

NEW JERSEY RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE

Mission Statement

The mission of the New Jersey Recovery Accountability Task Force is to provide for transparency and accountability in the use of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) resources in our State. Created by Governor Corzine, the Task Force will monitor the distribution of ARRA funds in New Jersey and promote the effective and efficient use of those funds.

Specifically, the Task Force will work in partnership with federal and state agencies to:

- Ensure public access to information concerning use of ARRA funds, including programmatic, financial, project, and vendor-related information, as well as criteria for project selection;
- Provide guidance to agencies receiving ARRA funds on merit-based project selection, internal controls, accounting practices, and best practices in contract management and grant administration;
- Review project-selection criteria and processes used by New Jersey government agencies receiving ARRA funds to ensure clarity and compliance with applicable standards;
- Perform a coordination role concerning ARRA-related efforts being carried out by state and local government agencies as well as relevant oversight bodies;
- Provide a means to receive and address concerns from New Jersey residents about uses of Recovery Act funds; and
- Ensure ongoing assessments of results, through agency self-analysis or reviews by State oversight entities.

The Task Force will not be involved in selecting or recommending particular projects for funding as project selection is the responsibility of the government agency implementing the particular program. The Task Force instead will provide guidance and review concerning agency use of merit-based project selection criteria to ensure clarity and compliance with applicable standards.

The Task Force is comprised of professionals with extensive backgrounds in government and government oversight. Its efforts are directed at creating a framework under which ARRA funds in New Jersey are spent transparently and effectively.