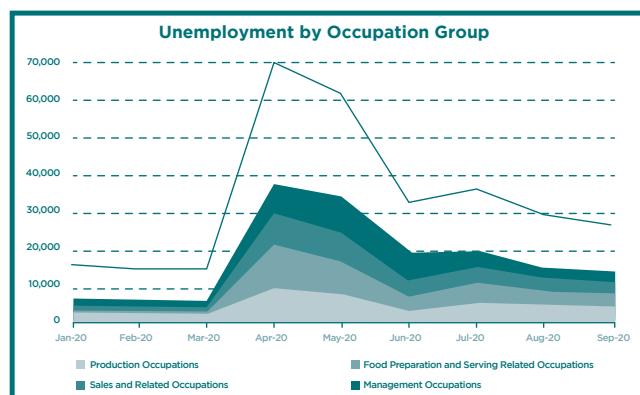


## Support Economic Recovery & Development

Amount allocated through July 31: \$3.79 million

Tulsa County supports recovery from the economic downturn in 2020 that includes economic development, tourism, workforce development and more.

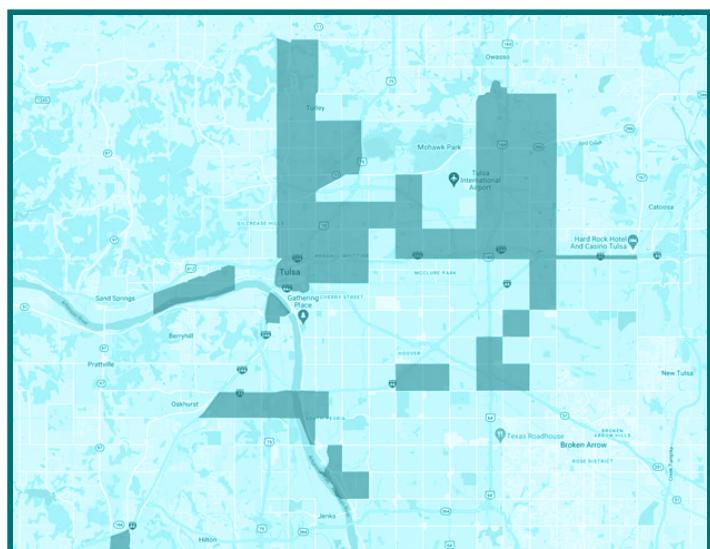
Key metrics in this priority include long-standing local strategies combined with post-pandemic studies, including a [Tulsa County CARES funded study in 2020](#) that examined recovery needs. A significant recommendation focused on a need to upgrade workforce credentials and certifications across the region.



## Generate Equity in Underserved Populations & Communities

Most projects, regardless of its driving priority, will include aspects that drive equity among underserved populations and communities. This is a key component of ARP funding and an overarching priority for Tulsa County.

Tulsa County will shape applicable projects to focus on improving equity among underserved populations and communities, including qualified census tracts (QCTs).



## Build Infrastructure

Tulsa County is exploring its infrastructure needs as they apply to ARP, which specifically targets broadband expansion and improving water quality, among others.

## Replace Lost Revenue

Tulsa County authorities, departments and agencies lost millions in revenue during the pandemic and economic downturn. ARP provides for lost revenue, which Tulsa County is tracking and will balance replacement of lost revenue with emergency needs due to COVID-19 within the community.

## Project Highlights

# Project Highlights

**Title:** Minimum revenue guarantee for new direct flights

**Priority Category:** Economic Recovery & Development

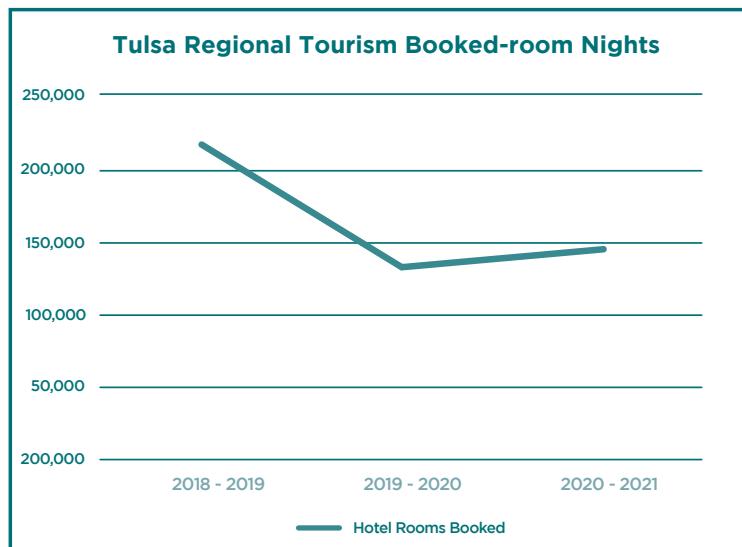
**Amount:** \$3 million

**Summary:** Tulsa County saw a severe decrease in tourism during the pandemic. Adding nonstop, direct flights has been a long-time priority for Tulsa-area tourism strategies and will support a return to pre-COVID-19 tourism levels. The Airline Minimum Revenue Guarantee (MRG) program is a partnership with the Tulsa Community Foundation to provide a safety net for airline revenue that reduces risk for airlines. The program will also allow Tulsa to compete with other cities vying for the same direct flights.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** Visit Tulsa tracks hotel-night stays for hoteliers throughout Tulsa, which gives an outlook on general tourism in the Tulsa area. Tourism dollars accounted for \$1.7 billion in annual economic impact and supported more than 15,000 jobs in the Tulsa area before COVID-19.

Hotel-night stays, traffic to VisitTulsa.com and actual inbound and outbound MRG ticket sales at the Tulsa International Airport will offer insight on the success of the program.

## Key Performance Indicators:



Actual flight usage data will be added once MRG-backed flights begin operation in November

# Project Highlights

**Title:** Retrain Tulsa

**Priority Category:** Economic Recovery & Development

**Amount:** \$790,000

**Summary:** Retrain Tulsa, a workforce training program led by Tulsa Community Workadvance and New Workforce Directions, targets participants who were affected by COVID-19 and economic downturn. Multiple levels of in-person and online intervention include career exploration, skills assessment and training. Tulsa County's ARP funding will expand Tulsa Community Workadvance's physical space and allow for new strategies to accommodate increased volume.

**Equity:** The Tulsa County and Tulsa Regional Chamber workforce study found that recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic will leave low-education, low-skill workers at the greatest risk of being left behind. This program focuses on those workers, specifically those whose jobs were affected during the pandemic.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** Using CARES funding, Tulsa County partnered with the Tulsa Regional Chamber in the fall of 2020 to complete a study of workforce dislocation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. A [summary of the comprehensive study](#) highlights increased difficulty in filling high-skilled jobs. COVID-19 caused additional stress in the workplace that caused the initial job opening, and the current workforce lacks skills and certifications needed, according to the study.

The workforce study recommends changes to Tulsa County workforce training and higher education systems to align with employer needs.

**Key Performance Indicators:** The program is planned to begin by Nov. 1 and be fully operational in the first quarter of 2022.

Planned metrics include:

Career Exploration & Preparation

- In-program and end-of-program participation evaluation
- Attendance, completion performance on deliverables

Power Skills Certification

- Soft skills assessment
- Attendance, completion, performance on deliverables
- In-course and end-of-course participant evaluation

Industry Credentials

- Start, percent completed, percent attained
- In-course and end-of-course participant evaluation

Job Placement

- Percent ready for placement
- Percent placed, wages, etc.
- Retention

# Project Highlights

**Title:** Tulsa County remote working implementation  
**Priority Category:** County Response to COVID-19  
**Amount:** \$1.8 million (\$1,842,660)

**Summary:** Workday is Tulsa County's cloud-based platform for time management, payroll, accounting and more. Tulsa County began the move to Workday in 2020 to modernize data management at Tulsa County and support remote working. The move to Workday was partially funded through CARES. This project will take advantage of additional Workday tools, including new software that helps manage human capital and financial operations. These new tools will make data securely available to remote workers.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** Tulsa County is tracking all employees out of office due to COVID-19. The new software will help reduce and minimize exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace, as well as minimize vacation, sick or administrative time used due to COVID-19.

**Key Performance Indicators:** Tulsa County employee COVID-19 rate compared to County-wide rate. See executive summary.

**Title:** Expo Square social distancing  
**Priority Category:** County Response to COVID-19  
**Amount:** \$200,000

**Summary:** Expo Square is owned by the Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority and hosts millions of visitors who attend hundreds of events each year at a multitude of complexes, including River Spirit Expo, the Exchange Center, Central Park Hall, the Pavilion and others.

These events cause millions of dollars to pass through Expo Square. Expo Square staff requested cash counters to ensure accounting standards continue without unnecessary exposure to COVID-19 due to handling cash payments in a dense work environment.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** The new cash counters will help reduce and minimize exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace, as well as minimize vacation, sick or administrative time used due to COVID-19. Tulsa County is tracking employees leave time related to COVID-19.

**Key Performance Indicators:** Tulsa County employee COVID-19 rate compared to County-wide rate. See executive summary.

# Project Highlights

**Title:** Jail inmate safety

**Priority Category:** County response to COVID-19

**Amount:** \$167,202.37

**Summary:** The Tulsa County Jail response to COVID-19 outbreaks through 2020 caused several quarantines for entire jail pods. Every inmate booked into the facility is offered a COVID-19 test within 24 hours of entering the facility. The jail currently processes more than 700 rapid tests per month. More testing will decrease spread within the jail.

**Equity:** The Tulsa County Jail is in a qualified census tract, and pre-incarceration poverty is disproportionately low among inmates nationally. According to [prisonpolicy.org](https://www.prisonpolicy.org), inmates, prior to incarceration, earned about half that of their counterparts regardless of gender and race. Nationally, jails hold a disproportionate number of minorities compared to population demographics.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** The Tulsa County Jail provides data on the number of positive tests within the jail through 2020 to present. The jail medical contractor will also provide statistics on tests broken down by gender, race and ethnicity.

## Key Performance Indicators:

COVID-19 tests and number of quarantined inmates

- Future test data will include details on gender, race and ethnicity

COVID-19 rates at the jail

- Total Covid-19 tests given since the start of the pandemic: 14,067
- Total positives tests: 560

**Title:** Tulsa County Court Services Women in Recovery staffing

**Priority Category:** County Response to COVID-19

**Amount:** \$127,548

**Summary:** Women in Recovery (WIR) is an intensive outpatient alternative for eligible women facing long prison sentences for non-violent, drug-related offenses. Women incarcerated in the Tulsa County Jail have an increased risk of COVID-19 due to congregate housing. This funding will support two dedicated law-enforcement officers to permanently join Women in Recovery staff. The additional staff will allow increased supervision of women released from jail, as well as maintain treatment hours that changed due to COVID-19 social distancing needs.

**Equity:** This program specifically targets women heading for prison. Historically, Oklahoma leads the nation in [female incarceration rates](#). Since 2010, women sentenced to the Oklahoma Department of Corrections has decreased by 72% in Tulsa County. Supporting the WIR program staffing will continue this trend and reduce the rate of COVID-19 in the Tulsa County Jail overall.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** The Tulsa County Jail provides data on the number of quarantined inmates and positive tests within the jail through 2020 to present. Diverting more women out of the jail will decrease positive tests within the jail. WIR also maintains data on each woman in the program, including recidivism and physical health.

Additional staffing will also increase the success rate of the program.

## Key Performance Indicator benchmarks:

COVID-19 rates at the jail.

- Total Covid-19 tests given since the start of the pandemic: 14,067
- Total positives tests: 560

Success rate and number of women in program will be reported quarterly

- Pre-pandemic, WIR averaged 109 admissions per year
- Since then, WIR has averaged 43 admissions per year

# Project Highlights

**Title:** Return to Tulsa – Peter Greenberg Partnership  
**Priority Category:** Economic Recovery & Development  
**Amount:** \$75,000

**Summary:** Return to Tulsa's Peter Greenberg Partnership is one part of a larger tourism project that is still under consideration. Its objective is to inspire affluent travelers to choose Tulsa for a future visit through a partnership with CBS Travel Editor Peter Greenberg for a 12-minute feature on Tulsa for Peter Greenberg's "Hidden Gems" show.

A Tulsa episode of Travel Detective will be available on PBS, Amazon Prime and Apple TV+. Segments will also be available for use by CBS with additional live streaming spotlights on Tulsa.

Performance measures and evaluation: Visit Tulsa tracks hotel-night stays for hoteliers throughout Tulsa, which gives an outlook on general tourism to the Tulsa area. Tourism dollars account for \$1.7 billion in annual economic impact and supported more than 15,000 jobs in the Tulsa area before COVID-19. Return to Tulsa will support increased hotel-night stays.

## Partial project metrics:

The Eye on Travel radio show  
Reach: 1,393,725  
Ad Value Equivalency: \$12,891.96

Facebook Live posted on website:  
Reach: 49,629  
Ad Value Equivalency: \$459.07

KRLD-AM (Radio) airing Eye on Travel show:  
Reach: 268,300  
Ad Value Equivalency: \$2,481.78

WGN-AM (Radio) airing Eye on Travel show:  
Reach: 344,100  
Ad Value Equivalency: \$3,182.93

**Key Performance Indicator:**  
Tulsa Regional Tourism booked room nights.  
See previous graph on page 7.

**Title:** TAEMA additional staffing  
**Priority Category:** County Response to COVID-19  
**Amount:** \$45,000

**Summary:** The Tulsa Area Emergency Management Agency (TAEMA) is jointly funded through the City of Tulsa and Tulsa County budgets. During 2020, TAEMA hired additional staff to respond to the increased workload caused by COVID-19. Tulsa County approved its half of the requested \$90,000 to continue staffing a communications specialist and an administrative assistant to assist with increased workload including vaccination efforts and personal protective equipment (PPE) dissemination throughout the County.

Performance measures and evaluation: TAEMA oversees central purchasing and dissemination of PPE among several County, City of Tulsa and other municipality departments and agencies. The ongoing demand on TAEMA correlates to the need for additional staff.

**Key Performance Indicators:**  
Amount and types of PPE purchased and distributed

Since the start of 2021, TAEMA has distributed

- 1,183,200 pairs of gloves
- 5,508 32oz bottles of hand sanitizer
- 556,810 masks

# Project Highlights

**Title:** County Clerk's office staffing

**Priority Category:** County Response to COVID-19

**Amount:** \$37,826.48

**Summary:** The Tulsa County Clerk's office took on additional responsibilities due to increased workload caused by COVID-19. Additional workload includes accounting and communication needs directly related to expending ARP funding. Funding covered estimated work hours for existing and new full-time employees.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** The Tulsa County Clerk's office assigned the additional workload to existing and new employees, who are supervised and evaluated annually.

**Key Performance Indicators:**

Two full-time employees are compensated for 40 hours per week with responsibilities in accounting, communications and strategizing ARP spending.

Three full-time employees are partially compensated for accounting and purchasing needs related to ARP.

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**Title:** Tulsa County remote working - IT

**Priority Category:** County Response to COVID-19

**Amount:** \$17,425

**Summary:** Tulsa County's Information Technology department oversees Zoom licenses for Tulsa County that enable remote working and social distancing among employees. Access to Zoom will reduce spread of COVID-19 through County departments.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** Tulsa County is tracking all employees out of office due to COVID-19. Remote working tools like Zoom help reduce and minimize exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace, as well as minimize vacation, sick or administrative time used due to COVID-19.

**Key Performance Indicators:** Tulsa County employee COVID-19 rate compared to County-wide rate. See executive summary.

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**Title:** Tulsa County remote working - BOCC

**Priority Category:** County Response to COVID-19

**Amount:** \$10,916.34

**Summary:** Tulsa County's Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) oversees many Tulsa County departments, each with its own remote working preferences. iPad's allow flexibility to remote work from in or outside the office. Tulsa County BOCC purchased six Apple tablets with accompanying keyboard, cases and licenses.

**Performance measures and evaluation:** Tulsa County is tracking all employees out of office due to COVID-19. Remote working tools like iPads help reduce and minimize exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace, as well as minimize vacation, sick or administrative time used due to COVID-19.

**Key Performance Indicators:** Tulsa County employee COVID-19 rate compared to

County-wide rate. See executive summary.

# ARP Fund Tracking

## Treasury Expense Categories

The U.S. Treasury guidance included specific expense categories that in most cases directly align with Tulsa County's five priorities. However, some projects may overlap multiple priorities and categories.

The highest, best category for Treasury reporting purposes is reflected here.

Amount Received	\$ 63,278,169.00
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Department Summary	Approved Amounts
TCF Greater Tulsa LLC	\$ 3,000,000.00
County Clerk	\$ 1,842,660.00
Retrain Tulsa/Madison Strat.	\$ 790,000.00
Expo Square/TCPFA	\$ 200,000.00
TCSO	\$ 167,202.37
Court Services/Women in Rec.	\$ 127,548.00
Tulsa Regional Tourism	\$ 75,000.00
TAEMA	\$ 45,000.00
I.T.	\$ 17,425.00
BOCC	\$ 10,916.34

Departments	Date of Approval	Individual Approved Amounts (\$)	Treasury Expense Category
TCSO	5/24/2021	167,202.37	1.2
Court Services/Women in Rec.	5/24/2021	127,548.00	1.9
I.T.	6/7/2021	17,425.00	1.8
County Clerk	6/7/2021	1,842,660.00	1.8
TCF Greater Tulsa LLC	6/14/2021	3,000,000.00	2.11
County Clerk	6/30/2021	22,853.81	7.1
BOCC	7/6/2021	10,916.34	1.8
TAEMA	7/6/2021	45,000.00	1.9
Retrain Tulsa/Madison Strat.	7/12/2021	790,000.00	2.7
Tulsa Regional Tourism	7/19/2021	75,000.00	2.11
Expo Square/TCPFA	7/26/2021	200,000.00	1.8
County Clerk	7/30/2021	14,972.67	7.1



# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN



[www.tulsacounty.org](http://www.tulsacounty.org)