



PANDEMIC RECOVERY OFFICE

State Fiscal Recovery Fund

Quarterly Progress and Performance Report

FY 2024 Q3

Issued: April 30, 2024

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Purpose

The following report complies with Article 1 Section 18 of the State Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 enacted budget that requires the Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO) to submit a quarterly report on the status of projects financed by the State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF). 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.¹

Methodology

Each State agency implementing a PRO-approved SFRF project has a planned expenditure schedule. To assist in identifying projects potentially at risk of significant underspending, PRO measured each SFRF project's actual expenditures through the second quarter of FY 2024 against its planned expenditures through the same period. PRO identified projects with actual expenditures that were less than 25% of planned expenditures through the third quarter of FY 2024 and contacted the relevant State agencies to gain an understanding as to why spending is significantly behind expectations. PRO also requested information regarding plans to accelerate spending so that all funds are obligated by U.S. Treasury's deadline of December 31, 2024, and spent by U.S. Treasury's deadline of December 31, 2026.

PRO considered those explanations when determining which projects to include in this report as Level I monitored. For each Level I monitored project included, PRO stated why it was identified as being at risk for significant underspending or noncompliance with federal or state requirements and provided the remedy proposed by the State agency to alleviate this finding. In addition to the Level I monitored projects, PRO included in this report additional projects it is monitoring for potential significant underspending in the future, specifically projects with actual expenditures that were less than 50% but more than 25% of planned expenditures. These projects are referred to as Level II monitored projects. PRO will provide an update on Level I and Level II monitored projects in the next quarterly report.

The "progress" columns in the Level I and Level II monitored tables only include projects that were included in the prior report. An up arrow indicates that project spending and/or obligations have improved; a horizontal arrow indicates that project spending and/or obligations have not significantly changed; and a down arrow indicates that project spending and/or obligations have decreased.

Background

Through the third quarter of FY 2024, PRO approved 85 SFRF projects, totaling \$1.01 billion of the State's \$1.13 billion SFRF appropriation. Of the \$1.01 billion in approved appropriations, \$914 million was obligated, with planned expenditures of \$674 million through the third quarter of FY 2024. Total actual expenditures for these 85 projects were \$530 million, which is 78.6% of planned expenditures. The SFRF projects included in this report comprise 18.0% of the total number of SFRF projects, both approved and unapproved, and 17.7% of the \$1.13 billion SFRF appropriation.

¹ [FY 2024 Appropriations Act](#)

Changes from FY 2024 Q2 Report

Projects Unable to Proceed

The projects in the table below were in the Quarterly Progress and Performance Report for the second quarter of FY 2024. Instead of identifying them as Level I or Level II monitored, PRO is only including them here, as they cannot proceed at this time:

Agency	Project	Total Appropriation	Status in Prior Report	Reason Project Cannot Proceed
DOA	Ongoing COVID-19 Response	\$41,787,709	Level I	The State has not had a surge in COVID-19 great enough to require the use of these funds
DCYF	Fire Safety in Foster Homes	\$875,000	Level I	DCYF did not receive any responses to the request for proposals soliciting individuals and vendors to perform fire safety inspections
DCYF	Lead Remediation in Foster Homes	\$1,000,000	Level I	DCYF did not receive sufficient demand to pursue this project
EOC	South Quay Marine Terminal	\$35,000,000	Level II	The FY 2024 enacted budget mandated that SFRF monies for this project “only be allocated and spent if sufficient matching funds for completion of the project are committed by February 1, 2024.” As EOC was unable to confirm by the deadline that matching funds were secured, PRO will not approve the expenditure of the funds for this purpose.

Projects Removed from Level I or Level II Monitoring

The projects in the table below were in the Quarterly Progress and Performance Report for the second quarter of FY 2024 and have been removed from Level I or Level II monitoring. For each project, current actual expenditures exceed 50% of planned expenditures and thus surpass PRO's threshold for including an SFRF project in this report.

Agency	Project	Status in Prior Report
DOA	Auto-Enrollment Program	Level II
BHDDH	9-8-8 Mental Health Hotline	Level II
BHDDH	Crisis Intervention Trainings	Level II
DOH	COVID-19 Operational Support: Epidemiology	Level II
DOH	COVID-19 Operational Support: Testing	Level I
DHS	Child Care Workforce Registry	Level I
EOHHS	Butler Hospital Short Term Stay Unit	Level II
Housing	Homelessness Assistance Phase II	Level II
Housing	Homelessness Infrastructure Phase II	Level I


Projects Added to Level I or Level II Monitoring

The projects in the table below were not in the Quarterly Progress and Performance Report for the second quarter of FY 2024 and have been added to Level I or Level II monitoring.

Agency	Project	Status in Current Report
DCYF	Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	Level II
Housing	Community Revitalization	Level I
Housing	Development of Affordable Housing Phase II	Level I
Housing	Home Repair Program	Level I
Housing	Middle Income Housing	Level I
Housing	Proactive Housing Development †	Level I
Housing	Public Housing Pilot Program	Level I
DHS	Child Care Enhanced TEACH Program	Level II
EOC	Small Business Energy Efficiency	Level I

† Proactive Housing Development has not received approval from PRO and thus cannot yet move forward with expenditures. Once Proactive Housing Development receives PRO approval, it will be possible for project expenditures to be made.

Table of Level I Monitored Projects



Project	Original PRO Approval Date / Most Recent PRO Approval Date ²	Total Appropriation	Total Obligations	Planned Expenditures as of 3/31/24	Actual Expenditures as of 3/31/24	% of Planned Expenditures Spent	Progress Since FY 2024 Q2 Report
<i>Department of Housing</i>							
Community Revitalization	11/7/2022 10/19/2023	\$20,000,000 ^b	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$2,558,628	12.8%	New
Development of Affordable Housing Phase II	10/24/2022 N/A	\$75,000,000 ^b	\$75,000,000	\$44,263,543	\$5,442,926	12.3%	New
Home Repair Program	7/13/2023 N/A	\$4,500,000 ^b	\$1,350	\$1,045,141	-	0%	New
Middle Income Housing	11/2/2022 2/23/2024	\$20,000,000 ^b	\$20,000,000	\$17,398,114	\$476,712	2.7%	New
Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative	10/11/2023 N/A	\$2,500,000 ^c	\$750	\$2,250,675	-	0%	

² PRO reapproves projects for various reasons, including but not limited to, the appropriation of additional funds for a project that must be accounted for in the project budget; revised project timelines; and updated key performance indicators to ensure the State is tracking relevant data.

a Appropriation was made in Rhode Island Rebounds legislation on January 4, 2022.

b Appropriation was made in FY 2023 enacted budget on June 27, 2022.

c Appropriation was made in FY 2024 enacted budget on June 16, 2023.

Project	Original PRO Approval Date / Most Recent PRO Approval Date ²	Total Appropriation	Total Obligations	Planned Expenditures as of 3/31/24	Actual Expenditures as of 3/31/24	% of Planned Expenditures Spent	Progress Since FY 2024 Q2 Report
Proactive Housing Development	N/A	\$1,400,000 ^c	-	-	-	-	New
Public Housing Pilot Program	3/2/2023 N/A	\$10,000,000 ^a	\$10,000,000	\$3,923,117	\$1,499	0.0%	New
Statewide Housing Plan	9/26/2022 N/A	\$2,000,000 ^c	\$344,000	\$349,105	\$38,649	11.1%	
Sub-Total		\$135,400,000	\$125,346,100	\$89,229,755	\$8,518,414	9.5%	
<i>Department of Public Safety</i>							
Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence	10/14/2022 N/A	\$10,500,000 ^b	\$10,192,520	\$6,974,992	\$15,314	0.2%	
Sub-Total		\$10,500,000	\$10,192,520	\$6,974,992	\$15,314	0.2%	

Project	Original PRO Approval Date / Most Recent PRO Approval Date ²	Total Appropriation	Total Obligations	Planned Expenditures as of 3/31/24	Actual Expenditures as of 3/31/24	% of Planned Expenditures Spent	Progress Since FY 2024 Q2 Report
<i>Executive Office of Commerce</i>							
Minority Business Accelerator	11/14/2022 4/5/2023	\$5,200,000 ^b	\$5,200,000	\$3,693,608	\$830,196	22.5%	↑
Small Business Energy Efficiency	1/3/2024 N/A	\$600,000 ^a	\$600,000	\$100,030	\$180	0.0%	New
Sub-Total		\$5,800,000	\$5,800,000	\$3,793,638	\$830,376	21.9%	
<i>University of Rhode Island</i>							
PFAS Water Treatment Plant	10/17/2023 N/A	\$20,000,000 ^c	\$20,000,000	\$2,964,771	-	0%	↔
Sub-Total		\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$2,964,771	-	0%	
Grand Total		\$171,700,000	\$161,338,620	\$102,963,156	\$9,364,104	9.1%	

Level I Monitored Project Narratives

Community Revitalization, Development of Affordable Housing Phase II, and Middle Income Housing

Reason Identified as Level I

Community Revitalization

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$2,558,628. The actual expenditures are 12.8% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 25% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level I. As of March 31, 2024, \$20 million of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated to Rhode Island Housing as a subrecipient for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Development of Affordable Housing Phase II

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$5,442,926. The actual expenditures are 12.3% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 25% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level I. As of March 31, 2024, \$75 million of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated to Rhode Island Housing as a subrecipient for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Middle Income Housing

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$476,712. The actual expenditures are 2.7% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 25% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level I. As of March 31, 2024, \$20 million of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated to Rhode Island Housing as a subrecipient for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The funds for Community Revitalization, Development of Affordable Housing Phase II, and Middle Income Housing were made available through the last two Rhode Island Housing Consolidated Application requests for proposals (RFPs) in fall 2022 and fall 2023. Awards from the fall 2022 RFP were made to 19 projects in June 2023, with all scheduled to close by the first quarter of FY 2025.

There have been significant closing delays for many of these projects due to a combination of factors, including across-the-board construction labor and materials price increases, increased financing costs due to interest rate hikes, and a worldwide shortage of electrical equipment, specifically switch gear and meter boxes. These factors resulted in seven projects that were awarded funds in June 2023 to seek additional funds totaling \$10.8 million from the fall 2023 RFP to cover increased costs.

The Rhode Island Housing Board of Commissioners will award funds from the fall 2023 RFP at a meeting on May 16, 2024. The demand exceeds available funds, and based on an ongoing review, staff is confident that all funds will be fully committed to projects by the end of FY 2024. Further, the awarded projects will have SFRF funding front-loaded into the payment schedule to ensure that this funding source is, to the extent possible based on cost allocation, used first and disbursed at closing, and in the early stages of the development's construction. The following table provides detail about the total award and expenditures for these programs along with timelines.

Development Name	Development of Affordable Housing Phase II Committed	Development of Affordable Housing Phase II Expended	Middle Income Housing Committed	Middle Income House Expended	Community Revitalization Committed	Community Revitalization Expended	Anticipated Closing Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Anticipated Completion of SFRF Spending
Central Street Development	\$1,460,000		\$1,510,000		\$2,000,000		Q4 FY24	Q4 FY26	Q3 FY25
Rosebrook Commons	\$8,456,500		\$1,112,538				Q1 FY25	Q1 FY27	Q2 FY26
Reynolds Farm Senior Housing II	\$7,860,000						Q1 FY25	Q1 FY27	Q1 FY27
Broad Street Homes	\$7,338,070				\$2,000,000		Q4 FY24	Q1 FY27	Q1 FY27
Ade Bethune	\$7,021,481						Q1 FY25	Q1 FY27	Q1 FY27
Potters Tigray	\$4,550,000				\$2,000,000		Q4 FY24	Q4 FY26	Q4 FY26
The Avenue	\$3,874,000				\$2,000,000		Q4 FY24	Q4 FY26	Q4 FY26
Summer Street Apartments	\$4,000,000				\$1,900,000		Q3 FY24	Q4 FY26	Q4 FY26
Lockwood Plaza Phase I	\$4,010,000				\$680,000		Q1 FY25	Q4 FY26	Q4 FY26
Copley Chambers II and III	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000			\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	9/1/2023	9/1/2024	Fully Expended
Ralph R. Russo Manor	\$2,100,000						Q4 FY24	Q4 FY25	Q4 FY25
Pocasset Reserve Phase I	\$640,000						Q1 FY25	Q4 FY26	Q4 FY26
East Point			\$960,000				TBD	TBD	TBD
Walker Lofts	\$940,000		\$2,760,000		\$2,000,000		Q1 FY25	Q1 FY27	Q1 FY27
Georgiaville Place			\$400,000	\$400,000			11/8/2023	All Units Occupied	Fully Expended
24 Inkerman Street					\$175,000		Q1 FY25	Q1 FY26	Q1 FY26
The Villages at Manville	\$1,728,817						Q1 FY25	Q4 FY26	Q2 FY26
Millrace District	\$4,000,000	\$3,654,414			\$500,000	\$500,000	9/12/2023	Q2 FY26	Fully Expended
Parcel 9	\$100,000						6/6/2023	Q4 FY25	Q2 FY25
Total	\$59,578,868	\$5,154,414	\$6,742,538	\$400,000	\$15,255,000	\$2,500,000			

Home Repair Program

Reason Identified as Level I

The project has not yet incurred spending as of March 31, 2024. As of March 31, 2024, 0% of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated for the execution of the project.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The project will provide up to \$75,000 per structure for eligible rehabilitation activities on properties occupied by low/moderate income households and located in qualified census tracts (i.e., more than 50% of the properties are occupied by households at or below 60% of area median income).

From December 2023 to January 2024, the State solicited a vendor to serve as Administrative Agency for the State's residential rehabilitation program. On February 2, 2024, the State issued a tentative selection award to the Providence Revolving Fund to serve as the Administrative Agency for this initiative. After the submission of required documentation, the State issued a contract which has been fully executed by all parties (occurred in April after the end of the third quarter of FY 2024)

The selected vendor is in the process of rolling out the program. Applications are expected to be accepted beginning in June 2024. With the vendor now selected, the Department of Housing is working to expedite implementation. The program is on track to meet all federal obligation and expenditure deadlines.

Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative

Reason Identified as Level I

The project has not yet incurred spending as of March 31, 2024. As of March 31, 2024, 0% of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated for the execution of the project.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The project is divided into three components: formula grants, competitive grants, and emergency hubs. These three grant opportunities are intended to assist municipalities that hosted new or expanded overnight shelters and winter emergency hubs. Applications for all three opened on October 31, 2023, and closed on March 1, 2024.

Formula Grants

A maximum of \$1.5 million is available as formula grants. Municipalities in which new overnight shelters opened since May 1, 2023, and/or where existing shelters have expanded their capacity since May 1, 2023, and where the new or expanded capacity remained in service until at least April 15, 2024, are eligible to receive \$2,000 per new shelter bed. The Department of Housing (Department) received four applications, and all four were awarded the formula grants, as these municipalities expanded overnight shelter capacity.

- Warwick: \$240,000, 120 shelter beds added
- Woonsocket: \$40,000, 20 shelter beds added
- Providence: \$364,000, 137 shelter beds added
- Burrillville: \$74,000, 37 shelter beds added
- **Total: \$718,000, 314 shelter beds added**

Contracts have been issued for the Warwick and Woonsocket awards. The Providence and Burrillville contracts are under development.

Competitive Grants

A maximum of \$250,000 is available for competitive grants. Municipalities in which new overnight shelters have opened or existing overnight shelters have expanded capacity since October 1, 2022, and where the new or expanded capacity remained in service until at least April 15, 2024, are eligible to apply for additional grant support beyond the \$2,000 per new shelter bed formula grant. The Department received two applications requesting a total of \$400,000, and both applications have been scored. The Department anticipates that the \$250,000 available will be awarded in the next two weeks.

Emergency Winter Hubs Grants

A maximum of \$750,000 is available for emergency hubs. Awards support new winter emergency hubs that open in response to severe weather protocols. The Department received four winter emergency hubs applications and issued three awards. The fourth was unable to provide overnight shelter capacity and was therefore disqualified.

- Newport: \$175,582
- Woonsocket: \$119,316
- West Warwick: \$119,317
- **Total: \$414,215**

Contracts have been issued for all three awards.

Summary

After making the awards described above, the FY 2024 total will be \$1,382,215. The project has been appropriated \$2.5 million, meaning there is approximately \$1.1 million available for FY 2025 awards.

The Department is preparing a second round of applications for winter 2024-2025 to allocate the remaining funds. The Department is considering consolidating the three project components to two components for FY 2025 to simplify the process. The anticipated demand for this project next winter is between \$800,000 and \$1.1 million, meaning that up to \$300,000 could be reallocated to other SFRF-eligible uses.

Awards for the second round are anticipated to proceed on the following timeline:

- July 2024 – Solicitation
- August 2024 – Deadline for applications
- September 2024 – Awards
- October 2024 – Contracts signed
- November 2024 – Program start

This timeline would ensure that the Department has ample time to review and award applications by the end of the calendar year.

Proactive Housing Development

Reason Identified as Level I

The project has not received approval from PRO as the Department of Housing (Department) has not yet submitted an SFRF Reporting and Compliance Form for the project.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The Department collaborated with Rhode Island Housing to secure approval by its board in January 2024 to activate the Rhode Island Housing Development Corporation (RIHDC), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Rhode Island Housing, for the purpose of carrying out proactive development activities that will help catalyze and accelerate housing production in the state. Now that the updated organizing documents for RIHDC have been adopted and filed, the parties are in the process of finalizing performance metrics and developing the subaward agreement for this initiative.

The Department anticipates that the subaward agreement will be signed by the end of FY 2024, at which time the funds will be considered obligated per U.S. Treasury's definitions. Additionally, the organization is recruiting top staff and undertaking other necessary initial steps. Specifically, an employment opening has been posted for the position of President of the Corporation. Once hired, the President will form a team to develop a project pipeline and undertake proactive development activities, consistent with the resolution adopted by the RIHDC. It is anticipated that most of the funds will be spent in FY 2025 and that all funds will be spent well in advance of U.S. Treasury's spending deadline of December 31, 2026.

Public Housing Pilot Program

Reason Identified as Level I

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$1,499. The actual expenditures are 0.0% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 25% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level I. As of March 31, 2024, \$10 million of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated to Rhode Island Housing as a subrecipient for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

Of the \$10 million appropriated to this project, \$8.4 million was awarded to three projects for new development and \$1.3 million was awarded for predevelopment and technical assistance. An additional \$0.2 million has been earmarked to pay for New York University's Furman Center's study of public developer models. The remaining funds, after the study is concluded, will pay for administrative costs. It is expected that all three projects awarded funds will close in FY 2025 and expend all funds by the spend deadline of December 31, 2026.

For the predevelopment and technical assistance components, all grants are ready to close, but Rhode Island Housing staff have been addressing a matter related to program guidelines, which require that the public housing authority have a Declaration of Trust with a term of no less than 20 years. None of the public housing authorities that received awards were able to provide Declarations of Trust with clear language indicating a 20-year term, as these documents contain different renewal points over 20-year terms. However, it is well understood that the public housing authority properties will remain subject to a Declaration of Trust and/or an Annual Contributions Contract for an indefinite amount of time, which is directly correlated to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding and will likely exceed the 20-year term.

After communication with other public housing authorities and agencies, Rhode Island Housing will require legal opinions from public housing authority counsels specifically opining on the indefinite term of the Declaration of Trust. These legal opinions, a form of which is required under the Public Housing Capital Fund, will provide the necessary reassurance to move forward with these grants. All awardees

have received the legal opinion, and assuming their acceptance of same, the \$1.3 million will be expended in the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

Statewide Housing Plan

Reason Identified as Level I

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$38,649. The actual expenditures are 11.1% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 25% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level I. As of March 31, 2024, \$344,000 of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated through a contract for the execution of the project. This represents 17.2% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The Department of Housing (Department) is working on several subprojects under the Statewide Housing Plan, each of which involves contracted support. As the Department has built out its staff capacity, it has been able to develop and launch the subprojects below:

- *Statewide Housing Plan Consultant (Abt Associates): \$529,316:* Abt Associates is developing the statewide housing plan with the Department. Abt Associates assisted with the Annual Integrated Housing Report (published in December 2022) and is conducting additional analysis and stakeholder engagement for this project. The first payment totaling \$38,638 has been disbursed. The Department is working with the Division of Purchases on a change order to increase the contracted amount for this project from \$339,316 to \$529,316, as it is likely that the project will benefit from and require additional resources. This increase will allow the Department to enhance municipal engagement, launch a resident survey, conduct interviews with housing practitioners from other jurisdictions, and develop municipal profiles. Based upon current timelines, the Department anticipates that all funds will be spent by approximately the end of calendar year 2024.
- *School Fiscal Impact Analysis: \$100,000:* The Department has conducted a request for proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to conduct a fiscal impact analysis on local school costs and the net fiscal impact of new housing on municipalities. The Department anticipates selecting a vendor in April 2024. Pending approval from the Division of Purchases, the Department will contract with the selected vendor. Based on current timelines, the Department anticipates that all funds will be contracted by the end of the fourth quarter of FY 2024 and all funds spent by the third quarter of FY 2025.
- *Feasibility Study of Adaptive Re-Use: \$495,084:* The Department has conducted an RFP to hire a consultant to conduct studies that assess the feasibility of converting specific sites into affordable housing. The Department is finalizing the selection of a vendor. Pending approval from the Division of Purchases, the Department will contract with the selected vendor. The Department expects that feasibility studies will occur throughout FY 2025, with each study taking approximately three months to complete post-site selection. The Department anticipates that all funds will be spent by U.S. Treasury's spending deadline of December 31, 2026.
- *Governance Consultant: \$150,000:* The proposed project was recently submitted to PRO for review and approval. The Department expects that a solicitation will be issued in the next few months, with selections made by summer 2024, enabling the funds to be obligated in the third quarter of calendar year 2024. The contract is expected to have a term of approximately six months. The Department anticipates that all funds will be spent by the end of the first quarter of calendar year 2025.

Additionally, the Department is working with PRO and the Division of Purchases to proceed with two additional subprojects focused on the implementation and further development of the work being completed by Abt Associates. These subprojects are informed by best practices in housing plans identified through an assessment of other state and municipal housing plans and specifically focus on the needs of municipalities.

- *Visualization and Implementation Support: \$450,000:* This involves identifying sites for potential housing development, visualizing that development, and completing related modeling.
- *Training and Capacity Building: \$250,000:* This involves developing a toolkit to help local officials meet the housing needs and goals of their communities.

The Department has drafted solicitations for these two subprojects and is consulting with the Division of Purchases on next steps. Based on current timelines, the Department anticipates selecting vendors in the summer of 2024 and contracting with them by October 2024 ahead of U.S. Treasury's obligation deadline of December 31, 2024. The Department anticipates that these contracts will have a term of approximately 12 months and that all funds will be spent by U.S. Treasury's spending deadline of December 31, 2026.

Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence

Reason Identified as Level I

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$15,314. The actual expenditures are 0.2% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 25% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level I. As of March 31, 2024, \$10,192,520 of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated for the execution of the project. This represents 97.1% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The project was delayed because of the amount of time needed to complete the request for proposals (RFP) process, which generated 14 responses. The Department of Public Safety's Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO) issued a memo on January 18, 2024, outlining the award recommendations from the evaluation committee totaling approximately \$10.2 million of the total \$10.5 million appropriation. All awards have been issued.

PSGAO is awaiting approval of the purchase orders to begin transferring funds to the awardees. It is important to note that most of the spending will be conducted on a reimbursement basis, meaning that funding will typically be disbursed after programmatic activity has been conducted and invoiced.

Minority Business Accelerator

Reason Identified as Level I

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$830,196. The actual expenditures are 22.5% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 25% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level I. As of March 31, 2024, \$5.2 million of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated by the Executive Office of Commerce to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation as a subrecipient for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Please note that this project does not include the Minority Business Accelerator: Rhode Island Black Business Association Grant project or the Minority Business Accelerator: Roger Williams University

Start-Up Grant project. These projects have had their appropriated amounts transferred to the designated recipients.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The project has \$5.2 million in funding, of which \$2.5 million Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) committed to 14 intermediaries to provide technical assistance, \$2 million is budgeted for direct grants, and \$700,000 is for training, direct grant implementation, compliance, and program administration.

In February 2023, Rhode Island Commerce onboarded a program director to execute and manage the project. The intermediaries chosen as a result of a request for proposals (RFP) issued by Rhode Island Commerce in April 2023, are currently providing services to eligible businesses and have invoiced Rhode Island Commerce a total of \$561,212. In January 2024, Rhode Island Commerce’s Board of Directors approved four additional intermediaries from a second RFP issued in December 2023. Those intermediaries will service businesses in targeted industries (child care, food and beverage, and construction trades). Service agreements totaling \$498,541 for these four intermediaries are in the review and execution phase. Intermediaries are scheduled to begin providing services immediately after agreements are fully executed, which is expected in April 2024. It is expected that between April and June 2024, approximately \$700,000 in invoices will be submitted for services provided by these intermediaries.

For the direct grants, \$2 million will provide minority- and women-owned businesses direct access to capital and, \$248,000 of the \$700,000 will be used for implementation of the web-based grant program. The grant application is in its final drafting phase. To provide sufficient time for businesses to prepare for eligibility, there will be two application rounds – one in spring 2024 and a second in summer 2024. It is expected that approximately 50% to 75% of the \$2 million will be obligated during the first application round, and the remaining funds will be obligated in the summer. As a result, Rhode Island Commerce anticipates that the \$5.2 million appropriated to the program will be fully expended by the end of FY 2025.

Small Business Energy Efficiency

Reason Identified as Level I

The project has not yet incurred spending as of March 31, 2024. As of March 31, 2024, \$600,000 of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated by the Executive Office of Commerce to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) as a subrecipient for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The program has \$600,000 in funding, with grants of up to \$10,000 for small businesses. These grants support energy efficiency measures implemented by a small business as the result of an energy efficiency audit. The program has been accepting applications since February 8, 2024. As of March 29, 2024, 90 applications have been submitted, with 23 applications being pre-approved. Payments are being processed for six applicants totaling \$21,968. Payments will be processed weekly, and applicants receive one-on-one support throughout the application process. There is strong demand for the program, and the number of applicants and the rate of applications indicate that the full \$600,000 will be able to be spent despite the program’s delayed start.

PFAS Water Treatment Plant

Reason Identified as Level I

The project has not yet incurred spend as of March 31, 2024. Please note that this is a reimbursement-based project, and the State is in the process of reimbursing the University of Rhode Island (URI) \$386,409 for invoices it has paid through March 31, 2024. As of March 31, 2024, \$20 million of the SFRF appropriation had been obligated for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Consistent with the second quarter FY 2024 report, the current budget timeline indicates that \$3.2 million of the total project cost will occur in the first two quarters of FY 2027 (i.e., July 2026 through December 2026, which is the SFRF spending deadline). This timeline does not provide any flexibility to URI should the project be delayed due to circumstances beyond URI's control. An additional concern is that URI will not be in receipt of the final design and build contract until the fourth quarter of FY 2024 which could delay the onset of construction of the permanent PFAS water treatment plant. A proposed solution is included in the next section of this report.

Proposed Agency Remedy

Phase 1 of the project (interim PFAS water treatment system) could not begin until the first purchase order was received on December 19, 2023. The issuance of the purchase order was several months behind the initial schedule due to extensive coordination with various parties. The Phase 1 construction schedule was compressed, and approximately \$5.1 million will be expensed by the end of the 2024 calendar year, consistent with the PRO-approved budget schedule.


The remaining work is Phase 2 (permanent PFAS water treatment facility), which is at risk for not being completed by December 31, 2026, due to a compressed design and construction schedule. For this reason, URI and PRO support the Governor's proposal for the conversion of the project funding from SFRF to the Rhode Island Capital Plan Fund (RICAP).

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) drinking water facility permit application was submitted on February 14, 2024, and is under review. The State Building Code Commission permit was submitted on March 13, 2024, and was approved on March 19, 2024. The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) stormwater permit was submitted on March 26, 2024, and is under review. URI is meeting with RIDOH and DEM to discuss the status of the reviews and approval of interim treatment system permit applications.

URI is proceeding with the purchase of critical water treatment systems (granulated activated carbon vessels) in the amount of approximately \$550,000 by July 2024. This action will advance some project costs earlier than originally planned.

URI has solicited for and approved a \$20,000 planning study to design a necessary force sewer project to carry away biosolids and backwash generated through the newly constructed water treatment facilities. URI intends to spend approximately \$1 million to build this new sewer main during the late summer and fall of 2025.

Table of Level II Monitored Projects


Project	Original PRO Approval Date / Most Recent PRO Approval Date ³	Total Appropriation	Total Obligations	Planned Expenditures as of 3/31/2024	Actual Expenditures as of 3/31/2024	% of Planned Expenditures Spent	Progress Since FY 2024 Q2 Report
<i>Department of Elementary and Secondary Education</i>							
Adult Education Providers	4/3/2023 N/A	\$5,000,000 ^b	\$2,538,661	\$1,833,900	\$576,611	31.4%	
Sub-Total		\$5,000,000	\$2,538,661	\$1,833,900	\$576,611	31.4%	
<i>Department of Children, Youth, and Families</i>							
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	2/1/2023 N/A	\$11,000,000 ^b	\$11,000,000	\$5,808,500	\$2,318,131	39.9%	New
Sub-Total		\$11,000,000	\$11,000,000	\$5,808,500	\$2,318,131	39.9%	

³ PRO reapproves projects for various reasons, including but not limited to: the appropriation of additional funds for a project that must be accounted for in the project budget; revised project timelines; and updated key performance indicators to ensure the State is tracking relevant data.

a Appropriation was made in Rhode Island Rebounds legislation on January 4, 2022.

b Appropriation was made in FY 2023 enacted budget on June 27, 2022.

c Appropriation was made in FY 2024 enacted budget on June 16, 2023.

Project	Original PRO Approval Date / Most Recent PRO Approval Date ³	Total Appropriation	Total Obligations	Planned Expenditures as of 3/31/2024	Actual Expenditures as of 3/31/2024	% of Planned Expenditures Spent	Progress Since FY 2024 Q2 Report
<i>Department of Human Services</i>							
Child Care Enhanced TEACH Program	2/6/2023 N/A	\$2,000,000 ^b	\$2,000,000	\$349,790	\$108,803	31.1%	New
Sub-Total		\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$349,790	\$108,303	31.1%	
<i>Executive Office of Commerce</i>							
Small Business Technical Assistance	5/17/2022 1/3/2024	\$10,500,000 ^a	\$10,500,000	\$10,500,000	\$3,779,331	36.0%	
Sub-Total		\$10,500,000	\$10,500,000	\$10,500,000	\$3,779,331	36.0%	
Grand Total		\$28,500,000	\$26,038,661	\$18,492,190	\$6,782,876	36.7%	

Level II Monitored Project Narratives

Adult Education Providers

Reason Identified as Level II

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$576,611. The actual expenditures are 31.4% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 50% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level II. As of March 31, 2024, \$2,538,661 of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated for the execution of the project. This represents 50.8% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

After PRO approved this project in April 2023, it took longer than expected for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) to hire and onboard the project manager responsible for project implementation. Overall, progress is approximately one quarter behind the original schedule.

The largest portion of the \$5 million budget – three mini-grants to local adult education providers – is being accelerated because of the project manager’s support:

- Regional orientation, assessment, and referral hubs opened to the public in October 2023. Through the third quarter of FY 2024, \$1.2 million in mini-grant funding to support 11 hub locations statewide was fully obligated. Mini-grant spending is picking up and will continue through June 2026, as funds support staffing for delivery of in-person services.
- In November 2023, \$1.3 million was obligated through the mini-grant process for digital literacy infrastructure. Funds are being used to purchase devices and equipment to support digital literacy instruction and to update staff computers. Grantees are required to spend all funds associated with this mini-grant by December 2025.
- The final mini-grant award for expansion of core services offered by adult education providers will obligate an additional \$1,691,000 by the end of April 2024.

In summary, a total of \$4.2 million will be obligated in grants to adult education grantee organizations by the end of April 2024.

The remaining \$0.8 million supports a project manager full-time equivalent, the communications and evaluation contracts, and ongoing marketing and outreach efforts. As of the third quarter of FY 2024:

- \$17,000 has been obligated to an external evaluator conducting an equity audit of student outcomes. This work will be completed by April 2024, with payment to the vendor soon after.
- \$130,000 has been obligated to a communications vendor responsible for statewide outreach and promotion. RIDE received the purchase order for this work in early April 2024 and will begin implementing it immediately. This work will continue through fall 2025.

Expenditures lag obligations because RIDE manages grants on a reimbursement basis. Payments will accelerate as local programs spend their awarded funds and submit requests for reimbursement. Due to internal controls, RIDE is constrained to a reimbursement structure for all grants, including SFRF. While this has resulted in a spending delay, payments will accelerate as local programs spend their awarded funds and submit requests for reimbursement. Further, a portion of the SFRF mini-grants supports expanded staff capacity for the local adult education programs for the duration of the project through June 2026.

RIDE is confident that all funds will be spent by the December 31, 2026, deadline. The funding is sorely needed by the under-resourced Adult Education providers, who will be able to focus on building their programs and spending remaining SFRF funds after the last mini-grant is awarded in April 2024. RIDE has provided local programs a deadline of June 30, 2026, to spend SFRF funds, so there is a built-in buffer period to ensure all documentation is submitted and processed before the December 31, 2026, deadline.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility

Reason Identified as Level II

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$2,318,131. The actual expenditures are 39.9% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 50% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level II. As of March 31, 2024, \$11 million of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

During soil tests as part of the project build, an elevated level of chemicals was identified and required a pause in construction to accommodate soil remediation. The project build is still slated to continue as the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) works with St. Mary's, the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), and the Governor's Office on the required funding and appropriate actions required to accomplish the project safely. Once a funding source is identified to accommodate the increased costs above a \$350,000 grant provided by DEM, the construction build will resume. The remediation process and construction may occur simultaneously. The facility is projected to open for new youth intake in April 2025.

Child Care Enhanced TEACH Program

Reason Identified as Level II

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$108,803. The actual expenditures are 31.1% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 50% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level II. As of March 31, 2024, \$2 million of the SFRF appropriation has been obligated for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

Proposed Agency Remedy

The Department of Human Services' (DHS) vendor for this project, the Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children (RIAIEYC), is waiting for an invoice for tuition from both Rhode Island College (RIC) and the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) for the spring 2023 semester. Both colleges invoice after the add/drop date in mid-February, so DHS has asked them to expedite those invoices. An invoice from RIC was recently processed for approximately \$80,000. Spending on this contract is semester-based and dependent on timely invoicing, which also contains personnel costs.

Small Business Technical Assistance

Reason Identified as Level II

As of March 31, 2024, the project had actual expenditures of \$3,779,331. The actual expenditures are 36% of planned expenditures through March 31, 2024, below the PRO threshold percentage of 50% used to preliminarily identify an SFRF project as Level II. As of March 31, 2024, \$10.5 million of the SFRF

appropriation has been obligated by the Executive Office of Commerce to the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation (Rhode Island Commerce) as a subrecipient for the execution of the project. This represents 100% of the total project appropriation.

The Rhode Island Rebounds (RI Rebounds) legislation, passed in January 2022, appropriated SFRF for this project. The project was approved for two phases by PRO on May 17, 2022, and reapproved on November 16, 2022.

Proposed Agency Remedy

Through this project, small businesses are eligible to receive up to \$10,000 in technical assistance services, including accounting and bookkeeping, legal services, and marketing, communications, and public relations. Approved vendors are matched with eligible small businesses to complete requested technical assistance work.

As of December 2023, small businesses have been able to benefit from small in-kind purchases of technology or software solutions directly related to the technical services provided. The matching of small businesses and vendors has led to delays as many small businesses requested each type of technical assistance offered. As a result, Skills for Rhode Island’s Future, with whom Rhode Island Commerce contracted to assist with this project, has had to meet with each small business to understand what services would best support their growth and development. Below is project data as of April 4, 2024.

Small Business Applicants	
Category	Value
<u>Applications Received</u>	<u>1,441</u>
Ineligible or Withdrawn	319
Eligible Applications	1,122
Pre-Match <i>- Business is in the intake or matching process prior to engaging in a scope of work with a vendor</i>	2
Pre-Work <i>- Business has been matched with a vendor and is completing the discovery or scope of work process</i>	69
Working with Vendor <i>- Business has executed a scope of work and has received or is receiving technical assistance</i>	935
Hours of Technical Assistance Service Completed	26,468.87
Funds Disbursed by Commerce for Reimbursement of Phase II Technical Assistance Vendors	\$3,149,053.84
Funds Disbursed to Vendors <i>- Funding paid out to vendors for completed Technical Assistance projects</i>	\$3,334,545.84
Vendor Status	
Category	Value
<u>Total Applications Received</u>	<u>458</u>
Ineligible or Withdrawn	31
Eligible or Under Review	427
Signed Service Agreement	388

Rhode Island Commerce anticipates a small amount of underspend for this project. As of late March 2024, approximately \$8.4 million was put under contract by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation for services between vendors and small businesses across 1,114 statements of work. While some statements of work are in the process of being finalized, Rhode Island Commerce does not anticipate exhausting the full \$9.5 million available for vendor services. However, any underspend in this program will continue to support small businesses. The Governor's recommended FY 2025 budget proposes moving \$2 million, including any underspend from the Small Business Technical Assistance program, from the Small Business Assistance SFRF projects to the Assistance to Impacted Industries SFRF projects, where it would fund a new round of the Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Placemaking project.

Projects with Reallocations in the FY 2025 Budget Proposal and Budget Amendment Process

The following projects have had a portion or the full amount of the FY 2024 SFRF appropriation reallocated in the Governor’s FY 2025 recommended budget or a subsequent budget amendment as of April 22, 2024:

Agency	Project	Status in This Report	Appropriation as of FY 2024	Proposed Change in FY 2025 Budget	When Request Was Submitted
BHDDH	9-8-8 Mental Health Hotline	Not Included	\$3,475,000	\$1,875,000	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
DCYF	Lead Remediation in Foster Homes	Project Unable to Proceed	\$1,000,000	\$(1,000,000)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
DCYF	Fire Safety in Foster Homes	Project Unable to Proceed	\$875,000	\$(875,000)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
DLT	Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Contribution	Not Included	\$100,000,000	\$24,000,000	Governor’s Budget Amendment 12
DOA	Ongoing COVID-19 Response	Project Unable to Proceed	\$41,787,709	\$(40,587,709)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget and Governor’s Budget Amendment 11
DOA	Auto-Enrollment Program	Not Included	\$2,614,068	\$(1,000,000)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
DOA	Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance	Not Included	\$30,000,000	\$10,000,000	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
DOA	Pandemic Recovery Office	Not Included	\$18,878,934	\$(3,500,000)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget

Agency	Project	Status in This Report	Appropriation as of FY 2024	Proposed Change in FY 2025 Budget	When Request Was Submitted
DOA	Public Health Response Warehouse Support	Not Included	\$3,400,000	\$778,347	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
EOC	Small Business Technical Assistance	Level II	\$10,499,999	\$(2,000,000)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
EOC	Hospitality, Tourism, Events Placemaking	Not Included	\$3,000,000	\$2,000,000	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
EOC	South Quay Marine Terminal	Project Unable to Proceed	\$35,000,000	\$(35,000,000)	Governor's Budget Amendment 11
Housing	Homelessness Assistance Phase II	Not Included	\$13,000,000	\$16,600,000	Governor's Budget Amendment 12
Housing	Priority Projects Fund	Not Included	\$27,000,000	\$(5,000,000)	Governor's Budget Amendment 11
Housing	Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative	Level I	\$2,500,000	\$(300,000)	Governor's Budget Amendment 11
Housing	Housing Related Infrastructure	Not Included	\$4,300,000	\$(1,300,000)	Governor's Budget Amendment 11
RIDOH	COVID-19 Operational Support: Epidemiology	Not Included	\$10,948,478	\$(867,757)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
RIDOH	COVID-19 Operational Support: Testing	Not Included	\$8,916,800	\$(6,146,574)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget

Agency	Project	Status in This Report	Appropriation as of FY 2024	Proposed Change in FY 2025 Budget	When Request Was Submitted
RIDOH	COVID-19 Operational Support: Analytics	Not Included	\$15,044,300	\$4,301,826	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
RIDOT	Municipal Roads Program	Not Included	\$20,000,000	\$5,000,000	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
URI	PFAS Water Treatment Plant	Level I	\$20,000,000	\$(20,000,000)	FY 2025 Recommended Budget

9-8-8 Mental Health Hotline: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends allocating an additional \$1.9 million to this project, increasing total funding to \$5.4 million.

Lead Remediation in Foster Homes: The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) did not receive sufficient demand to pursue this project. The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends reallocating the \$1,000,000 appropriation from the Lead Remediation in Foster Homes project to other uses.

Fire Safety Upgrades in Foster Homes: DCYF did not receive any responses to the request for proposals soliciting individuals and vendors to perform fire safety inspections for this project. The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends reallocating the \$875,000 appropriation from the Fire Safety Upgrades in Foster Homes project to other uses.

Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Contribution: The Governor’s budget amendment 12 recommends allocating an additional \$24 million to this project, increasing the total contribution to \$124 million.

Ongoing COVID-19 Response: As of March 31, 2024, the State has not needed to use the Ongoing COVID-19 Response funds. Together, the FY 2025 budget proposal and a subsequent budget amendment recommend reallocating \$40.6 million from the Ongoing COVID-19 Response project to other uses.

Auto-Enrollment Program: HealthSource Rhode Island (HSRI) determined that the qualified enrollments from the Medicaid terminated population are closer to 20% of Medicaid terminations, and therefore the benefit costs of the program are much lower than originally forecast. The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends reallocating \$1.0 million from the Auto-Enrollment Program project to other uses.

Health Care Facilities: Nursing Home Assistance: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends allocating an additional \$10 million to this project, increasing total funding to \$40 million.

Pandemic Recovery Office: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends new uses for \$3.5 million of the \$18.9 million appropriation for the Pandemic Recovery Office’s (PRO) operating costs to provide monitoring and oversight of projects being implemented with SFRF. PRO has realized cost savings associated with contractual services.

Public Health Response Warehouse Support: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends allocating an additional \$0.8 million to this project, increasing total funding to \$4.2 million.

Small Business Technical Assistance: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends reallocating \$2.0 million of the \$10.5 million appropriation from the Small Business Technical Assistance project to the Hospitality, Tourism, Events Placemaking project.

South Quay Marine Terminal: The Governor’s budget amendment 11 recommends reallocating the entire \$35 million from this project to other uses.

Homelessness Assistance Phase II: The Governor’s budget amendment 12 recommends allocating an additional \$16.6 million to this project, increasing total funding to \$29.6 million.

Priority Projects Fund: The Governor’s budget amendment 11 recommends reallocating \$5 million from this project to other uses.

Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative: The Governor’s budget amendment 11 recommends reallocating \$0.3 million from this project to other uses.

Housing Related Infrastructure: The Governor’s budget amendment 11 recommends reallocating \$1.3 million from this project to other uses.

COVID-19 Operational Support: Epidemiology and COVID-19 Operational Support: Testing: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends the reappropriation of \$7.0 million of the \$19.9 million appropriation for COVID-19 Operational Support: Epidemiology and COVID-19 Operational Support: Testing, with \$4.3 million reappropriated to COVID-19 Operational Support: Analytics and \$2.7 million to other uses.

Municipal Roads Program: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends allocating an additional \$5 million to this project, increasing total funding to \$25 million.

PFAS Water Treatment Plant: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends changing the funding source for this project from SFRF to the Rhode Island Capital Plan Fund (RICAP) to avoid any potential SFRF spending deadline issues.

New Projects Proposed in the FY 2025 Budget Proposal and Budget Amendment Process

The following projects would be new as of the FY 2025 enacted budget:

Agency	Project	Proposed Amount in FY 2025 Budget	When Request Was Submitted
DOA	Community Learning Center Programming Support Grant	\$2,000,000	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
DOC	Operating Support	\$20,000,000	FY 2025 Recommended Budget
EOC	Small Business Assistance – Washington Bridge Impacted Businesses	\$1,300,000	Governor’s Budget Amendment 11

Agency	Project	Proposed Amount in FY 2025 Budget	When Request Was Submitted
OPC	Foster Care Youth Scholarship	\$1,000,000	Governor's Budget Amendment 12
RIDOT	Priority Transportation Projects Funding	\$20,000,000	Governor's Budget Amendment 12
RIPTA	Operating Grant	\$10,000,000	FY 2025 Recommended Budget

Community Learning Center Support Grant: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends allocating \$2 million to be distributed to municipalities that have approved community learning center projects under the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund Community Learning Center Municipal Grant Program.

DOC Operating Support: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends allocating \$20 million to support the increase in personnel and operating expenses that have continued as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Small Business Assistance – Washington Bridge Impacted Businesses: The Governor's budget amendment 11 recommends allocating \$1.3 million from the Small Business Assistance project to assist small businesses impacted by the closure and reconstruction of the Washington Bridge. \$600,000 would be allocated to East Providence, \$400,000 would be allocated to Providence, and \$300,000 would be allocated to EOC.

Foster Care Youth Scholarship: The Governor's budget amendment 12 recommends allocating \$1.0 million to be distributed by OPC to the Rhode Island College Foundation to support a last-dollar scholarship program for DCYF foster care youth exiting the system to attend RIC and would fully fund tuition, room and board, and/or support services.

Priority Transportation Projects Funding: The Governor's budget amendment 12 recommends allocating \$20 million to be used for priority transportation projects, including but not limited to the non-federal share of the Washington Bridge project.

RIPTA Operating Grant: The FY 2025 budget proposal recommends allocating \$10 million to provide operating support to RIPTA.