ARPA Compliance and Reporting Guidance: Project and Expenditure Reports Due Date: October 31, 2021

Metropolitan cities that received less than \$5 million in direct ARPA funds and NEUs are required to submit annual Project and Expenditure reports to Treasury. The first report is due October 31, 2021, for the period covering the date of the award through September 30, 2021. Even if you did not expend ARPA funds during this period, your NEU will be required to provide a report.

Treasury will provide additional guidance for NEUs in its forthcoming User Guide.

The <u>SLFRF Compliance and Reporting Guidance</u> includes required information for Project and Expenditure Reports. The information you will need to provide is summarized below and city officials should review all Treasury guidance for detailed instructions.

- a. **Projects:** Provide information on all SLFRF funded projects.
 - Projects are new or existing eligible government services or investments funded in whole or in part by SLFRF funding.
 - For each project, the recipient will be required to enter the project name, identification number (created by the recipient), project expenditure category (see Appendix 1), description, and status of completion.
 - Project descriptions must describe the project in sufficient detail to provide understanding of
 the major activities that will occur and will be required to be between 50 and 250 words.
 Projects should be defined to include only closely related activities directed toward a common
 purpose. In particular, recipients should review the Required Programmatic Data described
 below and define their projects at a sufficient level of granularity to report these metrics for
 a reasonably specific activity or set of activities in each project.
 - Note: For each project, the recipient will be asked to select the appropriate Expenditure
 Category based on the scope of the project (see Appendix 1). Projects should be scoped to
 align to a single Expenditure Category. For select Expenditure Categories, the recipient will
 also be asked to provide additional programmatic data (described further below).
- b. **Expenditures:** Once a project is entered the recipient will be able to report on the project's obligations and expenditures. Recipients will be asked to report:
 - Current period obligation
 - Cumulative obligation
 - Current period expenditure
 - Cumulative expenditure
- c. **Project Status:** Once a project is entered the recipient will be asked to report on project status each reporting period, in four categories:
 - Not Started
 - Completed less than 50 percent
 - Completed 50 percent or more
 - Completed
- d. <u>Project Demographic Distribution:</u> Recognizing the disproportionate impact of the pandemic-related recession on low-income communities, recipients must report whether certain types of projects are

targeted to economically disadvantaged communities, as defined by HUD's Qualified Census Tract. Recipients will be asked to identify whether or not the project is serving an economically disadvantaged community. To minimize the administrative burden on recipients while ensuring that this important aspect of program performance is tracked, recipients may assume that the funds for a project count as being targeted towards economically disadvantaged communities if the project funds are spent on:

- A program or service is provided at a physical location in a Qualified Census Tract (for multisite projects if a majority of sites are within Qualified Census Tracts).
- A program or service where the primary intended beneficiaries live within a Qualified Census Tract.
- A program or service for which the eligibility criteria are such that the primary intended beneficiaries earn less than 60 percent of the median income for the relevant jurisdiction (e.g., State, county, metropolitan area, or other jurisdiction); or
- A program or service for which the eligibility criteria are such that over 25 percent of intended beneficiaries are below the federal poverty line.
- Recipients may use reasonable estimates to determine if a project meets one of these criteria, including identifying the intended beneficiaries of a program or service in terms of income characteristics, geographic location, or otherwise estimating the beneficiaries of a program based on its eligibility criteria.
- Recipients do not need to track information on each individual beneficiary to make the
 determination of whether or not the project is serving an economically disadvantaged
 community.
- If a recipient is unable to measure economic characteristics of the primary intended beneficiaries of a program or service due to data limitations or for other reasons, that program or service may not be counted as targeted to economically disadvantaged communities. Treasury recognizes that in some circumstances, recipients may fund eligible programs or services that benefit economically disadvantaged communities but may lack adequate data to assess conclusively that such a program or service is targeted to economically disadvantaged communities based on the criteria described above.
- TIP: Use GMA's <u>Data Tools</u> to look up poverty and median income data for your community.
- TIP: Use GMA's Qualified Census Tract Quick Guide to determine if your projects is in a QCT.
- e. <u>Subawards:</u> Each recipient shall also provide detailed obligation and expenditure information for any contracts and grants awarded, loans issued, transfers made to other government entities, and direct payments made by the recipient that are greater than or equal to \$50,000. In general, recipients will be asked to provide the following information for each Contract, Grant, Loan, Transfer, or Direct Payment greater than or equal to \$50,000:
 - Subrecipient identifying and demographic information (e.g., DUNS number and location)
 - Award number (e.g., Award number, Contract number, Loan number)
 - Award date, type, amount, and description
 - Award payment method (reimbursable or lump sum payment(s))
 - For loans, expiration date (date when loan expected to be paid in full)
 - Primary place of performance
 - Related project name(s)
 - Related project identification number(s) (created by the recipient)
 - Period of performance start date
 - Period of performance end date

- Quarterly obligation amount
- Quarterly expenditure amount
- Project(s)
- Additional programmatic performance indicators for select Expenditure Categories (see full guidance for more details)
- Aggregate reporting is required for contracts, grants, transfers made to other government entities, loans, direct payments, and payments to individuals that are below \$50,000. This information will be accounted for by expenditure category at the project level.
- f. <u>Civil Rights Compliance:</u> Treasury will request information on recipients' compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 on an annual basis. This information may include a narrative describing the recipient's compliance with Title VI, along with other questions and assurances.
- g. Required Programmatic Data (other than infrastructure projects): For all projects listed under the following Expenditure Categories (see Appendix 1), the information listed must be provided in each report.
 - 1. Payroll for Public Health and Safety Employees (EC 1.9):
 - Number of government FTEs responding to COVID-19 supported under this authority
 - 2. Household Assistance (EC 2.1-2.5):
 - Brief description of structure and objectives of assistance program(s) (e.g., nutrition assistance for low-income households)
 - Number of individuals served (by program if recipient establishes multiple separate household assistance programs)
 - Brief description of recipient's approach to ensuring that aid to households responds to a negative economic impact of Covid-19, as described in the Interim Final Rule
 - 3. Small Business Economic Assistance (EC 2.9):
 - Brief description of the structure and objectives of assistance program(s) (e.g., grants for additional costs related to Covid-19 mitigation)
 - Number of small businesses served (by program if recipient establishes multiple separate small businesses assistance programs)
 - Brief description of recipient's approach to ensuring that aid to small businesses responds to a negative economic impact of COVID-19, as described in the Interim Final Rule
 - 4. Aid to Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality or Other Impacted Industries (EC 2.11-2.12):
 - If aid is provided to industries other than travel, tourism, and hospitality (EC 2.12), a
 description of pandemic impact on the industry and rationale for providing aid to the
 industry
 - Brief narrative description of how the assistance provided responds to negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
 - For each subaward:
 - Sector of employer (Note: additional detail, including list of sectors to be provided in a users' guide)
 - Purpose of funds (e.g., payroll support, safety measure implementation)

- 5. Rehiring Public Sector Staff (EC 2.14):
 - Number of FTEs rehired by governments under this authority
- 6. Education Assistance (EC 3.1-3.5):
 - The National Center for Education Statistics ("NCES") School ID or NCES District ID.
 List the School District if all schools within the school district received some funds. If
 not all schools within the school district received funds, list the School ID of the
 schools that received funds. These can allow evaluators to link data from the NCES to
 look at school-level demographics and, eventually, student performance.
- 7. Premium Pay (both Public Sector EC 4.1 and Private Sector EC 4.2):
 - List of sectors designated as critical to the health and well-being of residents by the chief executive of the jurisdiction, if beyond those included in the Interim Final Rule (Note: a list of sectors will be provided in the forthcoming users' guide).
 - Number of workers to be served
 - Employer sector for all subawards to third-party employers (i.e., employers other than the State, local, or Tribal government) (Note: a list of sectors will be provided in the forthcoming users' guide).
 - For groups of workers (e.g., an operating unit, a classification of worker, etc.) or, to
 the extent applicable, individual workers, for whom premium pay would increase
 total pay above 150 percent of their residing State's average annual wage, or their
 residing county's average annual wage, whichever is higher, on an annual basis:
 - A brief written narrative justification of how the premium pay or grant is responsive to workers performing essential work during the public health emergency. This could include a description of the essential workers' duties, health or financial risks faced due to COVID-19, and why the recipient government determined that the premium pay was responsive to workers performing essential work during the pandemic. This description should not include personally identifiable information; when addressing individual workers, recipients should be careful not to include this information. Recipients may consider describing the workers' occupations and duties in a general manner as necessary to protect privacy.
- 8. Revenue replacement (EC 6.1): Under the Interim Final Rule, recipients calculate revenue loss using data as of four discrete points during the program: December 31, 2020, December 31, 2021, December 31, 2022, and December 31, 2023. Revenue loss calculated as of December 31, 2020, will be reported in the Interim Report, as described above. For future calculation dates, revenue loss will be reported only in the Quarter 4 reports due January 31, 2022, January 31, 2023, and January 31, 2024. Reporting on revenue loss should include:
 - General revenue collected over the past 12 months as of the most recent calculation date, as outlined in the Interim Final Rule (for example, for the January 31, 2022, report, recipients should provide 12-month general revenue as of December 31, 2021).
 - Calculated revenue loss due to the Covid-19 public health emergency; and
 - An explanation of how the revenue replacement funds were allocated to government services (note: additional instructions and/or template to be provided in user guide).

In calculating general revenue and the revenue loss due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, recipients should follow the same guidance as described above for the Interim Report.

- h. Required Programmatic Data for Infrastructure Projects (EC 5): For all projects listed under the Water, Sewer, and Broadband Expenditure Categories (see Appendix 1), more detailed project-level information is required. Each project will be required to report expenditure data as described above, but will also report the following information:
 - 1. All infrastructure projects (EC 5):
 - Projected/actual construction start date (month/year)
 - Projected/actual initiation of operations date (month/year)
 - Location (for broadband, geospatial location data)
 - For projects over \$10 million:
 - a. A recipient may provide a certification that, for the relevant project, all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing, as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Davis-Bacon Act"), for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on projects of a character similar to the contract work in the civil subdivision of the State (or the District of Columbia) in which the work is to be performed, or by the appropriate State entity pursuant to a corollary State prevailing-wage-inconstruction law (commonly known as "baby Davis Bacon Acts"). If such certification is not provided, a recipient must provide a project employment and local impact report detailing:
 - The number of employees of contractors and sub-contractor working on the project.
 - The number of employees on the project hired directly and hired through a third party.
 - The wages and benefits of workers on the project by classification; and
 - Whether those wages are at rates less than those prevailing.19
 Recipients must maintain sufficient records to substantiate this
 information upon request.
 - b. A recipient may provide a certification that a project includes a project labor agreement, meaning a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement consistent with section 8(f) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 158(f)). If the recipient does not provide such certification, the recipient must provide a project workforce continuity plan, detailing:
 - How the recipient will ensure the project has ready access to a sufficient supply of appropriately skilled and unskilled labor to ensure high-quality construction throughout the life of the project.

- How the recipient will minimize risks of labor disputes and disruptions that would jeopardize timeliness and costeffectiveness of the project; and
- How the recipient will provide a safe and healthy workplace that avoids delays and costs associated with workplace illnesses, injuries, and fatalities.
- Whether workers on the project will receive wages and benefits that will secure an appropriately skilled workforce in the context of the local or regional labor market; and
- Whether the project has completed a project labor agreement.
- c. Whether the project prioritizes local hires.
- d. Whether the project has a Community Benefit Agreement, with a description of any such agreement.

2. Water and sewer projects (EC 5.1-5.15):

- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number (if applicable; for projects aligned with the Clean Water State Revolving Fund)
- Public Water System (PWS) ID number (if applicable; for projects aligned with the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund)

3. Broadband projects (EC 5.16-5.17):

- Speeds/pricing tiers to be offered, including the speed/pricing of its affordability offering
- Technology to be deployed
- Miles of fiber
- Cost per mile
- Cost per passing
- Number of households (broken out by households on Tribal lands and those not on Tribal lands) projected to have increased access to broadband meeting the minimum speed standards in areas that previously lacked access to service of at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload
 - Number of households with access to minimum speed standard of reliable 100 Mbps symmetrical upload and download
 - Number of households with access to minimum speed standard of reliable 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload
- Number of institutions and businesses (broken out by institutions on Tribal lands and those not on Tribal lands) projected to have increased access to broadband meeting the minimum speed standards in areas that previously lacked access to service of at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload, in each of the following categories: business, small business, elementary school, secondary school, higher education institution, library, healthcare facility, and public safety organization
 - Specify the number of each type of institution with access to the minimum speed standard of reliable 100 Mbps symmetrical upload and download; and
 - Specify the number of each type of institution with access to the minimum speed standard of reliable 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload