

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

TO: Alex Goodenough, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

FROM: Ryan Law, Deputy Assistant Secretary

Office of Privacy, Transparency, and Records

SUBJECT: Justification for Emergency Processing: Updating Collection 1505-0274 -

Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CPF) Grant Plan

Pursuant to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13, the Department of the Treasury (Treasury) requests emergency processing for updating the existing Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CPF) information collection (OMB Control Number: 1505-0274).

The CPF was established by Section 604 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Pub. L. No. 117-2. ARPA appropriated \$10 billion to the Department of the Treasury (Treasury) to provide grant payments to states, territories, freely associated states, and Tribal governments "to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)".

Treasury is seeking approval for the CPF Grant Plan that will be hosted on Treasury's web-based portal. This Grant Plan will be used by an estimated 59 eligible recipients to submit required supporting information to receive project funding. The collected data will be used to verify proposed Programs for conformance with ARPA and program guidance published by Treasury. This information collection is necessary for Treasury to assess grant proposals and to making payments under the CPF.

The CPF was established as an emergency measure. Recipients are expected to use CPF grant funds to, among other things, directly address connectivity shortfalls exacerbated by the pandemic which make it challenging for some communities to access work, education, and health monitoring services. Due to the need for recipients to request funds from Treasury as soon as possible, Treasury requests emergency processing and approval of the CPF Grant Plan form by November 24, 2021. Treasury must begin making payments immediately in order to comply with the intent of ARPA. There is insufficient time available to seek public comment on this collection. Therefore, Treasury requests a waiver from the requirement to publish a notice in the Federal Register seeking public comment.