

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Budget Presentation to Senate Finance and Appropriations - HHR Subcommittee

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Virginia State Health Commissioner
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What We Do

Mission

To protect the health and promote the well-being of all people in Virginia.

Vision

Become the healthiest state in the nation

VDH Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Maintain a competent and valued workforce

Goal 2: Foster healthy, connected, and resilient communities

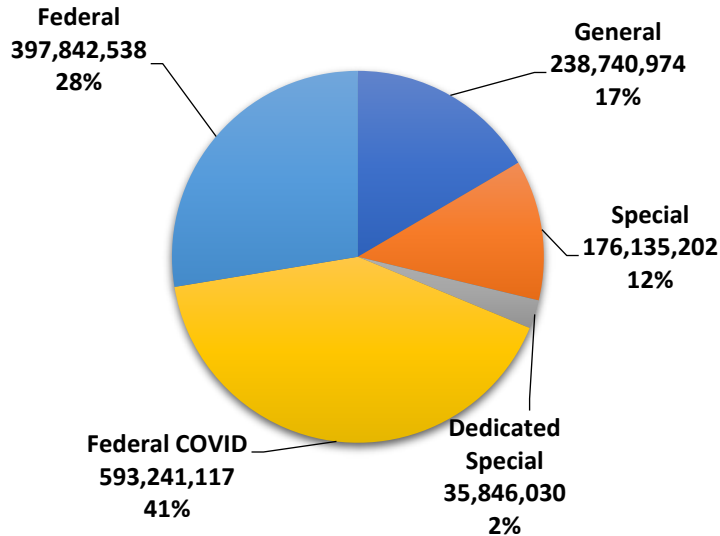
Goal 3: Be a trusted source of public health information and services

Goal 4: Assure the conditions that improve health opportunity

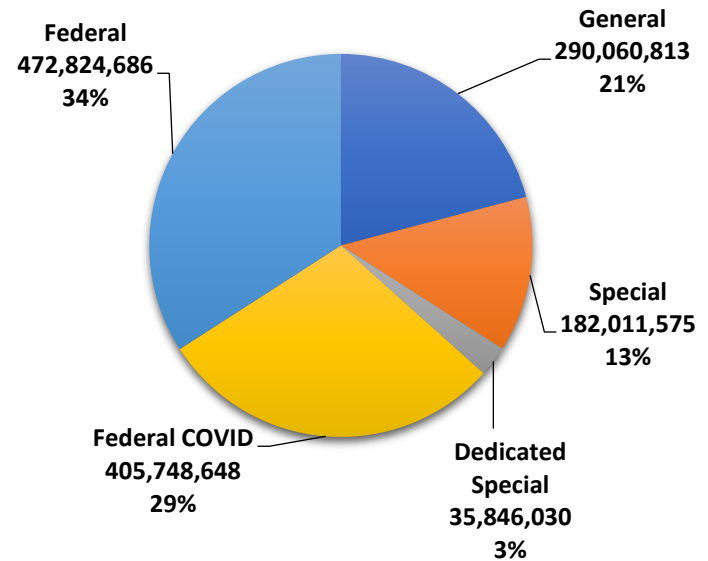
Goal 5: Provide internal systems that deliver consistent and responsive support

VDH Funding – FY 2023 & FY 2024

**FY2023
Appropriations
Total \$1,441,805,861**



**FY2024
Appropriations
Total \$1,386,491,752**



Mental Health Access and Nursing Workforce Shortage

- Virginia ranked 34 of 51 nationally for MH care access
 - 41% of Virginians live in a designated MH professional shortage area (30% nationwide)
 - 26% of localities with no psychiatrist or psych NP (no prescriber)
 - 19% have only one prescriber
 - Many prescribers near retirement age
 - Psychiatry is among the lowest paid medical specialties
- Nursing Workforce shortage in Virginia
 - Almost 6000 vacant permanent nursing positions
 - Vacancy rate at State mental hospitals exceeds 40%
 - Access to clinical portion of nursing training is bottleneck
 - Cost of education; loss of income during clinical training years

Healthcare Workforce Amendments

Title	FY 23 GF	FY 23 NGF	FY 24 GF	FY24 NGF
Establish the Earn to Learn Nursing Education Acceleration program grant			\$ 30,000,000	
Establish psychiatric nursing graduate education loan repayment program			\$ 5,000,000	
Enhance the Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program			\$ 2,500,000	
Enhance the Nurse Preceptor Incentive Program			\$ 10,000,000	
Provide additional support for the nursing scholarships and loan repayment program			\$ 1,000,000	
Total			\$ 48,500,000	



FY 2024 Budget Amendments

New Healthcare Workforce Programs

Earn to Learn Nursing Education and Acceleration Program FY 24 \$30M GF

- Virginia currently has 6,000 open permanent nursing positions
- Earn to Learn would provide grants to educational institutions who partner with health systems who offer compensation to students as they complete their clinical requirements
- Opportunity for those interested in nursing or those who wish to pursue a higher certification
- Funds can be used to establish or enhance educational programming, clinical faculty, clinical space and placement for students
- Schools would be required to demonstrate an increase in net number of graduates

Psychiatric Nursing Graduate Loan Repayment Program FY24 \$5M GF

Increases the volume of psychiatric nurses by providing incentives through a new loan repayment program.

- Vacancy rates for nurses in State mental hospitals exceeds 40% leaving facilities severely understaffed

In exchange for a four-year service obligation, psychiatric registered nurses and psychiatric nurse practitioners will receive 25% of their student debt at the end of each year for 4 years.

- VDH estimates the funds could provide 70 awards over 4 years
- The Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program is a similar program that has a \$50,000 cap.



FY 2024 Budget Amendments

Expansion of Current Healthcare Workforce Programs

Behavioral Health Loan Repayment Program FY24 \$2.5M GF

Increases number of behavioral health providers in underserved areas of the Commonwealth, through an expanded loan repayment program.

- 41% of Virginians live in a federally designated Mental Health Professional Shortage Area (30% nationally)
- 26% of localities have no prescriber, 19% have only one

Increased funding will allow VDH to add approximately 80 additional awards FY 2024; in FY 2023 VDH provided 49 incentive awards to the amount of \$1,585,071.

- VDH also seeks to raise the maximum loan repayment award from \$30,000 to \$50,000 for child and adolescent psychiatrists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, and psychiatrists
- Funds will be provided only to individuals providing support to underserved areas
- Service Obligation required to participate
- For the October '21 – April '22 application cycle there were 289. Due to monetary constraints, there were only 49 incentive awards provided

Nursing Preceptor Incentive Program FY24 \$10M GF

Access to clinical training is a barrier.

Increase nursing school graduates by increasing financial incentives available for nurse preceptors to complete the Nurse Preceptor program criteria.

The current program, established in 2021, has received \$500,000 in funding and has an applicant pool of 532. The current \$1000 per semester incentive award does little to incentivize those who would be nurse preceptors to complete the validation of their hours and provide verification of their preceptees.

Additional funding of \$10M will:

- Expand eligibility to Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), encouraging more clinicians to become preceptors. The current program only allows for Advanced Practice Nurses (NPs).
- Allow the incentive distributed to be increased from \$1K to \$5K (per semester), per awarded preceptor.

Nursing Scholarships and Loan Repayment Program FY24 \$1M GF

Addresses the statewide nursing shortage by increasing the funds available to several scholarship opportunities that assist nurses with paying for additional nursing education.

Current funding includes following programs:

- Licensed Practical and Registered Nurses Scholarship Program (90% of applications)
- Nurse Practitioner/Nurse Midwife Scholarship Program
- Nurse Educator Scholarship Program

An additional \$1,000,000 in funding would allow VDH to triple the number of awards made to applicants, from 800 awarded during the current cycle to around 2,400



FY 2024 Budget Amendments

Other Budget Amendments

Other Budget Amendments:				
Title	FY 23 GF	FY 23 NGF	FY 24 GF	FY24 NGF
Provide required state match funding for drinking water infrastructure projects			\$ 3,373,581	\$ 91,864,181
Add funds to address a reversion of federal funding for the Office of Drinking Water	\$ 1,118,595			
Provide additional support to address increases in rent costs for local health districts			\$ 943,856	\$ 698,322
Provide funding for cybersecurity threat management position			\$ 163,918	
Designate portion of opioid settlement funds for fentanyl response efforts				\$ 7,000,000
Increase drug-susceptible tuberculosis funding			\$ 50,000	
Increase funding to support salary adjustments for Office of the Chief Medical Examiner staff			\$ 1,491,950	
Add funding for sexual assault forensic examiner training for emergency department staff			\$ 125,000	
Total:	\$ 1,118,595		\$ 6,148,305	\$ 99,562,503

Technical Requests:				
Title	FY 23 GF	FY 23 NGF	FY 24 GF	FY24 NGF
Add appropriation for epidemiology and laboratory capacity grants				\$ 150,756,011
Prohibit expenditure of public funds for abortion services				
Extend Treasury loan deadlines for COVID-19 pandemic response				
Transfer State Office of Rural Health Grant matching funds to correct program area				
Total:				\$ 150,756,011

FY23 ARPA Projects Update

- Well and Septic Repair
- Drinking Water Infrastructure

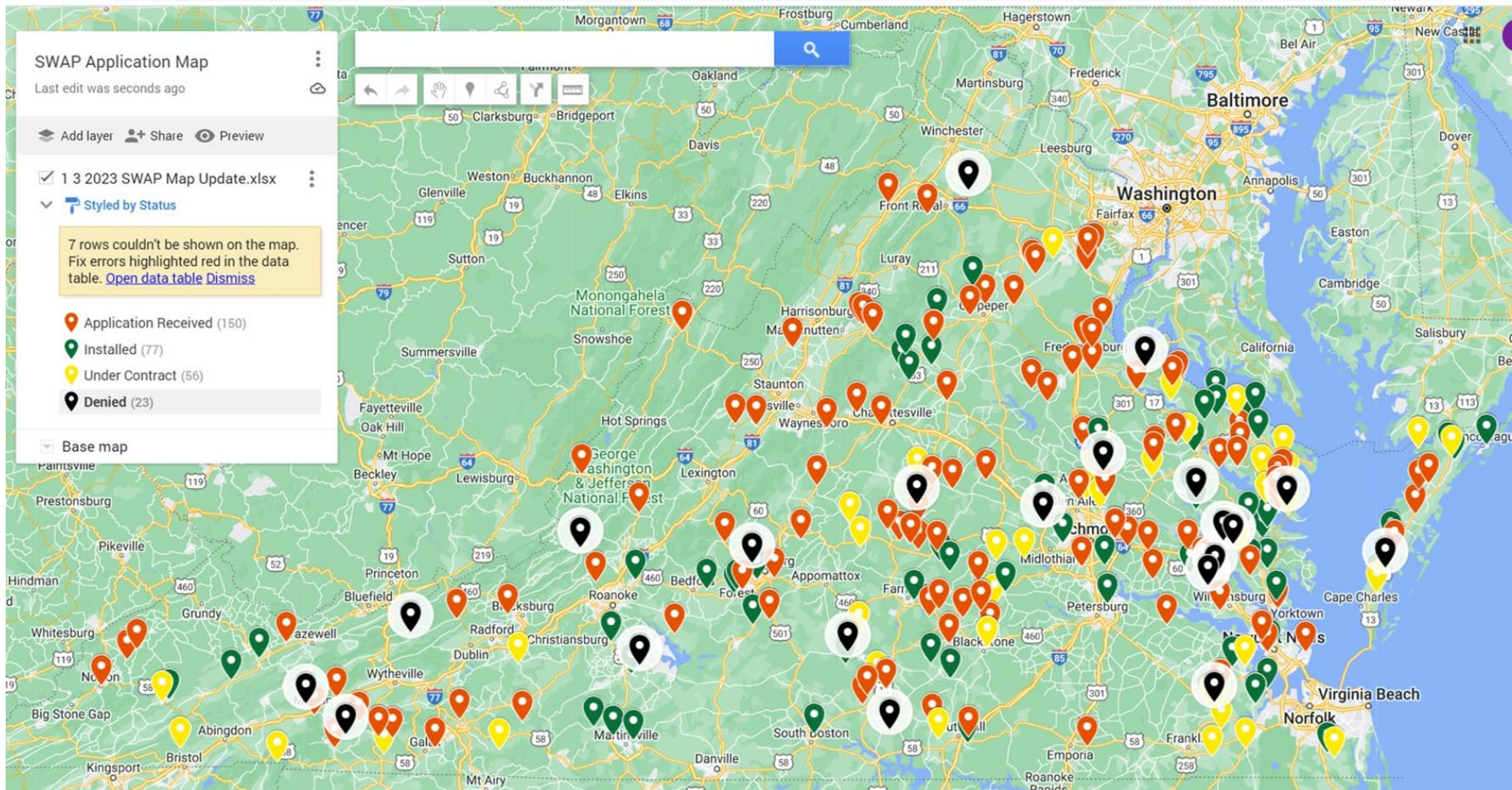


Well and Septic Repair

\$11.5M in ARPA Funding appropriated in total (FY23 \$5.75M)

- Repair failing septic systems. Replace straight pipes and privies.
- Replace inadequate private water supplies (wells, springs, cisterns, etc.).
- Properly abandon private water supplies and unused wells.
- Public sewer and/or water connection.
- 300 projects in 8 months (70 in the ground).

ARPA funded Well and Septic projects underway across the Commonwealth



ARPA Drinking Water Infrastructure

Town of Boones Mill (Franklin County) - Completed November 2021 - \$77,700

- The Western Virginia Water Authority assumed ownership of the Town's water system.
- A waterline fixed, which was exposed and vulnerable to damage or breakage by vehicular traffic.
- New distribution lines and connections; old water lines abandoned.
- Approximately 350 citizens benefited with more reliable drinking water.

Town of Coeburn (Wise County) – Construction still in progress - \$3.7 million

- This project was co-funded with the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.
- Replaced 2.3 miles of waterline and related appurtenances.
- About 450 residents benefited with reliable, safe drinking water.

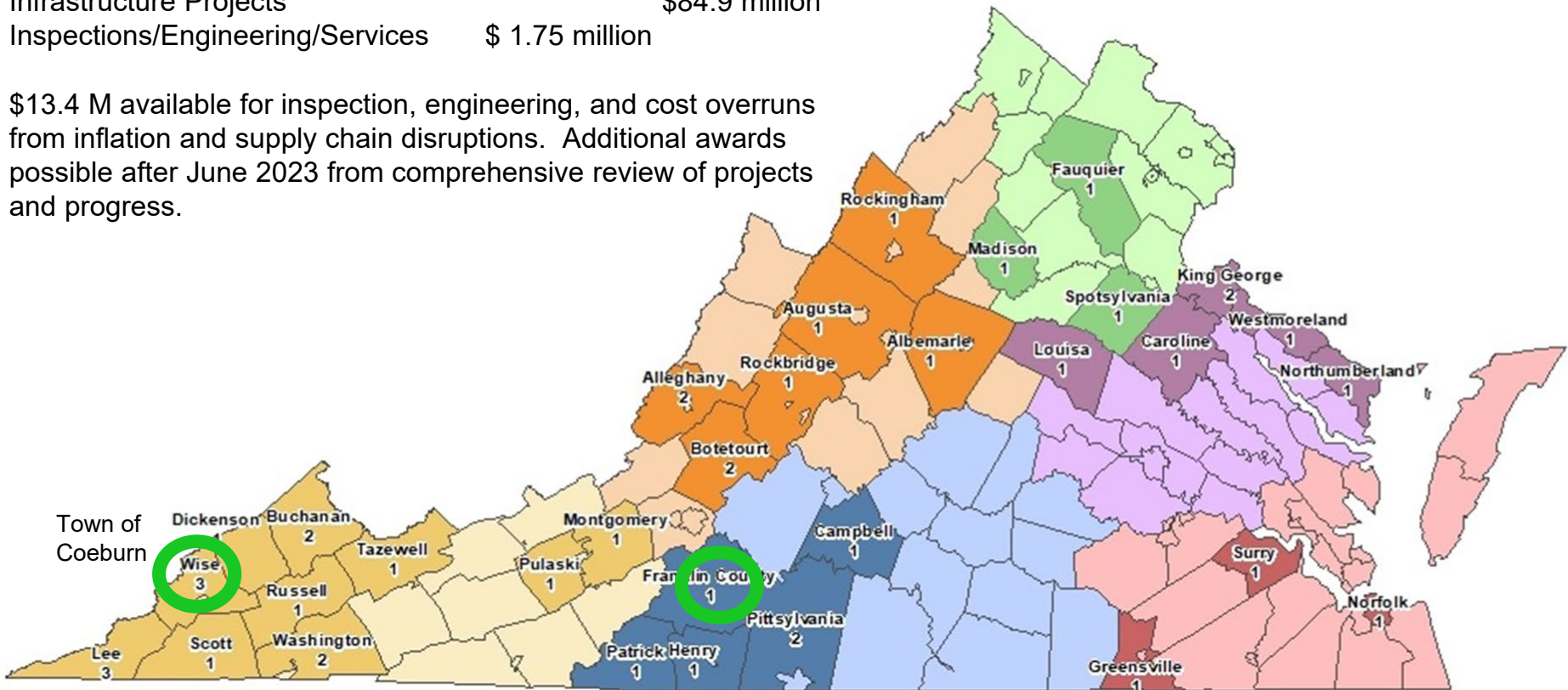


Office of Drinking Water - ARPA Expenditure Tracking

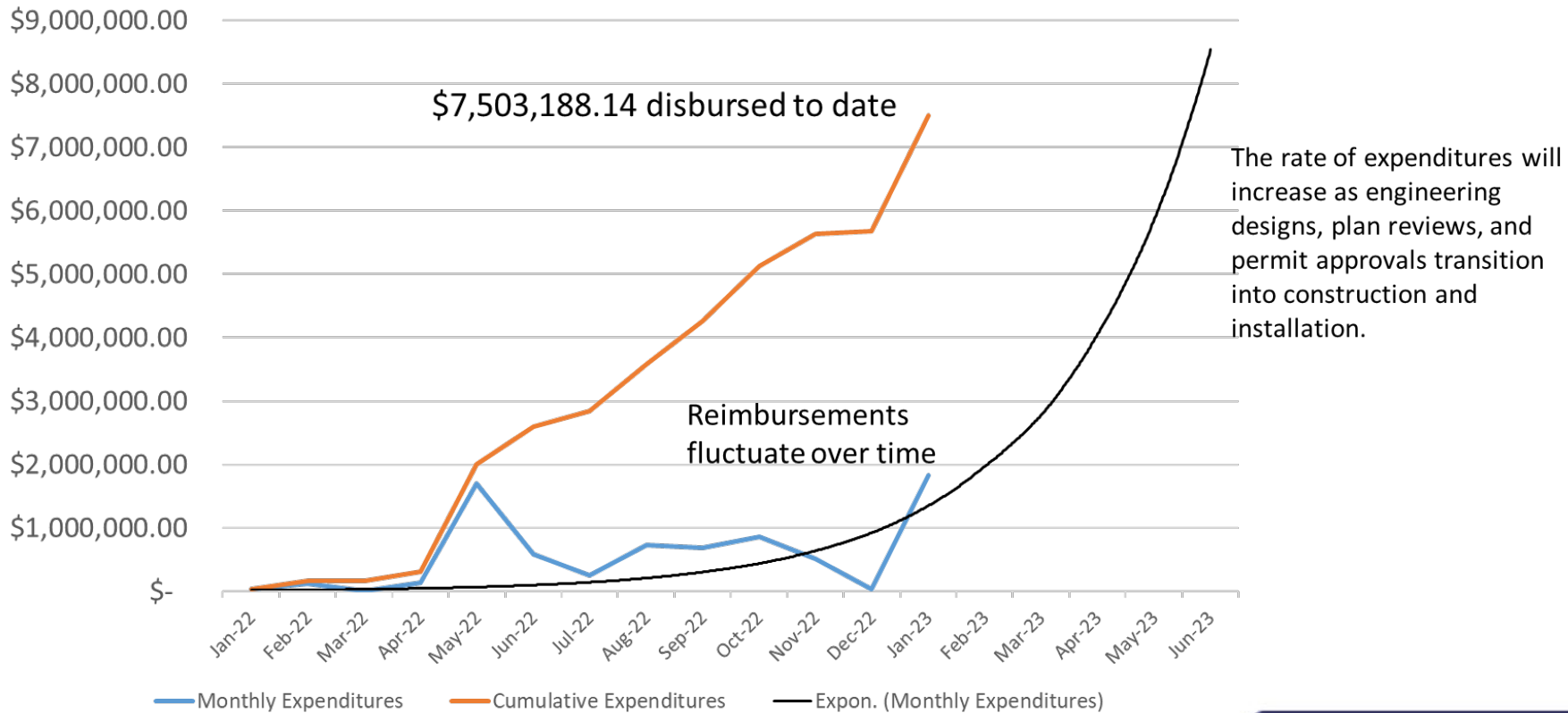
42 Projects in 32 jurisdictions across Virginia

Total encumbered funds \$86.6 million
 Infrastructure Projects \$84.9 million
 Inspections/Engineering/Services \$ 1.75 million

\$13.4 M available for inspection, engineering, and cost overruns from inflation and supply chain disruptions. Additional awards possible after June 2023 from comprehensive review of projects and progress.



ARPA Drinking Water – Expenditure Tracking



Questions

Thank You!