

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### Policy Issue White Paper: Blockchain Technology: Local Government Applications and Challenges

Details: The **International City/County Management Association (ICMA)**, through its Governmental Affairs and Policy Committee (GAPC), and The **Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)** are seeking proposals to develop a policy white paper: 'Blockchain Technology: Local Government Applications and Challenges'

Blockchain technology offers promising opportunities for local governments with its greater transparency, decentralization, and security. Already it is being tested in local governments around the world, including in a UK housing community with a community solar installation that seeks to give some 40 households a way to share local community energy. Australia has a pilot program to test how cities can use blockchain technology along with energy and water resources to increase efficiency and develop smart city infrastructure. Blockchain also has been applied in the municipal bond market in the United States.

This white paper aims to identify leading practices in blockchain technology that are being tested or may be applied to improve local government services, address financial efficiencies and accessibility, and achieve community goals. It also will describe the risks associated with the new technology and how they may be addressed.

ICMA is the premier local government leadership and management organization with 12,000 members who serve as appointed local government executives. Its mission is to create excellence in local governance by advocating and developing the professional management of local government worldwide. GFOA represents over 19,000 public finance officials, serving as a leadership and training resource to governments across the country.

This white paper is part of an ongoing series designed to (1) explore key policy issues from a local government management perspective; (2) raise new ideas and perspectives that will influence and shape public policy discussions at the local, state, and federal levels; and (3) support federal advocacy on behalf of counties, cities and towns.

Process for Developing the White Paper: ICMA's GAPC and GFOA will supervise development of the paper by providing feedback on drafts, ensuring that key issues are addressed, and advising on management perspectives. The final paper should be no more than 15-20 pages in length and must be completed by August 15, 2016.

Budget: ICMA will pay a \$6,000 stipend to the selected author. In addition, authorship of this paper will provide national exposure on a major policy issue.

Proposal Requirements: All proposals must be submitted no later than June 29, 2018 to: Elizabeth Kellar, ICMA, ekellar@icma.org

Proposals should be no longer than two pages and should describe:

1. The overall approach the researcher will take to develop the paper and the main components/sections and outline of the paper.
2. The researcher's academic preparation and experience with the topic.
3. Why the researcher is uniquely qualified to prepare this paper and ensure that it meets ICMA goals.