October 31, 2022

The Guernsey County Courthouse lit up for Halloween as part of the county's annual Halloween Light Show.

Photo courtesy of the Daily Jeffersonian

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ASSOCIATION AND MEMBER NEWS

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LAST CALL: Nominating committee for CCAO Board of Directors accepting nominations

Commissioners, county executives, and county council members:

If you are interested in serving a two-year term, or as an officer, on the CCAO Board of Directors, please review the memo linked below. Nominations must be received no later than November 1.

The memo below includes the forms that one must complete to nominate themselves for a two-year term or an officer position.

If you have questions about the nominating process, please contact either Executive Direct Cheryl Subler at 614-220-7980 or csubler@ccao.org, or Boards' Liaison & Events Manager Robin Garrett at 614-220-0653 or rgarrett@ccao.org.

CCAO Nominating Committee Memo

DeWine-Husted Administration announces first round of buildings to be demolished for economic development

On Friday, Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted announced the sites that funding from the Ohio Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program (awarded in July) would be used to demolish and revitalize. The list includes 825 structures across 30 counties, with more projects to be announced in the coming weeks.

Each county received a set-aside, provided they requested funds, and counties could get additional funding based on requests. Of the projects announced on Friday, Cuyahoga County is home to more than half (428), while Crawford County, Licking County, Muskingum County, and Ottawa County are each funding one project.

Examples of projects include the demolition of, and replacement by a grocery store, of a vacant Kmart in Stark County, the destruction of an abandoned mall in Butler County, and the demolition of an abandoned residence in Monroe County.

You can access the full list of project addresses here and a funding breakdown here.

County entities receive Court Backlog Reduction, Lead Pipe Mapping grants

The DeWine-Husted Administration announced funding awards given under two grant programs last week. The state awarded $10.2 million to 51 courts across 36 counties as part of the Ohio Court Backlog Reduction Program. The program was created with the goal to help courts reduce time-to-disposition of pending cases, remove barriers to case resolution, and to apply creative solutions to improve case flow.

The full list of awards, accessible here, highlights the various ways that courts are attempting to tackle case backlog. Many of these involve hiring additional clerk staff as well as updating and improving case management systems.

Also awarded last week were H2Ohio lead pipe mapping grants. Lead exposure is a major health hazard, particularly in children. While most water lines installed today are made of copper or galvanized iron, lead pipes were common in the past and present a danger to Ohio communities. The grant program is intended to help governments identify where lead pipes exist in their systems, a vital first step to replacing them with safer pipes.

The awards granted last week total $2.4 million and will go to 53 projects in communities across 37 counties. While most of the grants went to municipalities, Butler County Water and Sewer and the Jefferson County Water and Sewer departments each received mapping grants. The complete list of grant winners is accessible here.

Information about Appalachian Community Grant Program now available

On October 20, the DeWine-Husted Administration released guidelines for the Appalachian Community Grant Program. The program provides $500 million for transformative projects within the Appalachian region. Program documents, including a schedule and a project scoring rubric, are available on the Ohio Department of Development website:

https://development.ohio.gov/community/governors-office-of-appalachia/appalachian-community-grant-program

The Round One program application will open on November 2 and close December 9. Both planning and implementation grants will be available. Planning grants are limited to $250,000 per county.

- Round 1: Up to $50 million will be available in the first round for eligible regional projects that have partners in place and can begin implementation within 90 days of receipt of funds.
- There is no cap on Appalachian Development Grants, but program activities must total at least $1 million or more to be eligible for consideration.
- Awarded Appalachian Development Grant projects must be complete by October 31, 2026.

Appalachian Counties

Appalachian plans and implementation projects must include components from three funding priorities:

- Infrastructure; such as main street or downtown redevelopment, improvements to multi-community connecting trails, significant outdoor community space, links to community arts, history and culture, access to telemedicine.
- Workforce; such as public-private partnerships designed to build and coordinate technical, educational, clinical and workforce infrastructure.
- Healthcare; such as investments in school or community-based services to address children's physical and behavioral health needs or plans to address substance use disorder.

CCAO will share more information as it becomes available. If you have any questions about what is currently available, please contact Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck at 614-220-7982 or jhoneck@ccao.org.

Montgomery County receives mental health accreditation award, first in state to do so

Last week, the Montgomery County Jail received the Accreditation Award by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, the first facility in Ohio to receive the award. The award was part of the county's Stepping Up Initiative, a national initative to reduce the number of individuals with mental health problems in jails (CCAO will host a panel regarding Stepping Up at the 2022 Winter Conference).

"This specialized accreditation not only means better care for inmates at the Montgomery County Jail but also a likely reduction in in-custody tragedies," Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost said. "The hard work of (Montgomery County) Sheriff Streck and his staff raises the bar for all Ohio jails. I encourage jail administrators throughout Ohio to follow Montgomery County's example."

Congratulations Montgomery County!

Registration open for the 2022 CCAO/CEAO Winter Conference

Registration is now open for this year's CCAO/CEAO Winter Conference, held December 7 to 9. The theme for this year's conference is Innovation and Inspiration to Shape Ohio's Future.

You can view the current draft of the schedule here! Please keep in mind that some sessions may change between now and the timeslot.

Additionally, 170 tickets to the Columbus Blue Jackets game on December 7 at 7:30 p.m. are available for free courtesy of MS Consulting. Tickets to the game against the Buffalo Sabres are available on a first come, first serve basis. **As of this writing, roughly 60 tickets remain.**

More information about the conference and links to register and reserve hotel rooms are available on the CCAO website.

County review of FCC broadband mapping data open

The broadband data mapping project by the Federal Communication Commission is now open for review by local governments to ensure its accuracy. The maps created from this data are a key factor in the distribution of more than $40 billion in federal grants through the end of 2023. The accuracy of these maps is of vital importance to ensure that federal funds are allocated to communities where they will have the greatest impact.

Counties are encouraged to review and submit corrections no later than December 1 to ensure that any corrections are made before allocations are made under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

More information about the challenge process is available on the FCC's website and a one-page summary of the process produced by the FCC.

If you have additional questions, please contact Seamus Dowdall, Associate Legislative Director. Telecommunications & Technology, for the National Association of Counties. You can reach him at sdowdall@naco.org or 202-942-4212.

STATE AND FEDERAL NEWS

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NACo seeks county leaders to join Opioid Solutions Leadership Network

As governments across the country begin utilizing funds from opioid settlements, NACo has announced the creation of a resource within its Opioid Solutions Center: the Opioid Solutions Leadership Network. NACo seeks 26 county officials to join the network and help foster information sharing and collaboration in the area of innovative and evidence-based opioid solutions.

By the end of the program, participations will have an increased understanding of opioid abatement across the continuum of care, the ability to scale strategies in their communities and regions, an enhanced capacity to engage with community partners and stakeholders and will have new relationships with county leaders across the country.

The application is open to county elected officials (including county executives and council members) or members of a county's decision-making body on how to allocate opioid settlement funds. Additionally, members of the Network will have to be able to engage in two in-person events (travel costs will be reimbursed) and at least two virtual events between December 2022 and August 2023.

More information regarding the Opioid Solutions Leadership Network, as well as the application, can be found here. Applications are due by November 9.

CCAO encourages interested members to apply for a position on the Leadership Network, both to highlight the innovative strategies you are utilizing in your communities at the national level and to help bring additional strategies and ideas back to Ohio from colleagues across the United States.

NACo offering free cyberattack simulation to members

From 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on November 14-18, NACo will host a cyber simulation course concerning security readiness for cyberattacks. NACo is partnering with the Professional Development Academy and their community of CISOs, CIOS, risk managers and cyber leaders to launch cyberattack simulation training.

Registration for this training course is **FREE** until October 31. CCAO encourages members to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about cybersecurity, as the threat of cyber-attacks are likely to only grow in coming years. You can register here. Please contact NACo Chief Information Officer Rita Reynolds at rreynolds@naco.org, or the general help address at nacomeetings@naco.org, with questions concerning the program or if you have difficulty registering.

NACo provides Operation Green Light for Veterans toolkit

Ohio counties play an important role in helping our country's veterans transition back to civilian life, both through Veterans Service Commissions and through a myriad of programs across the county government apparatus.

To help honor our veterans, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is spearheading Operation Green Light. From November 7 to November 13, county governments and our residents will let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated and supported by shining green light on county buildings. Private residents are encouraged to put green lights in their exterior lighting as well.

NACo has provided a toolkit (accessible here) that includes sample press releases, sample letters to Congressional delegations, and more to help counties spread the message of Operation Green Light.

Shine a light of hope and support for veterans
NACo
#OperationGreenLight for Veterans | NACo.org/OperationGreenLight

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EDUCATION AND GRANTS

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Visit the Grants and Funding Opportunities page on the CCAO website for a detailed listing of open grant programs.

State departments to host November webinar regarding elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation

The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) has partnered with the Ohio Attorney General's Office (OAG) Elder Justice Unit, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Office of Adult Protective Services (APS), and the Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services (OCAPS) to host a webinar concerning best practices for keeping older Ohioans safe from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The webinar will be held on November 10 from 11:00 a.m. to noon.

This webinar will be valuable to care managers, case workers, health and safety staff, incident management staff, and quality improvement staff. The goal of the webinar is to improve understanding of the issues regarding elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in Ohio, and to better understand the warning signs, reporting requirements, and resources. Best practices on how care coordinators and managed care plans can collaborate with APS will be shared.

Speakers include, Adriana Pust, Incident Manager, ODM; Heidi Turner, Section Chief, APS, ODJFS; Sylvia Pla-Raith, Director of Elder Justice Unit - Consumer Protection Services, OAG; and Natasha Pietrocola, Cuyahoga County Department of APS, Chair of Ohio Coalition for APS.

While elder services does not always receive the same level of attention as children services, it is a vital component of the human services programs that counties are responsible for. CCAO highly encourages counties register employees for this valuable webinar.

Ohio EPA to host two grant-related webinars

The Ohio EPA will host two webinars in November related to upcoming grant opportunities. The first, on November 8, will discuss the 2023 Recycling and Litter Prevention Grant, its application process and eligible activities. This grant is available to local governments, along with schools, businesses, and nonprofits, to establish and implement recycling programs. You can register for the webinar here.

The second webinar, to be held on November 15, will discuss the Mosquito Control Grant program. These grants are open to health departments and other government organizations to aid with mosquito surveillance, control, source reduction, and outreach. The webinar will cover the application process and eligible activities. You can register for the webinar here.

Grant round-up

As the calendar rolls into November tomorrow, CCAO is providing readers with an overview of grant programs closing this month. Please visit the Grants and Funding Opportunities page for direct links.

State Grants
The following state grant programs have their application windows closing during the month of November:

- **Community Violence Reduction**: Open primarily to law enforcement agencies, the program intends to address negative impacts of COVID-19 related to crime.
    - Closes *TOMORROW*, November 1.
- **Drop-Off Recycling Quality Improvement**: Open to solid waste districts or jurisdictions with drop-off sites, the program aims to improve recycling by preventing contamination.
    - Closes November 18.
- **Competitive RECLAIM Grants**: See article below.
    - Closes November 30.
- **Capital Improvements for Local Jails**: See article below.
    - Closes November 30.

Federal Grants
The following federal grant programs have their application windows closing during the month of November:

- **Rural eConnectivity Program**: Aims to provide funding to facilitate rural broadband development.
    - Closes November 2.
- **Historical Preservation, African American Civil Rights**: Open to governments applying to preserve eligible sites associated with the struggle for racial equality.
    - Closes November 8.
- **Landscape Scale Restoration**: Provides fund to governments to restore forest landscapes. Non-state applicants must work with the Division of Forestry.
    - Closes November 10.
- **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative**: Provides funds to governments within the Lake Erie Basin to mitigate negative impacts on forests and coastal habitats within the basin.
    - Closes November 14.
- **Rural Health Network Development**: Funds projects to expand access to and improve the quality of basic health care services in the rural health care system.
    - Closes November 22.
- **Veterans Business Outreach Center**: Open to local or state agencies, the program aims to provide business training and assistance to transitioning military personnel, military spouses, and veterans.
    - Closes November 23.

Application window for $50 million in jail project funding is open

The Department of Rehabilitation & Correction (DRC) has opened the application window for $50 million in jail project funding that was included in the most recent capital appropriations bill.

Applications will be evaluated through a process similar to that used for projects funded under the prior capital budget, with one notable change. The question regarding cost per bed will no longer be a "scored question" but it will still be considered for projects intending to expand a jail's housing capacity.

The application can be found here, as well as the announcement letter and an OBM guide on allowable capital expenditures.

CCAO recommends that all counties apply for funds through the program. Even if you consider it unlikely your county will receive funding through the program, applying shows the Dewine-Husted Administration the overwhelming need for jail funding and will help the Association lobby for more funding in the future.

In addition to the $50 million discussed above, there is a total of $575,000 available for designated jails identified in HB 687. A funding guide will be sent directly to these recipients from DRC.

The application deadline for the $50 million pool is November 30, 2022.

NOTE: the application PDF states that the deadline is October 30, 2022. This is an error; the deadline is November 30.

If you have any questions about the grant program or would like to discuss issues with your county jail that may not be covered by these funds, please contact Legislative Counsel Kyle Petty at kpetty@ccao.org or 614-220-7977.

Competitive RECLAIM program accepting grant applications

The Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) has announced the next Competitive RECLAIM (Reasoned and Equitable Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors) grant window. The program, available to juvenile courts, is targeted to support diversion programs to treat delinquent youths with correctional interventions in their communities rather than in juvenile facilities.

There are five funding categories that courts can apply under:

- **Category 1** – Violence Intervention and Prevention
    - Develop strategies that target at-risk youth living in specific neighborhoods or census tracts in an effort to reduce future delinquent behavior
- **Category 2** – Addressing Racial & Ethnic Disparities
    - Either hiring/contracting for a Racial and Ethnic Disparities Coordinator OR creating a direct service intervention.
- **Category 3** – New Community Resource Centers
    - Develop a community collaborative that addresses the holistic needs of youth and families and reduces reliance on detention.
- **Category 4** – Community Diversion Interventions
    - Develop or broaden a shared vision among the community where youth success is defined as having no formal juvenile justice contact; should be driveb by law enforcement, schools, and other community organizations.
- **Category 5** – Evidence-Based Programs/Interventions w/ (Optional Prosocial Support Activity)
    - Create or augment an evidence-based program designed to meet the assessed needs of local youth and to reduce out of home placement, recidivism, and admissions to DYS facilities.

Applications must be submitted no later than November 30 at noon. DYS anticipates awards to be made by January 15, 2023.

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.

Ohio Ethics Commission issues statement regarding stimulus funds

Last week the Ohio Ethics Commission released a statement ensuring that public officials are aware that stimulus funds, such as those received under the federal American Rescue Plan Act and the funds that communities will receive under Governor Mike DeWine's Appalachian investment program, are public funds and that conflict of interest laws must be observed.

To that effect, the Commission also recirculated its Advisory Opinion No. 2009-006, issued in 2009 regarding stimulus funds made available to governments under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It provides a more in-depth examination of potential conflicts of interest with stimulus funds, including a discussing regarding vendors.

CCAO encourages members refamiliarize themselves with this Advisory Opinion and conflict of interest laws to ensure good stewardship of ARPA and Appalachia funds.

Updated Treasury guidance provides flexibility for using ARPA funds for affordable housing

Last week the US Department of Treasury released new guidance that provides additional flexibility to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to boost the supply of affordable housing. This updated guidance follows the White House's recently released Housing Supply Action Plan that outlines how counties can leverage ARPA dollars for affordable housing.

Key highlights of the update guidance include:

- **Increased flexibility to use Recovery Funds for long-term affordable housing loans**: As outlined in the Final Rule, Recovery Funds may be used to finance long-term affordable housing loans. SLFRF permits funds to be used, among other uses, to combat the public health and negative economic effects of the pandemic, including by building affordable housing. The updated guidance allows counties to use Recovery Funds to fully finance long-term affordable housing loans, including the principal of any such loans, subject to certain conditions. These changes will facilitate significant additional financing for affordable housing projects, including those that may be eligible for additional assistance under Treasury's Low Income Housing Credit (LIHTC).

- **Expanded eligible uses:** Under Treasury's Final Rule, counties were permitted to use funds for affordable housing, identifying uses consistent with two major U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs – the National Housing Trust Fund (NTF) and Home investments Partnerships Program (HOME) – as presumptively eligible under the Recovery Fund. The updated guidance expands that list to include an expanded range of federal programs from multiple agencies, permitting more options for how states and local governments can presumptively use funds for affordable housing. Additionally, Treasury updated its guidance to clarify that Recovery Funds may be used to finance the development, repair, or operation of any affordable rental housing unit that provides long-term affordability of 20 years or more to households at or below 65 percent of the local area median income.

- **Treasury and HUD released new "How-To" guide**: Treasury worked with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to publish a How-to Guide for Affordable Housing. The guide provides a summary of how counties can use ARPA Recovery Funds for affordable housing and combine these dollars with other federal funds. In addition to this guide, Treasury and HUD will host a series of webinars, which will be announced at a later date.

Treasury has reflected the above updates related to eligible housing expenditures in their Final Rule FAQs. Specific updates include:

- **FAQ 2.14 (pgs. 10-11):** The updated FAQ reflects new presumptively eligible uses, which include: 1. projects that would be eligible for funding under an expanded list of federal housing programs and; 2. projects for the development, repair or operation of affordable rental housing with certain income and affordability requirements.
    - Presumption 1: In addition to projects funded by the National Housing Trust Fund (NTF) and Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), which were already eligible under previous guidance, any projects funded by the following federal housing program are now also eligible:
        - The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (administered by Treasury)
        - The Public Housing Capital Fund (administered by HUD)
        - Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program and Section 811
        - Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program (administered by HUD)
        - Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) (administered by HUD)
        - Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization program (administered by USDA)
    - Presumption 2: Under the new guidance, Treasury will presume that an investment in the development, repair, or operation of any affordable rental housing unit is an eligible use of Recovery Funds if the unit has a limited maximum income of 65 percent area median income (AMI, as imposed through a covenant, land use restriction agreement, or other enforceable legal requirements for a period of at least 20 years. A jurisdiction may establish a longer period of affordability at its discretion.

Important note for Presumption 1: These programs use different income limits than the definitions of low- and moderate-income adopted by Treasury. If a county chooses to invest in an affordable housing project under the above federal program, the investment agreement must adhere to all applicable local codes and requirements related to: Resident income restrictions; period of affordability and related covenant requirements for assisted units; tenant protections; and housing quality standards.

Counties may use Recovery Funds as part of the financing for a mixed-income housing project if the total financing made up of Recovery Funds does not exceed the total development costs attributable to affordable housing units limited to households at or below 65 percent AMI for the affordability period.

- **FAQ 4.9 (pgs. 35-36):** The updated FAQ reflects loans to fund investments in affordable housing projects. Recovery Funds can be used to finance certain loans that finance affordable housing investments. Counties may use Recovery Funds to make loans to finance affordable housing projects, funding the full principal amount of the loan, if the loan and project meet the following requirements:
    - The loan has a term of no less than 20 years
    - Affordable housing project being financed has an affordability period of no less than 20 years AFTER the project or assisted units are available for occupancy after ARPA investment
    - For loans to finance projects expected to be eligible for the low-income housing credit the project owner must agree to waive any right to request a qualified contract and repay any loaned funds to the entity that originated the loan at the time the project becomes non-compliant
    - This additional flexibility to finance qualified low-income housing projects aligns with that of the LIFELINE Act, which NACo endorsed.

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

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 Bipartisan 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:

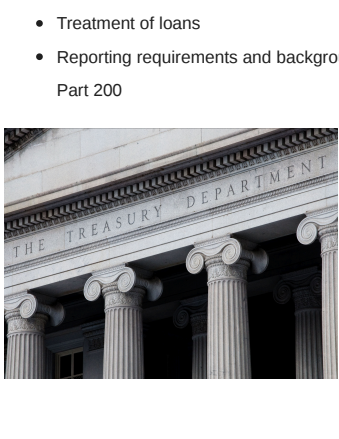
US TREASURY WEBINAR ON REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR THE STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
National Association of Counties and US Treasury
Webinar recorded April 21, 2022
Join NACo for a review of the Treasury Department's webinar on reporting guidelines and compliance requirements for the Coronavirus 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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Each week Counties Current highlights the happenings in our counties in the words of their local media. One county from each of the CCAO's five districts is highlighted.

Northwest District
$2.5M to study COVID type preventions in jail, nursing homes, shelters
BG Independent News, October 22, 2022
While COVID touched most lives, it was particularly brutal in settings where groups of people lived together – either by choice or by force.

The numbers of those sickened or killed by COVID were exponentially higher in nursing homes and prisons than for the average population.

Wood County Health Commissioner Ben Robison reported recently that the county health department has been selected as a facilitator for approximately $2.5 million to be used to help congregate living sites prepare for pandemics like COVID-19.

The funding would be used for confinement facilities like jails and detention facilities, and congregate living facilities like shelters and long-term care settings.

Northeast District
County aid sought on dam project
Tribune Chronicle, October 27, 2022
Residents are seeking assistance from Trumbull County officials to delay the Leavittsburg dam's demolition until a nearby county sanitary sewer project is completed.

Debra Roth and 10 other residents met Wednesday with township trustees, county commissioners and county engineer, health and sanitary sewer departments representatives to get their concerns addressed on the health issues and other problems they say will occur if the dam is removed and the Mahoning River level drops before the sanitary sewer project is finished.

Roth said that in the early 2000s, she and other residents with Our Lives Count battled a township landfill because of health concerns and she is now fearful the same situation will occur with the dam removal.

Central District
Franklin County coroner retiring next month
10TV.com, October 24, 2022
Franklin County Coroner Anahi Ortiz announced she will be retiring next month.

Ortiz, who has been the county's coroner for eight years, said she has been considering retirement for the last year. She said she wanted to make sure the office was set up for success before retiring.

Ortiz has been the coroner through the COVID-19 pandemic, the opioid crisis and two years where the city of Columbus saw single-year highs for homicides.

Southwest District
New Clark County program targets aid to small businesses, jobs
Springfield News-Sun, October 25, 2022
A new grant program to assist in recruitment and expansion efforts for new and existing small retail and service businesses in Clark County rolls out in the beginning of November.

The Clark County Commission last week approved the Community and Economic Development Department's Retail Development and Project Fund. Commissioners approved a total of $50,000 to the grant program for this year.

The fund, which offers grants as large as $15,000 based on a scoring system, aims to expand the county's sales tax base and boost employment opportunities in the county, as well as increase spending opportunities for county residents.

Southeast District
Commissioners honor Vuksic
Marietta Times, October 28, 2022
The Washington County Commissioners' meeting room Thursday morning was filled with colleagues of Jamie Vuksic, who is retiring after 20 years of service with Washington County Children's Services.

He has most recently been serving as the Social Services Supervisor.

Commissioners read and presented a resolution of appreciation for his service in a second day of good-byes, accolades from those who have worked with him, and more than a few tears over the past couple of weeks.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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NOVEMBER 1, 2022
CCAO NOMINATING COMMITTEE FORMS DUE - AVAILABLE HERE

NOVEMBER 4, 2022
CORSA BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 2022
GENERAL ELECTION

NOVEMBER 18, 2022
CCAO BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 9, 2022
CCAO-CEAO WINTER CONFERENCE

DID YOU KNOW?

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Warren County

While Ohio is not home to any of the United States' most famous cryptids (creatures of dubious existence) such as New Jersey's Jersey Devil, West Virginia's Mothman, or the Pacific Northwest's Bigfoot, the Warren County village of Waynesville was the site of an 1882 encounter with an unusual creature.

On May 27, just outside Waynesville in the unincorporated community called Crosswicks, Ed and Joe Lynch, brothers aged 13 and 11 years old, were attacked and chased by a large snake-like creature. They attempted to flee but the creature grabbed one of the boys with arms and dragged him away. Three area men heard the kids' screams and freed the boy from the creature, but the creature retreated into its den, an old sycamore tree.

Later in the day a crowd of 60 men from Waynesville and the surrounding area arrived at the tree to kill the creature. In the words of a *The Western Star* account:

> *They began cutting, when, becoming alarmed for his safety, the formidable snake leaped from the aperture, threw out its fore and hind legs, erected itself about twelve or fourteen feet, and, with the velocity of a race horse, crossed the creek and ran up a small hill, climbed over a rail fence, breaking it down, and, continuing north a mile, followed by the pursuers, until he reached a hole in a large hill under a heavy ledge of rocks.*

Unfortunately (or fortunately, depending on one's point of view), the creature, commonly referred to as the Crosswick Monster or Crosswick Snake Monster, has never reappeared.

You can read the full *The Western Star* account of the incident at the Warren County Historical Society website.

An undated rendering of the Crosswick Monster. As *The Western Star* described The creature, as described by The Western Star, is "thirty to forty feet long, sixteen inches in diameter, and the legs four feet long and covered with scales the same as the body. Feet about twelve inches long and shaped like a lizard's, of black and white color, with large yellow spots. Head about sixteen inches wide, with a long, black forked tongue and the mouth inside deep red."

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