Executive Director’s Corner

We are pleased to announce that funding for the OneWa program was approved and signed by Gov. Inslee on April 3. This funding gives the OneWa program what it needs to move forward with Agency Financial Reporting System (AFRS) replacement. The COVID-19 crisis serves as a prime example of the type of worst-case event that our current systems are not equipped to effectively respond to. For example, AFRS does not allow for a timely build-out of human service systems information to help those in need. Continued reliance on hard-to-maintain and inflexible systems jeopardizes the continuity of service and safety of Washingtonians.
Gov. Inslee’s support of OneWa funding underscores his recognition of the importance of replacing Washington’s current administrative systems with a modern system described in his executive order. While few could have envisioned the current state of our world, Gov. Inslee recognizes that replacing AFRS is an important activity to equip the state to respond and adapt in critical situations. Making sure the future of the Washington state economy is built on a system that allows us to be more efficient, accountable, secure and adaptable will allow Washington to be responsive in times of crisis.

Immediate next steps for OneWa is the selection of the software solution for AFRS replacement. In January and February, the OneWa team worked with stakeholders to refine and validate the business needs for the software solution and held a series of demonstrations with qualified vendors. Next OneWa worked through the state’s procurement and legal processes to make sure the state’s interests are managed throughout the selection process. This process can take time as contracts are negotiated and legal reviews are performed. We are nearing the end of this process and look forward to sharing an update with you in the next month.

The One Washington team is grateful for the support of our program given the difficult and complex position we are collectively experiencing as a state amidst COVID-19. We are fully aware and understanding of agencies priorities at this time and support them as they reprioritize COVID-19 recovery and mitigation activities. Because of this we will work hard to support agencies and will communicate often on any upcoming activities that may be required by our agencies to prepare for AFRS replacement. We will also be updating the agency initiatives and resources section of our Frequently Asked Questions and we’ve revamped our monthly talking points to provide more detail for our agency points of contacts and others to communicate OneWa information within their agencies.

Here are some additional program updates from my window:

- OFM IT kicked off the Integration Readiness project in coordination with the OneWa program. This project is a next step in gearing up for the enterprise resource planning implementation by making sure current agency system interfaces are well understood and documented to determine the future system interface needs and requirements.
- We are in the process of preparing for 2021-23 biennial budget development. In addition to providing a section in this newsletter on budget preparation, we added budget-related Frequently Asked Questions to the OneWa FAQ page. We will be hosting a series of budget workshops this summer to support and prepare agencies for their budget requests.
- The first round of Agency Readiness and Engagement meetings will conclude in May. An additional set of meetings later this spring and early summer will be conducted to share findings of the Baseline Readiness Assessment and confirm agency-specific readiness and technical results. We’re currently planning the next round of meetings so please stay tuned.
- As always, you can provide feedback or comments on our new newsletter format and content via the OneWa mailbox.

We appreciate the time and resources you have dedicated to supporting the OneWa program, whether that be contributing directly to program requests, engaging with us directly, or simply taking the time to read this newsletter.

Best,

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Governor Secures Funding for OneWa Program

Gov. Inslee signed the 2020 supplemental budget into law on Friday, April 3, allocating $20.065 million to the OneWa program. This funding will help the OneWa program begin to replace the Agency Financial Reporting System, the state’s finance system, with an Enterprise Resource Planning system. Additionally, funding will support the program to continue critical agency readiness activities to better prepare state employees for the transition to the new ERP system.

We are grateful for Gov. Inslee’s support for the OneWa program, demonstrating his recognition that the OneWa program is imperative to not only support continuity of daily operations, but also to establish the future of the state’s economy on a modern software solution rather than 40-year-old technology.

A full summary of the supplemental budget can be found [here](#).

Agency Integration Readiness Project Underway

**What is this project? Why is it important?**

In April, OFM IT and OneWa launched the integration readiness project. The goal of the project is to increase OneWa technical readiness and reduce integration complexity by defining standard integrations across the enterprise.

The team is currently working to assess agency interfaces, define common standards, build needed interfaces, and determine future needs and requirements. This work will result in an integration readiness action plan that will be communicated to agencies this summer.

Starting this work now, seeks to reduce risks and overall complexity of the ERP implementation by defining state-enterprise system integrations standards so we can begin migrating select agencies by January 1, 2021.

**What can agencies expect next?**

Once the analysis is complete and the integration readiness action plan is approved, the team will communicate next steps to agencies.

OneWa Accomplishments and Upcoming Milestones

The following section outlines the accomplishments – achieved and upcoming – for the OneWa program based on the [modernization roadmap](#).

- **Software Tool Evaluation and Selection Process:** In January and February, the OneWa team worked with stakeholders to refine and validate the business needs for the software solution and held a series of demonstrations with qualified companies. Next OneWa worked through the state’s procurement and legal processes to make sure the state’s interests are managed throughout the selection process. This process can take time as contracts are negotiated and
legal reviews are performed. We are nearing the end of this process and look forward to sharing an update with you in the next month. Learn more about the due diligence process [here](#).

- **Request for Proposal for a System Integrator:** Following the announcement of the selected software solution, OneWa will issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Systems Integrator who will oversee the implementation of the new software.

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**Biennial Budget Preparation**

OneWa has begun planning for 2021-23 biennial budget development. We anticipate working closely with agencies to determine their OneWa related needs. We’ve already published some preliminary [FAQs on budget preparation](#) to our OneWa FAQ page. Here is the quick-and-fast of things you should know:

- In June 2020, OFM Budget will release their [2021-23 budget instructions](#) for agencies, including information related to OneWa requests.
- OneWa will host a variety of budget workshops and check-ins throughout the summer to help agencies determine their OneWa related budget requests.
- All OneWa-related requests from agencies will be reviewed and refined by the OneWa program and then submitted as one consolidated OneWa decision package. In order to be good stewards of state resources and given the current economic environment, the OneWa decision package will meet program and agencies’ needs while being as concise as possible.

For additional questions, please email the OneWa mailbox or Briana Samuela.

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**Additional Resources**

The OneWa program manages [an agency resources page](#) for resources related to the business transformation and program governance. The following list represents some of the resources available on the site:

- **Wall of Success** *(updated weekly)*: Use this dashboard – created during fall 2019 – to check your agency’s status on current initiatives
- **Modernization roadmap**: Find more detail about upcoming OneWa milestones
- **List of agency points of contact** *(updated weekly)*: Learn who the Point of Contact (POC) is for your agency
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**: Find answers to common questions related to OneWa on our FAQ page. This month’s updated FAQs will answer your budget-related questions!
Have questions to ask or feedback to provide?
Questions, comments and feedback related to this newsletter’s content, structure and organization and the OneWa program broadly are welcomed at onewa@ofm.wa.gov.

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