

TIFIA / RRIF Action Plan for Alaska – Proposal

Who: Alaska municipalities, Alaska Municipal League, Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities; PNWER RIA; Build America Bureau

When: [December 6 - 8, 2023](#) during the Alaska Municipal League Annual Conference

Where: Dena'ina Center, Anchorage, Alaska

What: PNWER RIA will lead a work session during the Alaska Municipal League's 2023 Annual Conference to share information about the Build America Bureau's TIFIA and RRIF financing programs. This will include a facilitated discussion with participants that will lead into the creation of a TIFIA / RRIF Action Plan for Alaska. The Action Plan will aim to improve Alaska local governments' understanding of Build America Bureau financing programs, and how they could help move projects forward. Participants will take active role in designing Action Plan, including outreach strategies, milestones, and next steps for implementation. This action plan will guide RIA outreach and engagement activities in Alaska for a 24 month period.

Objective:

- Provide introduction to financing opportunities available through the Build America Bureau, how to access information and resources about these programs, and how the PNWER RIA program can assist
- Facilitate discussion with participants about benefits and drawbacks of TIFIA and/or RRIF, including some of the unique challenges and opportunities that are present in Alaska
- Develop action plan for connecting Alaska local governments with Build America Bureau programs. This action plan will guide RIA outreach and engagement activities in Alaska for a 24 month period.
 - Overall Goal of Action Plan: Improve Alaskan local governments' understanding of Build America Bureau finance programs

DRAFT Detailed Agenda:

- In-Room Poll: How much do you know about TIFIA and RRIF?
 - Use polling tools to ask the following questions:
 - Have you ever heard of the U.S. DOT's TIFIA and/or RRIF finance programs?
 - On a scale of 1 to 5, how much do you know about TIFIA and RRIF? (1 = nothing, I've never heard of these program; 3 = I've heard of these programs, but I don't know much about them; 5 = I've heard of these programs, and generally understand how they work)

- On a scale of 1 to 5, how comfortable would you feel considering TIFIA and/or RRIF in a project's funding package? (1 = very uncomfortable; 3 = moderately comfortable; 5 = very comfortable)
- Presentation on TIFIA / RRIF Programs & Role of the RIA Program
 - TIFIA Overview
 - RRIF Overview
 - PNWER RIA Overview
- Facilitated Discussion
 - How could programs like TIFIA or RRIF help your community finance a project?
 - What are some of the barriers Alaska local governments might face with these programs?
 - What parts of the TIFIA and RRIF programs are most relevant to Alaska local governments?
 - What strategies are most effective to share this information to other Alaska local governments?
 - What kinds of assistance would be most helpful for an RIA to provide to ensure communities understand these financing programs, and can access them easily?
- Developing a TIFIA / RRIF Action Plan for Alaska
 - Overall Goal of Action Plan: Improve Alaskan local governments' understanding of Build America Bureau finance programs.
 - Define Success for the Action Plan:
 - An effective TIFIA / RRIF Action Plan for Alaska would include...
 - Identify best methods of communicating information about TIFIA / RRIF to other local governments in Alaska
 - Webinars, Information Sessions, Printed Materials, Workshops
 - Set achievable milestones
 - Draft realistic timeline for Action Plan implementation over 24 month period
 - Assign next steps to relevant stakeholders and staff