



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Virtual Meeting**

**BOARD AGENDA**

**Thursday, July 16, 2020, 10:00 AM**

**Special Meeting**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Due to the current health crisis, there is no in-person participation for the County Board meetings. The President and Commissioners will participate remotely. The public can observe the livestream <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings>

The public can still testify to the Committee Meetings. Only written comment will be accepted for those wishing to provide Public Testimony. Written comments provided prior to the start of the meeting will be read aloud at the meeting. Three minutes per comment will be allowed, though every effort will be made to read statements in their entirety. If you have additional material for the Board to consider, please email testimony to [cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov) and indicate a desire that your testimony be entered into the record. All written comment which complies with County Board Rules will be posted online.

**BUREAU OF FINANCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

[20-3165](#)

**Presented by:** ANNETTE GUZMAN, Budget Director

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Budget & Management Services

**Report Title:** FY2021 Preliminary Forecast

**Report Period:** December 1, 2019 - November 30, 2020 and December 1, 2020 - November 30, 2021

**Summary:** Pursuant to Section 2-933 of the Cook County Code of Ordinances, the Department of Budget & Management Services (DBMS) submits the attached FY2021 Preliminary Forecast, which presents a mid-year projection of FY2020 year-end revenues and expenses and an initial forecast of the FY2021 revenues and expenditures.

For Fiscal Year 2020, DBMS projects a budget shortfall of \$219.7 million in the County's General Fund and \$60.6 million in the County's Health Fund, for a total operating fund deficit of \$280.3 million.

For Fiscal Year 2021, DBMS forecasts a budget shortfall of \$222.2 million in the County's General Fund and \$187.4 million in the County's Health Fund, for a total operating fund deficit of \$409.6 million.

DBMS will formally introduce this item at the Special Meeting of the Cook County Board of Commissioners scheduled for July 16, 2020.

**BUREAU OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**[20-3228](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), JOHN P. DALEY, DONNA MILLER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SCOTT R. BRITTON, LARRY SUFFREDIN, DEBORAH SIMS and STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION****ALLOCATION OF COOK COUNTY CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS TO SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITIES AND OTHER UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a Proclamation on Declaring a National Public Health Emergency as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the “CARES Act”); and

**WHEREAS**, the CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (“CRF”), which provides aid to certain eligible local governments to address necessary expenditures due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County qualified as an eligible local government and received CRF funding from the U.S Department of Treasury; and

**WHEREAS**, federal guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Treasury indicates that a unit of local government may transfer a portion of its CRF funding to a smaller unit of local government provided that such transfer qualifies as a “necessary expenditure” to the Public Health Emergency and meets the criteria of Section 601 (d) of the Social Security Act as added by Section 5001 of the CARES Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Article VII, Section 10 of the 1970 Illinois Constitution and the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.) and other applicable law permit and encourage units of local government to cooperate with and support each other in the exercise of their authority and the performance of their responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act authorizes units of local government to combine, transfer or jointly exercise any power, privilege, function, or authority which either of them may exercise, and to enter into agreements for the performance of governmental services, activities, or undertakings, and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County acknowledges that there are local municipalities within Cook County that were not eligible to receive a portion of CRF and Cook County, through the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation, desires to provide a portion of its CRF funding to aid such local suburban municipalities and

other units of local government in addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 601(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the CARES Act requires that units of local government use the funds received to cover only those costs that (1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19; (2) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020, (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the state or local government; and (3) were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020; under current US Department of Treasury guidance, the CRF funds cannot be used for revenue losses; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to assist suburban municipalities and other units of local government in Cook County to pay necessary and eligible expenditures it has or will incur due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, Cook County, through the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has created the Cook County COVID-19 Funding Response Plan to account for the County's utilization of CRF funds and has allocated a portion of the County's CRF to suburban municipalities and other units of local government; and

**WHEREAS**, historic disinvestment in certain communities within the region has resulted in an unequal capacity for all suburban municipalities to respond to the challenges that Covid-19 presents; and

**WHEREAS**, by working with Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and committing to an equitable distribution strategy, the County developed its suburban municipality allocation with an equity lens to help prevent a widening disparity gap, as experienced during the last economic recession; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County has assigned \$51,000,000 of the County's CRF distribution to provide allocations to 134 municipalities for eligible and approved CRF expenses. This allocation is based upon an understanding of initial direct and operational COVID-19 response needs; and allocations for each municipality were determined with consideration given to the following factors: immediate needs of the municipality to respond to the Pandemic, municipal population, municipal median income, and municipal public health statistics. Specifically, Cook County is allocating to each suburban municipality \$5.90 per person plus an additional allocation based on a weighted calculation of four Suburban Municipality demographic and public health metrics: 1) percent population in disinvested areas; 2) median income; 3) COVID-19 deaths per 100,000 residents; and 4) tax base per capita; and

**WHEREAS**, suburban municipalities seeking to utilize their Cook County allocation which was determined under the Cook County COVID-19 Funding Response Plan will be required to complete the Cook County Suburban Municipality Application for CRF (the "application") and meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the US Department of Treasury guidelines on CRF; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the funding allocated in the Cook County COVID-19 Funding Response Plan, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has set aside additional CRF funds that may be provided to other units of local government within Cook County, i.e., the Forest Preserve District of Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to effectuate the transfer of Cook County CRF to suburban municipalities and other units of local government, Cook County will utilize Intergovernmental Agreements and Subrecipient Agreements to document the utilization of such funds for eligible expenses.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the Cook County COVID-19 Funding Response Plan and allocation of \$51 million in CRF funds to suburban municipalities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to modify the funding allocations provided in Attachment A to this Resolution based upon municipal need and utilization; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby supports making additional CRF allocations to other units of local government within Cook County, such as the Forest Preserve District of Cook County through Intergovernmental Agreements; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that due to the fact that CRF is limited to eligible expenses and use of such funds by December 30, 2020, the Cook County Board of Commissioners recognizes that time is of the essence and authorizes the Chief Financial Officer and Cook County Board President to enter into Intergovernmental or Subrecipient Agreements with suburban municipalities and other units of local government for a portion of Cook County's CRF allocation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chief Financial Officer shall issue quarterly reports to the Cook County Board of Commissioners regarding the execution of any Intergovernmental or Subrecipient Agreements entered into in accordance with this Resolution and CRF dollars awarded to suburban municipalities and other units of local government.

[20-3229](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), JOHN P. DALEY, LARRY SUFFREDIN, DEBORAH SIMS, SCOTT R. BRITTON, BRANDON JOHNSON and DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES TO IMPLEMENT THE COOK COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN: FROM RAPID RESPONSE TO EQUITABLE RECOVERY**

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a Proclamation, declaring a National Public Health Emergency as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the "CARES Act"); and

**WHEREAS**, the CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund ("CRF"), which provides aid to

eligible local governments to address necessary expenditures due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 7, 2020, President Preckwinkle issued Executive Order 2020-9 which authorized the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development (BED) to develop, establish and administer a loan and technical assistance program for small businesses located in suburban Cook County in the amount of \$10 M; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County qualified as an eligible local government and received \$429 M in CRF funding from the U.S Department of Treasury; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County has received \$429 million of CRF and Cook County has allocated approximately \$ 133 Million of the County's CRF allocation to address the impact of COVID on communities with \$51 M available to municipalities and \$82 M distributed via the BED to direct service providers to address economic and community development needs; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of COVID-19, Cook County businesses and residents have been severely impacted and recovery initiatives are needed to assist Cook County businesses and residents as result of losses suffered and unforeseen expenses incurred; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 14, 2020 to ensure a comprehensive and coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic, President Preckwinkle released the Cook County COVID-19 Response Plan: From Rapid Response to Equitable Recovery. This Plan combines the County's ongoing public health and healthcare priorities with parallel agendas that respond to the longer-term economic and social impacts of the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Equitable Recovery phase of the Cook County COVID-19 Response Plan details actions the Offices Under the President will take to address the significant economic impact residents, municipalities, businesses and civic institutions face. Due to the uncertain nature of the pandemic and its economic impacts, the County expects the recovery phase to last at least 18 to 24 months; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County adopted an approach to the design and implementation of COVID-19 economic relief programs to ensure the equitable distribution of resources to residents and businesses with the greatest need and adversely impacted by COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, to achieve the above objectives, the BED collaborated with stakeholders to develop new programs that will help restore the economic well-being of residents and businesses.

**WHEREAS**, the Plan outlines a commitment to expand BED's Community Recovery Initiative to assist renters and homeowners, dislocated workers, small businesses and address critical social service needs.

**WHEREAS**, to primarily assist suburban Cook County businesses and residents, Cook County through the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has allocated nearly \$82 Million to fund specific economic and

community recovery initiatives administered by the BED; and

**WHEREAS**, the BED developed the proposed menu of programs to support business and community recovery through a process that included surveys by the County of businesses, social service agencies and resident needs, review of publicly available research; consultation with subject matter experts including, the Boston Consulting Group, the Civic Consulting Alliance, the Greater Chicago Food Depository, and other local organizations; and review and discussion with the Cook County Economic Development Advisory Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the *County's Equitable Recovery Plan* cites a "grave economic crisis" and notes that the existing Federal support does not provide enough resources to meet small businesses' needs and that smaller, minority-owned businesses were largely left behind; and

**WHEREAS**, the *County's Equitable Recovery Plan* states the County's continued intention to assisting small businesses, access relief and to identify resources to build a stronger small business ecosystem that supports recovery and foster resiliency; and

**WHEREAS**, the *County's Equitable Recovery Plan* expressed the County's intention of supporting Cook County residents seeking employment; and

**WHEREAS**, the *County's Equitable Recovery Plan* notes that residents are struggling to feed and house their families, social services are strained, and communities of color are suffering the harshest impacts of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the *County's Equitable Recovery Plan* establishes the County's commitment to providing rent, mortgage, and utility assistance, homeless and other social services, and assistance for those impacted by eviction and foreclosure; and

**WHEREAS**, to impactfully leverage funding and ensure efficient and effective program operation, implementation and administration consistent with federal guidelines the BED will need to work with experienced and established fiscal agents, program administrators, partner agencies and technical assistance providers to achieve the various recovery objectives.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the Cook County initiatives to provide business and community recovery efforts as a result of COVID-19 and further supports the allocation of nearly \$82 million in CRF funds to support the following BED program and initiatives to address the needs in suburban Cook County, distributed as follows:

1. Implement the **Cook County COVID-19 Small Business Recovery Grant and Technical Assistance Program** in the amount of **\$15 M** to support small businesses in Cook County, who urgently require access to funding that will help businesses recover from the negative effects of COVID-19. Grant capital alone is insufficient in helping small businesses recover from the dampening effect of COVID- 19; small businesses will also receive technical assistance, business

advice and education.

Cook County will join a growing coalition of business service organizations, supported by funds from charitable organizations and potential private sector funders, across Chicago and the suburbs of Cook County, to help business owners sustain and grow their businesses, addressing the impacts of COVID-19. The \$15 M Program, which continues to seek further funding from outside sources, contains the following program components: program design, administration and implementation with \$12.6M being used for grants to small businesses, \$2 M for providing free advising and educational services to small businesses and approximately \$400,000 for program administration. All businesses that receive a grant under the Small Business Recovery Grant Program will be required to receive technical assistance to maximize the impact of the grant.

2. Implement the **Southland Development Technical Assistance Network**, in the amount of **\$1M**, to provide free direct technical assistance services to small businesses located in Cook County's South Suburbs. The Southland Development Authority (SDA) in partnership with the Illinois Small Business Development Center at the Southland will assist businesses in re-opening safely, identifying financial resources to continue operations; apply for loans and grants; and connect businesses with mentors and advisors.

The South Suburban Economic Growth Initiative, Phase I report documents the importance of the South Suburbs to the regional economy, while offering potential for economic growth but represents the sub-region within Cook County with the greatest challenges resulting from years of disinvestment and population loss. As documented in the *County's Equitable Recovery Plan*, COVID only exacerbates the existing disparities and data from the Cook County Department of Public Health indicates the South Suburbs are among the hardest hit sub-regions in the County. As a result, the BED has targeted specific economic development resources to this region.

3. Implement the **Back to Work Cook County** program in the amount of **\$4M** to provide retraining and employment services to dislocated suburban Cook County residents due to COVID-19; \$ 1.5 will be distributed to support direct "training vouchers" to eligible dislocated job seekers; \$750,000 to American Job Centers to hire additional staff to serve the increased volume of dislocated workers at suburban locations, \$450,000 to suburban community colleges to provide career counseling and coaching, \$200,000 to provide laptops and hotspots/service to loan to individuals who wish to participate in remote job training, but lack the technical resources to do so; \$350,000 to develop a pilot Cook County Manufacturing Rapid Response System to avert layoffs triggered by COVID-19, and to support placement of trainees into "essential" manufacturing jobs, and \$800,000 funds for program management and administration.
4. Implement the **Cook County Manufacturing Cares Package**, in the amount of **\$500,000** to identify urgent and important needs for Cook County manufacturers as a result of COVID-19. All manufacturers that identify urgent needs will receive direct support from IMEC's team of improvement specialists and technicians dedicated to providing businesses in Illinois with the tools and techniques to create sustainable competitive futures. Assessment results will be compiled and



shared in a comprehensive report outlining recommendations for business assistance to manufacturers in an ongoing COVID-19 environment. IMEC, the Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center is the official Illinois representative of the U.S. Commerce Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) National Network.

5. Implement the **Cook County Rental Assistance Program** to provide **\$20 M** in rental assistance payments for residents financially impacted by COVID-19, either for past due payments or upcoming payments. Payments made under this program will be made directly to the landlord.
6. Implement the **Cook County Mortgage Assistance Program** in the amount of **\$20 M** will provide mortgage assistance payments for residents financially impacted by COVID-19, either for past due payments or upcoming payments. Payments made under this program will be made directly to the servicer.
7. Implement the **Cook County Critical Social Service Programs** in the amount of **\$11.4 M** to provide services to the homeless (\$5 M); to provide legal aid, housing counseling, and foreclosure mediation services (\$1.1 million); to provide utility assistance to residents impacted by COVID-19 (\$2.1 M); to provide food assistance (\$1.1 million); and to provide direct financial assistance to residents impacted by COVID-19 (\$2.1 million), as follows:
  - a) The **Homeless Sheltering Program** funding will complement FEMA and other available sources of shelter funding to cover costs associated with providing hotel-based shelter to protect the high-risk homeless population during COVID-19 as well as costs for operating the few congregate shelter sites that have been housing residents. Prior to COVID-19, the suburban homeless system chiefly used a church-based rotating shelter model that is largely volunteer-driven. Under COVID-19, continuing congregate shelters is difficult, and most volunteers are unable to assist, so the system moved primarily to a hotel-based model for sheltering homeless individuals. Since the onset of COVID-19, the suburban shelter system has provided over 50,000 shelter nights and over 150,000 meals, and this level of service is expected to continue.
  - b) The **Legal Aid, Housing Counseling and Foreclosure Mediation Program** will provide these housing stability services to those at risk of eviction or foreclosure. BED will collaborate with the Cook County Justice Advisory Council on these initiatives.
  - c) The **Utility Assistance Program** will provide utility assistance to suburban Cook County households struggling to pay their utility bills due to impacts from COVID-19. The program will focus on gas, electric, phone and water utility assistance for lower income households (up to 200% of the federal poverty level) impacted by COVID-19. Payments made under this program will be made directly to the utilities.
  - d) The **Food Assistance Program** will provide food assistance to residents and support the operation and staffing of food distribution sites. Funding will support new food distribution sites

and partnerships, particularly black and brown-led distributions in priority communities in the south and west suburban regions.

- e) The **Direct Financial Assistance Program** will provide one-time direct financial assistance to residents impacted by COVID-19, with the expectation of aiding at least 4,000 households with a \$500 one-time payment.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the US Department of Treasury limits the use of CRF for eligible expenses by December 30, 2020, the Cook County Board of Commissioners recognizes that time is of the essence and, in addition to the Cook County Community Recovery Loan Fund that was implemented pursuant to Executive Order 2020-9 in the amount of \$10 million, authorizes the Chief of the Bureau of Economic Development to negotiate and enter into the various agreements that outlines the specific metric and impact data, and compliance with all CRF reporting and monitoring requirements with the following agencies to implement the above programs:

1. **Chicago Community Trust (CCT)** to serve as the fiscal agent of the Cook County COVID-19 Small Business Recovery Grant and Technical Assistance Program. CCT will be responsible for distributing the County's funds along with those from other philanthropic investors to local business service organizations for **\$15 M**.
2. **Southland Development Authority (SDA)** to implement the Southland Development Technical Assistance Network for \$1 million.
3. **Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (Partnership)** to implement the Back to Work Cook County for \$4 M
4. **Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC)** to implement the Cook County Manufacturing Cares Package for \$500,000.
5. **Housing Authority of Cook County** to implement the Cook County Rental Assistance Program for \$20 M.
6. **Illinois Housing Development Authority** or other appropriate housing agency to implement the Cook County Mortgage Assistance Program for \$20 M.
7. The **Cook County Critical Social Service Programs**, as follows:
  - a) **BEDS Plus, Connections for the Homeless, Housing Forward, JOURNEYS, Respond Now, and South Suburban PADS** to implement the Homeless Sheltering Program for \$5 M.
  - b) **Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing** and other appropriate entities providing legal aid, housing counseling and foreclosure mediation services to implement the Legal Aid, Housing Counseling and Foreclosure Mediation Program for \$1.1 M

- c) **Community and Economic Development Association (CEDA)** to implement the Utility Assistance Program for \$2.1 M
- d) **Greater Chicago Food Depository** to implement the Food Assistance Program for \$1.1 M.
- e) **Family Independence Initiative** to implement the Direct Financial Assistance Program for \$2.1 M.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chief of BED to modify the funding allocations provided in this Resolution based upon need and utilization; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chief of the Bureau of Economic Development shall issue quarterly reports to the Cook County Board of Commissioners regarding progress of the above programs toward the Vital Communities goals outlined in the *Cook County COVID-19 Response Plan*.

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

[20-2744](#)

**Presented by:** KAREN A. YARBROUGH, County Clerk

**PROPOSED GRANT AWARD**

**Department:** County Clerk

**Grantee:** County Clerk

**Grantor:** Illinois State Board of Elections

**Request:** Authorization to accept grant

**Purpose:** Assist in the maintenance and other costs associated with our voter registration system in order to communicate with the Centralized Statewide Voter Registration System

**Grant Amount:** \$1,731,132.00

**Grant Period:** 7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Accounts:** N/A

**Concurrences:**

The Budget Department has received all requisite documents and determined the fiscal impact on Cook County, if any

**Summary:** The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 required states to adopt a computerized statewide voter registration list. The purpose of this grant is to assist in the maintenance and other costs associated with our voter registration system in order for it to communicate with the Centralized Statewide Voter Registration System.