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July 18, 2022

Franklin County Commissioner Kevin Boyce with NACo President Larry Johnson (DeKalb County, GA) and Union City (Georgia) Mayor Vince Williams at a White House event to celebrate the passage of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act on July 11. See article below for more details on the newly-signed law.

Photo courtesy of NACo President Larry Johnson

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ASSOCIATION AND MEMBER NEWS

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Register today for the CCAO Workforce, Families and Children Symposium!

August 25-26, 2022
Cherry Valley Hotel, Newark, Ohio

Click here to register

This symposium will focus on showcasing innovative ways counties, state and other partners are working to keep Ohio a place where people thrive. This includes bolstering and training our workforce, protecting our youngest Ohioans, caring for our older Ohioans, and so much more. Attendees will leave with tangible examples to take back to their counties. We hope you'll join us for this great learning opportunity!

Speakers include:
JP Nauseef, President and CEO, JobsOhio
Steve Stivers, President & CEO, Ohio Chamber of Commerce
Director Matt Damschroder, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Director Amy Ast, Ohio Department of Youth Services
and more!

Click here for the Symposium Agenda

Click here to register
Registration Fee $50

Reduced room rate of $96 plus tax available through July 25th at the Cherry Valley Hotel, 2299 Cherry Valley Rd SE, Newark, OH, 43055. Call 740-788-1200 and reference CCAO to reserve your room now!

CCAO Staff Reedy and Schwiebert promoted

CCAO Policy Analysts Rachel Massoud Reedy and Adam Schwiebert took on additional responsibilities earlier this year and, as a result of their hard work, have earned new job titles -- Outreach & Member Engagement Manager and External Affairs Manager, respectively. Please take a moment to congratulate them on their outstanding accomplishments!

Reedy and Schwiebert will continue to be vital members of the policy team with Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck, Legislative Counsel Kyle Petty and Research Analyst Nick Ciolli along with Executive Director Cheryl Subler. In addition, Reedy will supervise and work collaboratively with our creative Communications Coordinator Jessice Newbacher on messaging and engagement as well as manage our affiliates' outreach. Schwiebert will guide and oversee the work done by our talented Research Analyst Nick Ciolli and Legislative Counsel Kyle Petty, as the Association strives to be the preeminent local government association in Ohio.

Again, congratulations to Rachel and Adam!

First payments for Distributor Opioid Settlement sent to local governments last week

The first payment of the OneOhio Distributor Settlement (McKesson, Cardinal, AmerisourceBergen) was sent to participating local governments last week. This payment is from the 30% Local Government Share. This is the first of 18 payments for the Distributor Settlement. This document lists the payment amounts that will be sent to each local government. CCAO also created an Excel sheet (available here) that organizes the payment amounts by county.

This first payment was sent to participating local governments from the Attorney General's office via EFT (electronic funds transfer). If you have questions or have not received a payment, please let us know. Future payments will be made by the National Settlement Administrator.

Please review Auditor of State Bulletin 2022-003 (available here) that explains accounting procedures for these dollars. The bulletin states, in part:

"Before the local government receives its portion from the state, the Auditor of State (AOS) recommends that each participating subdivision accepting the Funds provide by a written ordinance or resolution that the LG Share of the OneOhio Funds shall be placed in a separate fund and used only for the approved purposes as required by the OneOhio MOU. As the special fund is created under Ohio Rev. Code §5705.09(F), local governments do not need to seek AOS approval for establishing this new fund.

AOS recommends that each participating subdivision accepting OneOhio Funds clearly document their rationale for each expenditure. This documentation is best provided by legislation adopted by the entity's legislative body explaining how the expenditure meets the approved purposes definition of the OneOhio MOU. To aid in our future audit work, we also ask that each expenditure be carefully tracked and adequate documentation of the expenditure be maintained."

If a local government is receiving fewer than $500 and will never receive more than $500 in any of the 18 payments, the payment will instead be made to the county in which the local government resides.

The OneOhio Abatement Strategies are available here. The Local Government Share payments are eligible to be used for past expenditures. The full OneOhio MOU is available here.

A copy of the cover letter that was sent to each local government in the state regarding these payments is also available here.

If you have questions, please contact CCAO Policy Analyst Rachel Massoud Reedy at rreedy@ccao.org or 513-543-3723.

Traffic enforcement cameras reports must be submitted by July 31

As a reminder, any county that operated or contracted with another party to operate traffic enforcement cameras during the previous fiscal year must file a report with the Department of Taxation by **July 31, 2022**. Failure to do so may result in a county forfeiting its funding from the Local Government Fund. This is governed by ORC Section 5747.502.

A blank version of the report can be found here.

Please contact the Ohio Department of Taxation, Revenue Accounting Division at RevenueAccounting@tax.state.oh.us or call (614) 466-7150 with any questions regarding how to file the report.

STATE AND FEDERAL NEWS

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Bipartisan Safer Communities Act Signed

Last week, President Joe Biden signed the bipartisan Safer Communities Act. The legislation seeks to increase school safety and reduce the threat of violence from children in the country. The bill contains several restrictions on juvenile firearm purchases and the following appropriations that will flow through the state:

- Creates a new $750 million funding pot that will be available to states for the creation and administration of laws that help ensure deadly weapons are kept out of the hands of individuals a court has determined to be a significant danger to themselves or others;
- Provides $250 million in funding for community-based violence prevention initiatives;
- Provides $250 million for states, DC, and territories to enhance comprehensive community mental health services; and
- Appropriates $120 million over four years to prepare and train community members and first responders on how to appropriately and safely respond to individuals with mental disorders.

A full section by section breakdown of the Act can be found here. CCAO is in contact with various state agencies that will likely administer the funding contained in the Act. The agencies have not received federal guidance for the funding as of this week, but they expect to receive guidance within the next month. We have been told that the money will be distributed quickly once the guidance is issued, and CCAO will keep counties informed as more details about the program as we receive the information.

988 National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Launched July 16

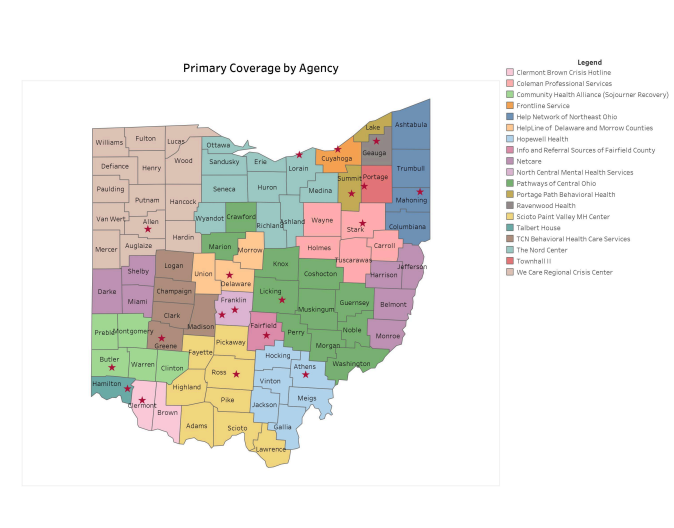
The 988 National Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline launched nationally and in Ohio on July 16, 2022. OhioMHAS sent this release this week ahead of the launch. Now, Ohioans can call 988 for any behavioral health crisis. While national and statewide 988 public awareness campaigns will not begin until 2023, as local public-serving organizations and community agencies consider opportunities to educate their residents about the 988 service, key messages can include:

- Remember – there is hope and help. If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health or addiction related crisis that is non-life-threatening (thoughts of suicide, emotional distress, or substance use/addiction), call, chat or text 988 for free, 24/7, confidential support. If you or someone you know is in immediate, life-threatening danger, call 911.
- Call, text or chat 988 for a mental health, addiction, or suicide crisis. For police, fire, or emergency rescue, call 911.

OhioMHAS and SAMHSA have made several resources available to help communities and stakeholders share information about 988. More information can be found at:

- Ohio Resources - https://mha.ohio.gov/988
- National SAMHSA Toolkit - https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988/partner-toolkit
- When to Call 988 vs When to Call 911 - https://mha.ohio.gov/static/AboutUs/Priorities/988vs911.pdf
- SAMHSA just released new 988 printable wallet cards, magnets, posters, and safety plan forms on the Partner Toolkit. SAMHSA provides organizations the ability to order limited supplies from the SAMHSA Store. If you need larger orders than SAMHSA can send, you can use the printer-ready files to make your own. For those who need just a few copies of an item, you can print those using the simple PDF download.

Below: Ohio's 988 Lifeline Providers Map (click to enlarge)



Registration open for OMHAS 2022 Director's Summit

The 2022 Ohio MHAS Director's Summit: Building a Helpful, Hopeful Ohio; Navigating the Future Together will be held on Tuesday, August 30th at the Hilton Columbus Polaris location.

Sessions include:

- **Supporting and Growing a Strong Behavioral Health Workforce**
- **Introducing the Community Planning Process**
- **Suffering Healers; Combating Compassion Fatigue**
- **Promoting Youth Mental Health and Resiliency**
- **Peer Support Modernization and Expansion**
- **Youth Prevention and Treatment Highlights**
- **Enhancing Ohio's Ideal Crisis System**

For more information and to register for the summit, click here.

Applications due for US EPA Brownfields Job Training Program

Brownfields Job Training (JT) Grants allow nonprofits, local governments, and other organizations to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents of areas affected by the presence of brownfield sites. Through the JT Program, graduates develop the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in various aspects of hazardous and solid waste management and within the larger environmental field, including sustainable cleanup and reuse, and chemical safety. These green jobs reduce environmental contamination and build more sustainable futures for communities. Applications are due August 2, 2022.

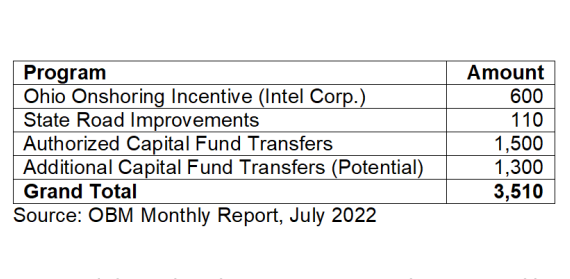
For more information, visit the US EPA website.

State closes FY22 with large budget surplus

The Ohio Office of Budget and Management reported that the state closed Fiscal Year 2022 on June 30 with an unencumbered balance of $5.66 billion in the General Revenue Fund (GRF). The surplus was largely caused by better than expected tax revenues and a large carry-over balance from the previous fiscal year. Total GRF tax revenues finished the year 10.8% above estimate. Highlights of major taxes are:

- Non-auto sales and use tax collections totaled $11.1 billion and were $625.9 million (6.0%) above estimate.
- Auto sales and use tax collections totaled $1.9 billion and were $88.9 million (4.8%) above estimate.
- Personal income tax collections totaled $10.8 billion and were $1.9 billion (20.8%) above estimate. This source accounted for 67.7 percent of the total GRF tax revenue variance for the fiscal year.
- Commercial activity tax collections totaled $2.0 billion and were $196.1 million (10.9%) above the estimate.

The state capital budget bill, HB 687, allows the FY 2022 budget surplus to be allocated to capital expenses. This will save the state millions of dollars in future debt service. HB 687 includes $50 million for county jails. The planned allocation to capital expenses and economic development programs is shown below.



Program	Amount
Ohio Onshoring Incentive (Intel Corp.)	600
State Road Improvements	110
Authorized Capital Fund Transfers	1,500
Additional Capital Fund Transfers (Potential)	1,300
Grand Total	**3,510**

Source: OBM Monthly Report, July 2022

For more information, the OBM report may be accessed here. Members with questions may contact Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck, jhoneck@ccao.org, 614-220-7982.

EDUCATION AND GRANTS

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New details on JFS caseworker recruitment and retention grants released

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) recently released details to Public Children Services Association directors about the $15 million grant program to help public children services agencies recruit and retain frontline caseworkers and supervisors.

The program will be administered through the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO), which will host a webinar to provide an overview regarding the application process. A copy of the application will be provided in conjunction with the webinar.

ODJFS sent a letter to county commissioners and executives regarding the grant, which is available here. The letter encourages county leaders to keep an open mind about new ideas to address workforce issues as the grant money is implemented.

ODJFS also sent a letter to children services directors, available here, that outlines 11 permissible usages of the funds. Additionally, it states that agencies must participate in at least one of three statewide workforce initiatives as a condition to receive funding: exit surveys for children services staff upon leaving employment, utilizing AVEnueS Virtual Reality headsets as a pre-hire activity, or utilizing caseworker and supervisor onboarding curriculum developed by the Office of Families and Children. More details about these three initiatives are available in the letter.

ODJFS also released a table providing the allocation under the program available to each of the 85 public children services agencies in the state. The allocation was calculated using the same methodology as the State Children Protective Allocation.

Any questions concerning the program and the webinar/application should be directed to either workforce@pcsao.org or ODJFS Program Administrator Vince Ciola at vincent.ciola@jfs.ohio.gov.

Court backlog reduction grants application window open

The Office of Criminal Justice Services, a division of the Department of Public Safety, is accepting applications for the Ohio Court Backlog Reduction Program. The program is intended to help courts reduce the time-to-disposition of cases, remove barriers to timely case resolutions, and devise creative solutions to improve case flow.

A total of $10 million is available to municipal or county courts; common pleas, domestic relations, general, juvenile, or probate courts; and appellate courts. Projects can be backdated to April 1, 2022.

The application deadline is July 29. More information about the program can be found here.

Two upcoming Ohio EPA-related webinars

On July 19, the Ohio EPA will host a webinar regarding risk management and how it relates to water treatment plants and wastewater treatment plants, particularly those that use cholorine in excess of 2,500 pounds in a process.

Continuing education units for water and wastewater operator certification and environmental health specialists can be earned through the webinar.

You can register for the webinar here.

Additionally, on July 26 at 11:00 a.m. the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation will host a webinar about Ohio EPA regulations and how businesses can ensure they remain in compliance. Continuing education and BWC discount program credits will be available for this webinar as well. You can register for the webinar here.

Railroad Crossing Elimination grant program available through US Department of Transportation

The US Department of Transportation has released a Notice of Funding Opportunity through a competitive Railroad Crossing Elimination Program. $573 million is available in FY 2022 with more than $3 billion available over five years.

The program is intended to help counties, groups of counties, or multijurisdictional groups of local governments with projects intended to relocate tracks, improve protective devices, and other projects related to railroad crossings.

More information can be found in the Notice of Funding Opportunity and NACo's overview of the program.

AARP continues Deciding Voices Listening Tour

AARP Ohio has kicked off a five-event tour of the state to listen to voters 50 years or older on the issues that matter most to them. These include prescription drug costs, Medicare, healthcare access, Social Security, and long-term care.

The remaining events will take place at the following locations. Registration is free but limited to 50 participants per event. You can register by clicking the event listing.

- Portsmouth (July 21)
- Columbus (July 26)
- Lima (August 4)

2022 Ohio Public Safety Symposium Agenda Released

Ohio Homeland Security will be hosting a Public Safety Symposium August 2-4, 2022, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. This conference runs concurrently with the 2022 Ohio School Safety Summit hosted by the Ohio School Safety Center and the State Fair.

OHS is still inviting its partners, service providers, community supports, and vendors to join us in the exhibit hall with a booth to market your organization's services or products. The exhibit hall is shared with the Ohio School Safety Summit. Click here for more information and lock in your spot now.

Ohio Homeland Security (OHS) is excited to release this year's symposium agenda. The schedule is packed with experts in subjects such as cyber safety, critical infrastructure threat mitigation, mental health, grant funding, drug recognition, and so much more.

View the Agenda Here

This event is free and open to the public, but requires pre-registration to ensure adequate space is available. Click here to register.

ARPA and BIL RESOURCES

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This section of Counties Current will be a permanent fixture for the foreseeable future to help counties with the ins and outs of the American Rescue Plan Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These two laws provide a once-in-a-generation investment.

First Bridge Investment Program deadline approaching

The US DOT Bridge Investment Program is open for applications. Counties are eligible to apply for BIP funding directly through USDOT, as well as to bundle bridge projects into one application. Twenty million is reserved for the planning application category outlined below. In total, the NOFO is soliciting applications for three different funding categories:

- **Planning**: For projects requiring technical assistance to become eligible for BIP capital construction funds | **Applications due July 25, 2022**
- **Large bridge projects**: For projects with eligible costs over $100 million | **Applications due August 9, 2022**
- **Bridge projects**: For projects with eligible costs less than $100 million | **Applications due September 8, 2022**

More information is available on the NACo website.

Treasury releases updated ARPA reporting guidance; NACo provides overview

The U.S. Department of the Treasury recently released updated reporting guidance for Project and Expenditure Reports and a template for the Recovery Plan Performance Report. Both have been released ahead of the next reporting deadline, July 31. **This reporting deadline only applies to counties with a population over 250,000 or that have received a total distribution of more than $10 million.**

NACo provided a summary of key updates to the reporting guidelines. These requirements will impact all counties regardless of population size and award amount.

- **Additional programmatic data for capital expenditures:** When using Recovery Funds for capital expenditures projects, counties need to report the type of expenditure based on a list of enumerated uses. Examples of enumerated uses are COVID-19 vaccination sites, job and workforce training centers, and public health data systems. A full list of enumerated uses is available on pages 27 to 28 of the updated guidance.
- **Written justification for capital expenditures:** Counties are required to provide a written justification for capital projects of any category that cost at least $10 million and for projects in the "other" (i.e., project not explicitly enumerated by Treasury) category that cost at least $1 million. Previously, counties needed to create a written justification for these projects but were not required to submit them as part of regular reporting.
- **Description of labor requirements for capital expenditures:** Counties are required to provide additional labor reporting. For projects that cost at least $10 million, counties will need to report on the strength of the project's labor standards, including information on the presence of a project labor agreement, community benefits agreement, prevailing wage requirement, or local hiring. This new required information is outlined under Infrastructure Project on pages 30-31 of the updated guidance.
- **Project information for broadband projects:** The updated guidance requires counties to provide detailed project information for broadband infrastructure investments. Counties need to report what kind of technology is involved in the project (i.e., fiber optic cables, coaxial cables, etc.), the total miles of fiber deployed over the project, and the total number of funded locations served broken out by both speed of connection and type of location (i.e., residential, business, or community). This new required information is outlined under Broadband Projects on pages 32-33 of the updated guidance.
- **Moving of Recovery Plan Performance Report data into P&E Report:** Under the updated guidance, some of the data that was previously only required for the Recovery Plan Performance Report (Recovery Plan) is now required for large counties (populations above 250,000 and/or above $10 million in awards) on their quarterly P&E Report. For example, large counties investing in housing security programs must now report the number of households receiving eviction prevention services. A full list of changes to programmatic data requirements for large counties is available on page 33 of the compliance and reporting guidance.
- **Updated template for Recovery Plan:** The updated guidance also provides a template for the Recovery Plan due for large counties on July 31, 2022, reflecting the expenditure categories and other changes made by the Final Rule.

If you have any questions, please contact Eryn Hurley, Director of Government Affairs for NACo, at ehurley@naco.org.

Guidance and overview of available BIL funding available from NACo and the Ohio Department of Transportation

NACo and ODOT each host a resource page providing information to counties about the Bipartican Infrastructure Law. The pages are rich with information including multiple tables providing overviews and links to funding opportunities, a timeline of upcoming grant programs, and much more.

The NACo website can be found here and the ODOT website can be found here.

CCAO strongly encourages counties to frequently visit the sites and apply for funding through the myriad of programs to bring valuable federal funds to Ohio communities.

NACo provides overview of U.S. Treasury's allocation of second ARPA Recovery Funds tranche

On May 26, NACo provided statewide associations an update that the U.S. Treasury has begun the process of allocating funds from the second tranche of the ARPA Recovery Fund.

Key highlights to the second tranche payment process include:

1. All counties must have an active SAM.gov registration in order to receive their second tranche of funding
2. Effective **April 4, 2022,** the federal government switched service providers and stopped using the DUNS number and began using the Unique Entity ID (UEI) – **All counties are required to switch from a DUNS number to a UEI**
3. If a county's SAM.gov registration expired (12-month coverage) before it is due to receive its second tranche payment (and after April 4, 2022) the county is required to re-active its SAM.gov registration, which will require them to adopt a UEI (instead of a DUNS number) **PRIOR TO** receiving their second tranche

Process for Counties to Receive Second Tranche ARPA Recovery Fund Payment

- Section 603 of ARPA provides payments to eligible local governments in two tranches, with the second tranche payment being made no earlier than 12 months after the first payment
- Consistent with this requirement, Treasury expects to provide second tranche payments to local governments **approximately 12 months after their first payment**
- In the coming weeks, Treasury will open the submission portal in a phased approach, **allowing counties to access the portal for 30 days prior to their second tranche payment date**
- Counties will receive a notification from Treasury by email letting them know that they can enter the portal – **it is very important to make sure that the assigned point of contact is still available to receive future communications**
  - The **point of contact is the individual designated in the portal during the first tranche submission** who will receive email notifications on submission status, including any issues found during the verification and communication regarding payments
  - The **individual entering the portal for the second tranche submission will be the same individual with the registered** ID.me who submitted for the first tranche allocation
  - If that individual is no longer with the county and you need to designate a new individual, email COVIDReliefITSupport@treasury.gov with the subject line "Entity Name – Update to Designated Individuals" and include the role that needs to be updated along with the full name, title, email and phone number of the new person designated
- After the email is received by the county, the point of contact will be able to update their entity information to include banking information in the portal
- In preparation for the second tranche payment, counties should ensure their SAM.gov entity registration is still active – **all counties are required to have a SAM.gov registration to receive their second tranche payment**
  - Note that on **April 4, 2022,** the federal government changed service providers and stopped using the DUNS Number and began using the Unique Entity ID (UEI) in SAM.gov to identify entities
  - All counties, even those already registered in SAM.gov, must validate their entity information through the new service provider
  - Counties may need to provide additional supporting documentation through the new system
  - The General Services Administration (GSA) released FAQs to support counties through this new process
  - **Counties are required to renew their SAM.gov registration every 12-months. If a county's SAM.gov registration expired (12-month coverage) before it is due to receive its second tranche (and after April 4, 2022) the county is required to re-active their SAM.gov registration, which will require them to adopt a UEI (instead of a DUNS number) PRIOR TO receiving their second tranche**

If you have any questions, please contact Eryn Hurley, Director of Government Affairs for NACo, at ehurley@naco.org.

JobsOhio's American Rescue Plan Guidebook is available

JobsOhio's revised ARPA Guidebook is available for download at the following address: https://www.jobsohio.com/american-rescue-plan-guidebook/

The Guidebook is a resource for local leaders looking to maximize the impact of ARP funds and become better informed about ARP funds and potential investments. The Guidebook is a result of conversations with local, regional, and state leaders to learn their plans for ARP funds, share best practices, and support leaders in maximizing the potential economic impact of ARP funds.

Ohio leaders identified three priority investment areas that are broadly aligned to Treasury Recovery Fund objectives:

- Build a more resilient workforce by investing in talent hard-hit by the pandemic (e.g., support for training for high-demand skills for individuals in qualified populations and those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic)
- Upgrade critical infrastructure to revitalize communities and support Ohio's economy (e.g., expanding digital infrastructure coverage)
- Support the small businesses and industries most negatively impacted by the pandemic (e.g., scale access to grants/loans for SMBs)

Resources for ARPA Reporting and Compliance

Counties and other local governments are required to submit their ARPA financial reports to the US Treasury. The next deadline is July 31 (for large counties only). The following resources are available to help CCAO members to navigate reporting requirements:

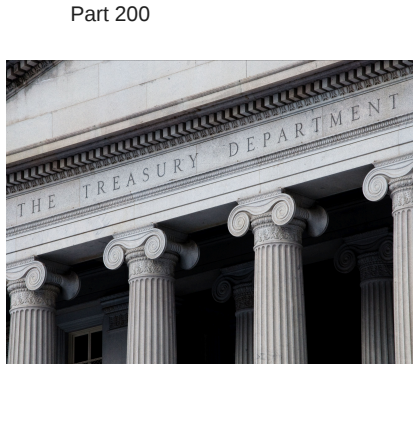
US TREASURY WEBINAR ON REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR THE STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
National Association of Counties and US Treasury
Webinar recorded April 21, 2022
Join NACo for a review of the Treasury Department's webinar on reporting guidelines and compliance requirements for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund program. To view the slides and recording of the webinar, click here.

ARPA FISCAL RECOVERY FUND: OVERVIEW OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND UNIFORM GUIDANCE
National Association of Counties and Government Finance Officers Association
Webinar recorded April 14, 2022
Join NACo and Government Finance Officers Association for an overview of what you need to know when it comes to reporting for the American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. During this session, participants will hear about key requirements as they related to the U.S. Department of Treasury's guidance and the federal Uniform Guidance. To view the slides and recording of the webinar, click here.

NACo provides updates on ARPA funding

NACo refreshed a major update of its analysis of Treasury's Final Rule for the ARPA Fiscal Recovery Fund. The updated analysis includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Clarifying information on eligible/ineligible uses from Treasury, including capital expenditures
- Deeper dive on the provisions around revenue loss allocations
- Treatment of loans
- Reporting requirements and background information on federal Uniform Guidance/2 CFR Part 200



To see a concise summary of the final rule for the Recovery Fund, please see the Overview Document.

NACo members with questions should contact Eryn Hurley, director of Government Affairs, at ehurley@naco.org.

COUNTY NEWS

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Darke County receives $1.35 million for airport terminal
Daily Advocate, July 13, 2022
U.S. Sens. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) and Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) announced Thursday that $3.7 Million in new funding will be distributed for Ohio airports under Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, including the Darke County Airport.

The Darke County Airport will receive $1.35 million so that the county may construct a new terminal building as the existing terminal building is over 50 years old and is an obstruction to current runway design surfaces.

Only two airports out of approximately 88 in Ohio received grants under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Aultman said to be one of the 88 airports to receive the money is "phenomenal." The commissioners agreed they are fortunate to have received the funds needed to pay off debts and continue other projects.

Belmont County to demolish habilitation center
The Times Leader, July 14, 2022
The Belmont County Board of Commissioners is making progress toward demolishing the former Habilitation Center under an Ohio Department of Development Brownfield Remediation Program grant agreement for $897,460.

Also, commissioners awarded Shelly & Sands a contract for paving portions of Jacobsburg and Glencoe Road, as well Belmont County Road 26. Shelly & Sands bid $968,252.55 compared to NLS Paving Inc. with a bid of $1,092,001.90 and Cast & Baker Inc. with a bid of $1,262,182.

The commissioners also awarded Shelly & Sands a contract to pave a portion of Winding Hill Road for $765,111.50 compared to a bid of $799,601.35 from NLS Paving Inc. and $976,717 from Cast & Baker. The commissioners added that these are projects funded by the Ohio Public Works Commission.

Also, commissioners awarded a contract for the Otto-Scales Road waterline extension project in Jacobsburg in York Township to Litman Excavating for $279,074. The James White Construction Co. bid $322,789 and Border Patrol, LLC bid $314,651.

More applicants, but plenty of job openings remain at Sandusky County agencies
Fremont News Messenger, July 15, 2022
There are 20 job openings across Sandusky County agencies, the highest number of open county positions in recent memory, said county administrator Theresa Garcia Thursday.

Garcia said that number is spread across positions at most Sandusky County departments, including Sandusky County EMS, the county's juvenile court, Sandusky County Sheriff's Office and the county court system.

County Commissioner Charlie Schwochow said a priority for commissioners when putting together the county's budget this fall will be salaries and employee retention.

A new $15 million state grant program directed toward child welfare staff will soon make funds available to all 88 Ohio counties to go toward incentives that Allen said include retention and sign-on bonuses, employee referrals and tuition reimbursement.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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AUGUST 2, 2022
OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRIMARY ELECTION

AUGUST 12, 2022
CORSA BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022
CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING, UNION COUNTY

AUGUST 25 - 26, 2022
WORKFORCE, FAMILIES AND CHILDREN SYMPOSIUM AT CHERRY VALLEY

AUGUST 26, 2022
CCAO AND CEBCO BOARD MEETINGS (CHERRY VALLEY)

DID YOU KNOW?

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Washington County

It is well-known that Washington County was the county established in what would become Ohio and that it's named after Revolutionary War general and first American president George Washington.

A piece of less well-known history lies in the heart of Marietta, the county seat. Mound Cemetery, located less than a half-mile from the Washington County Courthouse, is located around an ancient Adena burial mound and was established to help protect the site from destruction.

The cemetery has the distinction, according to a 1900 Daughters of the American Revolution publication, of being the resting place of the most Revolutionary War officers at a single site. Among those interred at Mound Cemetery, many of whom were instrumental in the establishment of Marietta, are:

- Gen. Rufus Putnam (first cousin once removed of Israel Putnam, namesake of Putnam County)
- Griffin Greene, Sr., Quartermaster
- Commodore Abraham Whipple
- Col. Ebenezer Sproat (the first sheriff in the Northwest Territory and Washington County)
- Col. William Stacy, Sr. (the first Grand Jury foreman in the Northwest Territory)
- Gen. Benjamin Tupper (along with Gen. Rufus Putnam, the first civil court justice in the Northwest Territory)
- Maj. Anselm Tupper (son of Gen. Benjamin Tupper and first schoolteacher in the Northwest Territory)
- Capt. Nathaniel Saltonstall

Photo: The grave marker of Gen. Rufus Putnam at Mound Cemetery. Click photo to enlarge.

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