

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: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) Project and Expenditure Report User Guide

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 the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program's Project and Expenditure Report User Guide, revising OMB Control Number 1505-0271.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law and established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, which together make up the SLFRF program. This program is intended to provide support to State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments in responding to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain impacts on their communities, residents, and businesses.

On November 15, 2021, Treasury published updated <u>Compliance and Reporting Guidance</u> that SLFRF recipients need to comply with to fulfill their reporting requirements. Treasury has directly engaged with various interested agencies and stakeholders as well as SLFRF recipients plans to provide input on reporting. Due to policy and technical constraints, and recognition of open questions from recipients and external stakeholders on SLFRF eligible uses, the SLFRF program, in coordination with policy, OGC and ORP leadership, recommended a series of updates to reporting requirements and timelines, including the Project and Expenditure report, which are included in the Compliance and Reporting Guidance.

Treasury is currently finalizing the development of the reporting portal recipients will use to transmit the project and expenditure information. The online portal is expected to go live around January 5, 2022.

Due to the need to provide detailed instructions to recipients on how to report through the Treasury reporting portal once it opens, Treasury requests emergency processing and approval by January 4, 2022 of the Project and Expenditure Report User Guide.

In preparation for the renewal of the OMB approval, Treasury has published a 60-day notice soliciting comments on September 16, 2021 at 86 FR 51727.