

# PANDEMIC RECOVERY OFFICE

## **Capital Projects Fund**

**Progress and Performance Report** 

Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 1

Issued: October 31, 2025

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## **Quarterly Progress and Performance Report**

The following report complies with Article 1 Section 18 of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 enacted budget that requires the Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO) to submit a biannual report on the status of projects financed by the American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CPF). As specified in Article 1 Section 18, the report identifies projects that are at risk of significant underspending or noncompliance with federal or state requirements and includes an assessment of how these projects can be remedied.

The U.S. Treasury's ARPA CPF program allocated \$112.3 million to the State of Rhode Island to fund critical capital projects that enable work, education, and health monitoring in response to the public health emergency. All CPF projects must reach substantial completion by December 31, 2026. U.S. Treasury defines substantial completion as the date at which a project can fulfill the primary operations that it was designed to perform, delivering services to end users.

The State is administering two grant programs under CPF:

- (a) The Broadband Infrastructure Projects Program
- (b) The Community Learning Center Municipal Grant Program

There is no risk of substantial underspending of the grant programs under CPF. At the time of this report, none of the CPF projects present a risk of noncompliance with federal or state requirements.

#### **Program Overview**

The Broadband Infrastructure Projects Program provides \$23.9 million in grants to two internet service provider (ISP) vendors for high-quality broadband infrastructure and other connectivity infrastructure, devices and equipment, in 12 project areas. This grant program is being administered by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) with PRO providing policy coordination and compliance review.

The Broadband Infrastructure Projects Program grants were awarded through a request for proposals (RFP) process that included the CPF compliance requirements. All 12 subaward agreements were executed in March 2025 and contain the schedule, expenditure, and compliance requirements of each project awarded. Rhode Island Commerce is administering the grant and is responsible for providing biweekly updates to PRO on the progress and possibility of risk on each subaward.

An independent consultant has advised Rhode Island Commerce that the projects under this program can be implemented within 14 months per industry standards. It is anticipated that all projects will be completed by December 31, 2026. Rhode Island Commerce will continually monitor and update program timelines to support successful project completion within the required timelines. Should the timelines of any of these projects show delays, Rhode Island Commerce will determine if the delay presents a risk of not completing the project by December 31, 2026, and report those delays to PRO. PRO will update the Quarterly Progress and Performance Report in that case.

Listed below are the 12 broadband infrastructure projects and their expected dates of completion.

TABLE 1: BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT PROJECT TIMELINES

Projects	Broadband Serviceable Locations	Construction Start	Construction End	
Newport	4,489	9/15/2025	11/15/2026	
Jamestown	1,623	6/1/2025	12/31/2026	
Westerly	429	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	
Project Area (PA)-1	758	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-2	523	8/4/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-3	130	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-4	295	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-5	613	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-6	560	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-7	417	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-A (Portsmouth)	2,198	7/24/2025	12/31/2026	
PA-F (Tiverton)	4,283	12/1/2025	12/31/2026	

<sup>\*</sup> Projects named PA-1 thru PA-7 are composites of locations across multiple municipalities.

The Community Learning Center (CLC) Municipal Grant Program provides \$81.7 million in grants to 21 projects in 18 Rhode Island municipalities to build or renovate multipurpose community facilities designed to directly and jointly enable work, education, and health monitoring. The CLC grants were awarded after an extensive application process during which PRO reviewed the proposals for CLC projects for grant and program compliance prior to the subaward.

PRO required all eligible projects to achieve substantial completion two months in advance of the U.S. Treasury deadline to allow adequate float and accurate close-out billing. All municipal subrecipients have established feasible timelines for projects to be substantially complete by October 31, 2026. PRO also monitors each project quarterly alternating between virtual and on-site reviews to track the projects closely. This allows PRO to evaluate progress and potential risk.

The table below lists the 21 projects with their construction start and end dates. Several projects have revised the construction start date. Given the flexibility factored into the timelines, and close and frequent monitoring, project delays that present a risk of non-compliance would only manifest in the second half of 2026. At this point none of the delays present a risk of non-completion by the grant deadline. If unforeseen challenges present such delays, PRO will include the at-risk project in the report promptly.

### COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER PROJECT TIMELINES

Municipality	Project	Initial Construction Start Date	Revised Construction Start Date	Projected Construction End Date
Barrington	Bay Spring Community Learning Center	04/01/2025	06/23/3025	05/31/2026
Bristol	Rogers Free Library Facility Improvements	03/04/2025	10/20/2025	03/27/2026
Central Falls	El Centro	07/21/2025	08/11/2025	06/18/2026
Charlestown	Cross Mills Public Library	03/15/2025	11/03/2025	05/31/2026
Coventry	Coventry Community Learning Center	08/17/2024	08/17/2024	11/15/2025
Cumberland	Amaral Building and Heritage Park	09/20/2024	09/20/2024	10/31/2026
East Greenwich	Swift Community Center *	03/16/2025	04/15/2025	03/30/2026
East Providence	East Providence Community Center *	04/01/2025	06/06/2025	10/31/2026
Glocester	Harmony Library *	08/10/2025	11/30/2025	07/31/2026
Glocester	Manton Library	02/10/2025	03/03/2025	11/15/2025
Hopkinton	Hopkinton/Richmond Community Center	01/01/2025	01/06/2025	10/31/2025
Lincoln	Lincoln Learning Center *	02/02/2025	03/07/2025	05/01/2026
Newport	Florence Gray Center	09/03/2024	No Change	07/31/2026
North Providence	North Providence Community Center	01/31/2025	06/16/2025	08/14/2026
Providence	Davey Lopes Recreation Center	06/15/2025	09/29/2025	06/30/2026
Providence	Elmwood Community Center	10/02/2023	No Change	11/30/2025
Providence	Joslin Recreation Center	05/13/2025	09/04/2025	07/31/2026
Smithfield	East Smithfield Neighborhood Center	05/01/2022	No Change	12/31/2025
South Kingstown	Peace Dale Library	07/31/2025	09/29/2025	09/30/2026
Westerly	Tower Street Community Center *	09/18/2025	10/17/2025	10/15/2026
Woonsocket	Community Learning Center at Cass Park *	05/21/2024	No Change	10/31/2026

<sup>\*</sup> New Construction