September 20, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader,

Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) released guidance for the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund program established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). This program provides \$100 million to be allocated in equal shares, approximately \$167,504 each, to Tribal governments and the State of Hawaii (for Native Hawaiian programs) to carry out critical capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. These capital projects will support community recovery and establish a strong foundation for equitable access to critical services that will last beyond the pandemic. The Capital Projects Fund Guidance for Tribal Governments describes in detail how your Tribal government may access and use these funds.

A key priority of this program is to make funds available to recipients that would like to make investments in high-quality, affordable broadband infrastructure and other digital connectivity technologies, such as devices and equipment utilized by or distributed to households, businesses, or other organizations to facilitate internet access. At the same time, recipients have flexibility to use funds for certain capital projects other than broadband infrastructure that enable work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options.

Although not a competitive grant program, Tribal governments must complete an application to verify applicant eligibility and to explain how Capital Projects Fund grant funds will be used. Applications will be submitted using a web-based portal.

The Capital Projects Fund Application Portal will open for Tribal governments on October 1, 2021. Treasury will send another email when the application portal is live. You will be able to access the portal from the Capital Projects Fund website (<a href="mailto:treasury.gov/CPF">treasury.gov/CPF</a>). To access the application, the individual(s) filling out the application must be registered with ID.me. If you have previously registered with ID.me, use your current email and password.

**Tribal governments must complete the Application form by June 1, 2022,** after which funds may be reallocated.

To further assist Tribal governments, Treasury has partnered with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Tribal Connectivity & Nation to Nation Coordination office to help. Treasury and NTIA will host a webinar on October 6, 2021 at 3:00 PM ET that will focus on accessing and navigating the application. Interested Tribal governments may register <a href="here">here</a>.

## **Resources and Contact Information**

If you have questions about the Guidance or the Application Portal or for technical support, please email <a href="mailto:CapitalProjectsFund@treasury.gov">CapitalProjectsFund@treasury.gov</a>.

To learn more about how allocations were determined, please visit the <u>Coronavirus Capital Projects</u> <u>Fund Tribal Government Allocation Methodology</u>, which incorporates important feedback that Tribal leaders shared during the Treasury-hosted Tribal consultation in April of 2021.

To learn more about the Capital Projects Fund, please visit Treasury's <u>Capital Projects Fund website</u>. To receive updates on Treasury's COVID-19 Economic Relief programs, please sign up <u>here</u>.

We look forward to working with you to access and implement this critical funding.

Sincerely,

Nancy Montoya Treasury Tribal Affairs Program Coordinator Point of Contact for Tribal Consultation