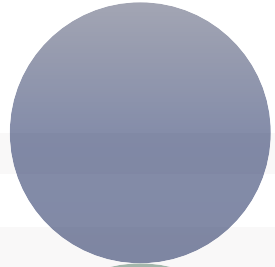




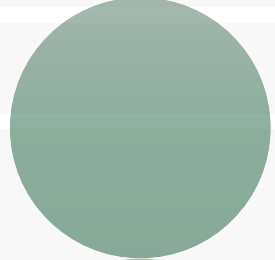
INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

SC ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
DECEMBER 2, 2021

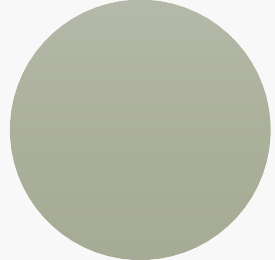
Infrastructure is a Smart Investment



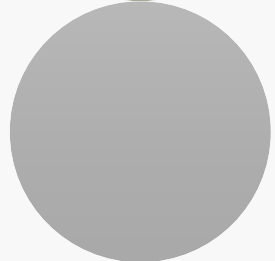
Quality of Life



Economic Impact



Community Improvement



Sustainability

AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

- Contaminated drinking water
- Environmental impacts
- Disruptions in service
- Expensive repairs

40% of utilities struggle to cover costs



SMALL & RURAL UTILITY CHALLENGES

- Smaller customer base
- Higher costs per customer
- Distressed local economies
- Slow population growth and low population density

Higher rates and weaker financial health
on average



Economic Development Needs

- Reliable infrastructure with capacity to attract jobs, economic development and new investment

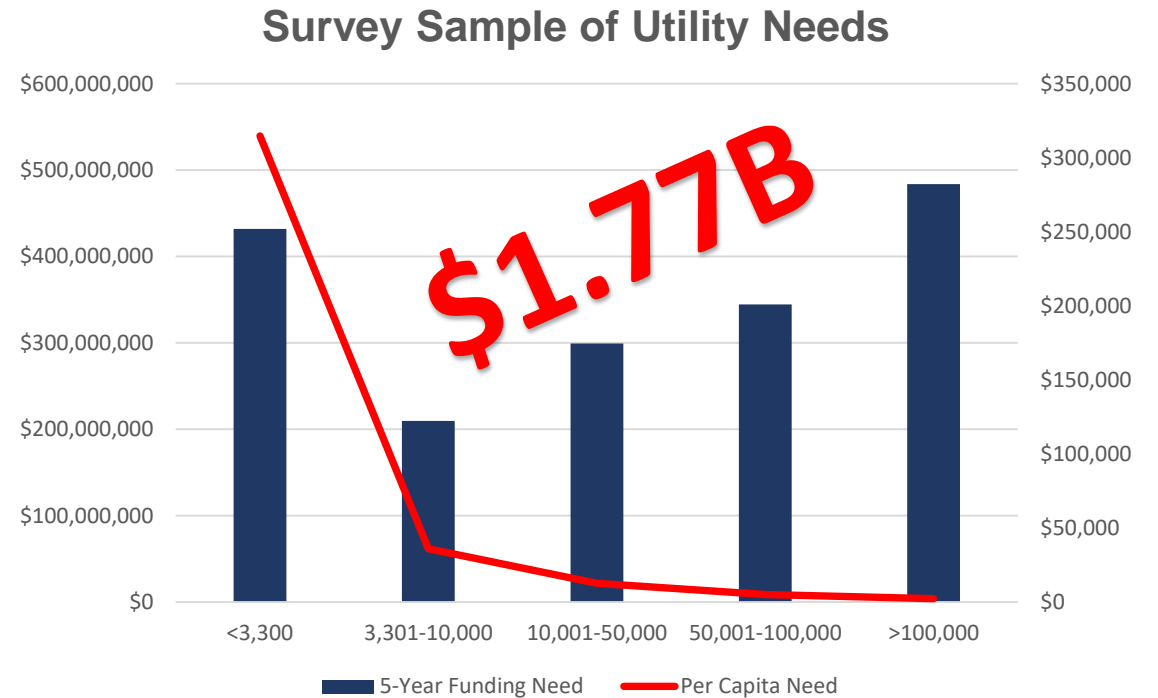


SC Water & Wastewater Needs

Most Recent EPA Needs Surveys/ Recent Funding Data (past 5 years)

At least **\$15.4B** over the next 20 years (combined water & wastewater)

Survey Sample of 5-Year Needs*



*Based on RIA Survey - August 2021



Working Together: A Path to Water Viability
South Carolina Water Utility Forum

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND PRIORITIES



American Rescue Plan Act



**The American
Rescue Plan
Act of 2021**

- **Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**
- **State Fiscal Recovery Funds**

GOVERNOR'S PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING

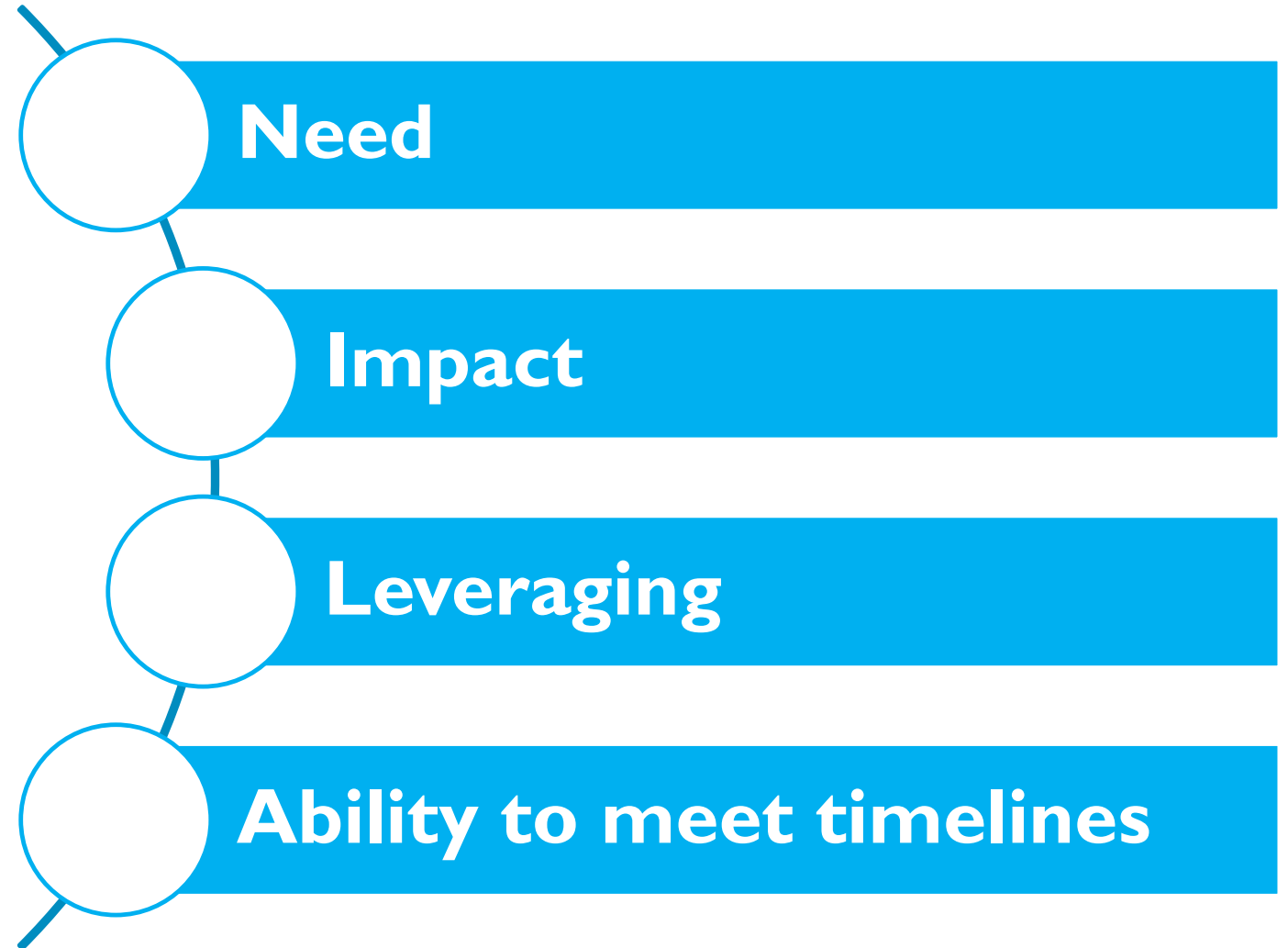
\$500M

- Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure
- Competitive process
- Priorities
 - Economic Development
 - Public Health
 - Regionalization



PRIORITY PROJECT CONSIDERATION

Competitive Grant Program



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act** - significant funding increases for both the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) Program over five years
- **SRF Program** is jointly administered – RIA and DEHEC
- Additional Funding for:
 - Water and Wastewater projects - \$120 million
 - Emerging contaminants
 - Lead in water service lines

RIA Grants and Loans



RIA awarded \$77 million in FY 2021

Other State and Federal Funding Sources



South Carolina
Department of Commerce

Just right for business.

Community
Development
Block Grant



USDA



**Rural
Development**

Committed to the future of rural communities.

E★D★A

U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Need for Comprehensive Programs for Utility Improvement

LONG-TERM UTILITY VIABILITY

Planning Assistance

- Asset Management
- Rate Studies/Rate Setting
- Capital Improvement Planning
- Regional Feasibility Studies

Technical Assistance

- Additional opportunities for technical assistance
- Regional Partnerships

Capital Improvements

- Targeted system improvements to address aging infrastructure, regulatory compliance and capacity
- Capital improvements to implement regional solutions, including consolidation



THANK YOU



SC Rural Infrastructure Authority 

803-737-0390 

info@ria.sc.gov 

www.ria.sc.gov 