



OCRA Strategic Budget Plan for FY26–FY27

For fiscal years FY26–FY27, OCRA’s spending plan is focused on maintaining essential program delivery while aligning operations with fiscal constraints and budget reductions. Strategic adjustments have been made to staffing, contracting and operations to ensure compliance with the 5% reserve requirement and statewide budget discipline initiatives. To support this goal, the agency has eliminated the following positions: • Community Affairs Director • Strategic Initiatives Director • Indiana Main Street Education and Outreach Program Manager • One Community Liaison position (reducing the team from six to five)

As of June 2025, OCRA maintains a team of 14 full-time employees (FTEs). Two vacant positions are currently in the process of being filled to support program delivery and administrative capacity.

To meet the 5% reserve requirement, OCRA has strategically shifted one FTE salary to federal programming funds. In addition, remaining 30456 REDF dollars have been allocated to support staff administering REDF-supported programs. These funding moves ensure the agency will remain under budget without compromising core service areas.

OCRA has implemented several operational efficiencies, including: • A reassessment and reduction of staff travel, lodging and conference expenditures • Cuts to non-essential purchases and discretionary spending • Deferral of non-critical technology and equipment upgrades

Contracts and Program Strategy OCRA does not plan to renew or extend any current contracts beyond their scheduled end dates. New contracts to be executed in FY26 include: • *Main Street America* – to continue as Indiana’s Main Street Coordinating Program, providing training and technical support to designated communities • *Ball State University – Indiana Communities Institute* – to assist in OCRA’s staffing capacity and continue expansion in rural leadership development and capacity-building programming for local governments and civic leaders. In addition to program delivery, OCRA will use available funds to maintain critical infrastructure, including its Salesforce licensing, electronic Grants Management System (eGMS) and Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform.

Program Review and Future Planning OCRA is actively reviewing all state-funded programs in response to direct feedback from rural community leaders. This review will guide decisions about the continuation of current competitive grant offerings and inform the design of future funding opportunities that better reflect local priorities and capacity. OCRA continues to pursue collaborative partnerships with state, federal and nonprofit entities to identify scalable, high-impact investments in rural community and economic development.

Open Contract Analysis OCRA has completed a review of all open contracts and determined that none will be extended beyond their scheduled end dates. This decision reinforces the agency’s commitment to budget discipline and ensures resources are aligned with evolving program priorities.



At present, OCRA has no new capital expenditures planned for FY26 or FY27 and does not anticipate any exceptions to current FMCs or state policy.



State of Indiana

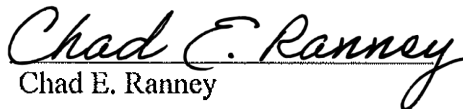
State Budget Agency
State House #212
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-5610

Mike Braun, Governor
Chad Ranney, Director

Approved Fiscal Year 2026 Strategic Spending Reduction Plan

Agency Name: Office of Community and Rural Affairs

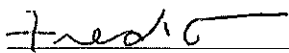
Pursuant to applicable state budgeting and financial management guidelines, the undersigned hereby affirm that the Fiscal Year 2026 Strategic Spending Reduction Plan submitted for the above-named agency has been reviewed and is approved for implementation. This approval signifies the plan submitted is in alignment with agency priorities, applicable legal requirements, and available funding levels.



Chad E. Ranney

State Budget Director

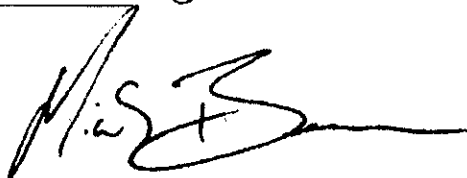
Date: 7/29/25



Fred Glynn

Executive Director

Date: 7-29-2025



Micah Beckwith

Lieutenant Governor

Date: 7-29-25

Ensuring that Indiana's priorities are funded today and tomorrow.