ARRA Big City Network
GATB Survey

73 Respondents

140 Prime Awards = $1.5 Billion

79 Subrecipient Awards = $5.5 Billion
Reporting Experience
Main Source of Information Regarding ARRA Guidance

- **Chief Recovery Officer**: 38.36%
- **Federal OMB**: 17.81%
- **Federal Oversight Entity**: 16.44%
- **State Oversight Entity**: 15.07%
Communication from Federal Agencies: ARRA vs. FFATA

ARRA

Often: 6.85%
Sometimes: 23.29%
Rarely: 4.11%
Never: 65.75%

FFATA

Not Aware if FFATA applies: 10.96%
Often: 20.55%
Sometimes: 23.29%
Rarely: 15.07%
Never: 30.14%
How Often Agencies Must Submit Reports: ARRA vs. FFATA

- **ARRA**
  - More than Bi-Weekly: 2.74%
  - Bi-Weekly: 68.49%
  - Monthly: 20.55%
  - Less than Quarterly: 1.37%
  - Never: 1.37%

- **FFATA**
  - More than Bi-Weekly: 4.11%
  - Bi-Weekly: 42.47%
  - Monthly: 13.70%
  - Less than Quarterly: 24.66%
  - Never: 10.96%
How Effective and Efficient is FederalReporting.gov

More Effective
35.62%

My City is Only a Sub-recipient
29.17%

About the Same
23.29%

I Do Not Use Other Reporting Portals
9.59%

Less Efficient and Effective
2.74%
Impact of ARRA Reporting on Agency Resources

- No / Minor Impact: 8.2%, 19.2%, 23.3%, 23.3%
- Burdensome: 6.9%, 5.5%
Benefits of ARRA Reporting – Top 5

- **Greater Transparency**
  - 61.64%

- **Increased Focus on Quickly Spending and Processing Funds**
  - 46.58%

- **More Accountability in the Way Funds are Spent**
  - 39.73%

- **Brought Program, Accounting & Budgeting Together**
  - 38.36%

- **Better Management Practices for Overall Grant Activity**
  - 36.99%
Challenges of ARRA Reporting – Top 5

- Timelines to Gather Data: 63.01%
- Vague or Conflicting Guidance: 50.68%
- Duplicative Paperwork Required: 49.32%
- Getting Authoritative Clarification in Writing: 35.62%
- Insufficient Staff or Resources to Manage Reporting: 30.14%
Looking to The Future
How Often Should Federal Reporting Occur

- **Quarterly**: 75.34%
- **Yearly**: 17.81%
- **Daily**: 4.11%
- **Monthly**: 2.74%

55 out of 73 responders indicated that federal reporting should occur Quarterly.
Preferable Timeline Structure for Federal Reporting

Continuous Rolling Basis (like FFATA) 9.59%

Scheduled Intervals (like ARRA) 90.41%
Preferred Method for Data Input into Reports

19.18% Completed by Recipients
80.82% Pre-populated
Key Data Elements to Include in Federal Reporting

- Basic Identifying Information: 93.14%
- Award Amounts: 89.04%
- Expenditures: 79.45%
- Prime Recipient Information: 76.71%
- Programmatic Descriptions: 63.01%
- Progress Updates / Narratives: 54.79%
- Sub Recipient Information: 53.42%
How to Improve Federal Reporting - Communication

- Reliable Help Desk: 60.27%
- Routine Communication: 56.16%
- Require Written Clarification on Guidance: 45.21%
- Local Representation on Federal Oversight Boards: 34.25%
- Reduce Unnecessary Reminders that Cause Alarm: 31.51%
- Identify Federal POCs: 21.92%
How to Improve Federal Reporting - Process

- Standardize & Consolidate Reporting Documents: 68.49%
- Month Delay in Reporting: 49.32%
- No More Than Quarterly Reporting: 46.58%
- Maintain Consistent Guidance Rules: 36.99%
- Establish Plain Language Definitions for Data: 35.62%
- Maintain a One Stop Shop Data Portal: 31.51%