



PANDEMIC RECOVERY OFFICE

Capital Projects Fund

Progress and Performance Report

Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 3

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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 (CLC) 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. Two Broadband projects are being monitored to ensure compliance with the program requirement for project completion and the processing of final payments to vendors. U.S. Treasury has required PRO to withhold 10% of any project's total award until all project closeout tasks are completed.

Program Overview: Broadband Infrastructure Projects Program

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 PROJECT TIMELINES

Projects	Broadband Serviceable Locations	Construction Start	Construction End
Newport	4,489	09/15/2025	11/15/2026
Jamestown	1,623	06/01/2025	07/31/2026
Westerly	429	02/26/2026	08/31/2026
Project Area (PA)-1 ¹	758	01/13/2026	09/30/2026
PA-2 ²	523	08/04/2025	09/30/2026
PA-3 ³	130	01/29/2026	09/30/2026
PA-4 ⁴	295	01/20/2026	09/30/2026
PA-5 ⁵	613	12/02/2025	09/30/2026
PA-6 ⁶	560	01/09/2026	09/30/2026
PA-7 ⁷	417	03/04/2026	09/30/2026
PA-A (Portsmouth)	2,198	07/24/2025	10/31/2026
PA-F (Tiverton)	4,283	12/29/2025	10/31/2026

* Project Areas 1 through 7 are composites of locations across multiple municipalities.

Data as of 3/31/2026

Program Overview: Community Learning Center Municipal Grant Program

The Community Learning Center (CLC) Municipal Grant Program provides \$82.2 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. This total includes \$81.7 million originally approved by the General Assembly for this grant program and another \$0.5 million converted from PRO administrative funds to CLC Municipal Grant Program funds with U.S. Treasury’s approval. 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 of December 31, 2026, to allow adequate time for project completion if projects encountered unexpected delays, such as seriously adverse winter weather, and accurate close-out billing.

¹ PA-1: Cumberland, Johnston, Lincoln, North Providence, Pawtucket, Providence & Smithfield

² PA-2: Cumberland, Lincoln, North Smithfield & Woonsocket

³ PA-3: East Providence

⁴ PA-4: Cranston, Johnston, Providence & Warwick

⁵ PA-5: Coventry, Foster, Glocester & Scituate

⁶ PA-6: Coventry, Cranston, Scituate & Warwick

⁷ PA-7: Exeter, Narragansett, North Kingstown, Richmond & West Greenwich

All municipal subrecipients have established feasible timelines for projects to be substantially complete by October 31, 2026. PRO also monitors each project quarterly to closely track projects' progress against established timelines. This allows PRO to evaluate the potential risk of any given project not meeting U.S. Treasury's substantial completion deadline.

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, while some delays necessitate closer monitoring, none present a risk of non-completion by the grant deadline of December 31, 2026. If unforeseen challenges present such delays, PRO will include the at-risk project in the report promptly. Projects that have reached substantial completion are highlighted in green.

TABLE 2: 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	06/23/2025	07/01/2026
Bristol	Rogers Free Library Facility Improvements	03/04/2025	10/15/2025	05/15/2026
Central Falls	El Centro	07/21/2025	08/11/2025	09/18/2026
Charlestown	Cross Mills Public Library	03/15/2025	01/05/2026	05/31/2026
Coventry	Coventry Community Learning Center	08/17/2024	08/17/2024	05/18/2026
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	08/01/2026
East Providence	East Providence Community Center *	04/01/2025	06/06/2025	10/31/2026
Glocester	Harmony Library *	08/10/2025	12/08/2025	07/31/2026
Glocester	Manton Library	02/10/2025	03/03/2025	01/31/2026
Hopkinton	Hopkinton/Richmond Community Center	01/01/2025	01/06/2025	01/09/2026
Lincoln	Lincoln Learning Center *	02/02/2025	03/07/2025	05/01/2026
Newport	Florence Gray Center	09/03/2024	09/03/2024	08/07/2026
North Providence	North Providence Community Center	01/31/2025	06/16/2025	10/15/2026
Providence	Davey Lopes Recreation Center	06/15/2025	09/29/2025	06/30/2026
Providence	Elmwood Community Center	10/02/2023	10/02/2023	12/31/2025
Providence	Joslin Recreation Center	05/13/2025	09/04/2025	10/20/2026

Municipality	Project	Initial Construction Start Date	Revised Construction Start Date	Projected Construction End Date
Smithfield	East Smithfield Neighborhood Center	05/01/2022	05/01/2022	03/31/2026
South Kingstown	Peace Dale Library	07/31/2025	09/29/2025	07/31/2026
Westerly	Tower Street Community Center *	09/18/2025	10/27/2025	10/15/2026
Woonsocket	Community Learning Center at Cass Park *	05/21/2024	05/21/2024	10/31/2026

* New Construction

Data as of 3/31/2026

An additional \$1 million of PRO administrative funds have been reallocated to the CLC Municipal Grant Program, with U.S. Treasury’s approval, to enable investment in those municipalities that were not part of the initial CLC Municipal Grant Program subawards. This \$1 million is designated for use by public libraries located in the 20 Learn365RI municipalities that do not have community learning center projects underway. PRO is currently evaluating applications for this round of grants, known as the Community Library Municipal Grant (CLMG) program, and expects to sign subawards by May 15, 2026.

Monitored Projects

Broadband Infrastructure Projects Program

CPF projects with timelines that predict project completion at the very end of the performance period are included in the Monitored Projects table. Per U.S. Treasury, the period of performance ends on December 31, 2026.

The Newport project in the Broadband Infrastructure Projects program has been delayed due to permitting and stakeholder coordination challenges. Although the expected end date for construction of this project is November 15, 2026, there have been multiple delays in the project timeline since its onset. Further unforeseen delays could push the project’s substantial completion date beyond December 31, 2026. Rhode Island Commerce is working closely with the City of Newport and other stakeholders to ensure that the project progresses rapidly and is complete by the grant deadline. PRO is meeting with Rhode Island Commerce monthly to track the status of this project.

Project Area (PA) - 3 in the Broadband Infrastructure Projects program had an original target of servicing 130 Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSL) in East Providence. Some of these BSLs will need to be removed due to non-responsiveness of multi-dwelling unit (MDU) ownership, exclusivity agreements with other providers, or locations identified to be outbuildings with main buildings on properties already served. The target number of BSLs in PA-3 is likely to reduce by approximately 50 percent. Per U.S. Treasury guidance, a significant reduction such as this will correspond to a reduction in CPF funding. The vendor is committed to implementing the project provided that any reduction in CPF funds does not make the project infeasible. PRO is meeting with Rhode Island Commerce monthly to track the status of this project.

TABLE 3: Broadband Infrastructure Projects Program – Monitored Projects

Project	Total Project Cost	CPF Subaward Amount	Project Spend as of March 31, 2026	CPF Funds Received	Construction Start	Construction End
Newport	\$13,297,217	\$9,308,052	\$3,492,703	\$139,798	09/15/2025	11/15/2026
PA - 3	\$1,184,592	\$474,282	\$15,222	\$400	01/29/2026	09/30/2026

Data as of 3/31/2026

Community Learning Center Municipal Grant Program

At this time, there are no projects that require additional monitoring beyond PRO's current quarterly reviews.