

Memo

To: Phillip Drujak
From: Squire Patton Boggs LLP
Date: April 28, 2022
Subject: Miami-Dade March 2022 Report

The federal appropriations process dominated activities in March. Not only was the FY 2022 omnibus appropriations measure finally passed into law (Public Law No: 117-103), but simultaneously Congress began to gear up for the FY 2023 appropriations process. As such, Squire Patton Boggs (SPB) reviewed the omnibus appropriations bill for Community Funding Projects, such as funding for Miami-Dade septic to sewer projects, drinking water projects and Biscayne Bay and Everglades funding totaling in the millions of dollars.

Additionally, SPB assisted the County in preparing FY 2023 programmatic appropriations forms for multiple programs of interest. A programmatic appropriations request proposes funding a particular federal agency or program at a specified level. Every year, the County makes requests for programs such as the Community Development Block Grant, homelessness programs, Transit Capital Investment Grants, and others to every member of the County's delegation. These are submitted to the delegation early on in the year, and the project funding (targeting funding to a specific community project) requests come a bit later. We prepared a memorandum on the appropriations process and which appropriations accounts are available for Project Funding. We began the process of assessing the County's needs and vetting the projects to be submitted for specific funding.

The President typically submits his budget to Congress in February, but as the FY 2022 appropriations process took five months longer to complete than it should have, the President submitted his FY 2023 budget in March. We prepared a summary of the proposed Presidential budget for the County.

Meanwhile, Congress began working on an emergency supplemental appropriations bill for additional COVID-19 funding, primarily for vaccines, therapeutics, and antivirals, which they proposed offsetting by clawing back unspent American Rescue Plan State and Local Coronavirus Relief funding. State and local governments like the County protested the proposed loss of these funds and the bill was required to be pulled back by House leadership. We kept the County apprised of this process and what it would mean to County coffers. The bill is still being negotiated at the time of this writing and the "pay for" is no longer taken from state and local funds, which is a significant win.

We continued to monitor the implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, providing the County with weekly updates along with notification of specific program funding as they became available, such as the Clean School Bus Program, the INFRA/MEGA/Rural NOFO (deadline for submission of May 23), and the NOFO for airport funding. We flagged all of these funding opportunities for the County.

We also provided summaries of Congressional hearings of interest to the County (such as a House hearing on Electric Vehicles deployment), along with a summary of an IIJA webinar on resilience, and a summary of a HUD stakeholder meeting.

Early in every week, we provide a Washington Update, which covers activities in the federal government for that week and we close out every week with our Infrastructure Report. As always, we provide the County with notification of other federal grants as the opportunities become available.