

## **TOWN OF SOUTHERN SHORES RECORD RETENTION POLICY: DOCUMENTS CREATED OR MAINTAINED PURSUANT TO THE ARP/CSLFRF AWARD**

**Retention of Records:** The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of H.R. 1319 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the “ARP/CSLFRF”) [Award Terms and Conditions](#) and the [Compliance and Reporting Guidance](#) set forth the U.S. Department of Treasury’s (the “Treasury”) record retention requirements for the ARP/CSLFRF award.

It is the policy of the Town of Southern Shores (the “Town”) to follow Treasury’s record retention requirements as it expends ARP/CSLFRF funds pursuant to the APR/CSLFRF award. Accordingly, the Town agrees to:

- Retain all financial and programmatic records related to the use and expenditure of ARP/CSLFRF funds pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF award for a period of five (5) years after all ARP/CLFRF funds have been expended or returned to Treasury, whichever is later;
- Retain records for real property and equipment acquired with ARP/CSLFRF funds for five years after final disposition;
- Ensure that the financial and programmatic records retained sufficiently evidence compliance with section 603(c) of the Social Security Act, the Treasury regulations implementing that section, and guidance issued by Treasury regarding the foregoing;
- Allow the Treasury Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office, or their authorized representatives, the right of right of timely and unrestricted access to any records for the purpose of audits or other investigations; and
- If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the 5-year period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.

**Covered Records:** For purposes of this policy, records are information, regardless of physical form or characteristics, that are created, received, or retained that evidence the Town’s expenditure of ARP/CSLFRF funds on eligible projects, programs, or activities pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF award.

Records that shall be retained pursuant to this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Financial statements and accounting records evidencing expenditures of ARP/CSLFRF funds for eligible projects, programs, or activities;

- Documentation of rational to support a particular expenditure of ARP/CSLFRF funds (e.g., expenditure constitutes a general government service);
- Documentation of administrative costs charged to the ARP/CSLFRF award;
- Procurement documents evidencing the significant history of a procurement, including, at a minimum, the rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for contract cost or price;
- Subaward agreements and documentation of subrecipient monitoring;
- Documentation evidencing compliance with the Uniform Guidance property management standards set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.310-316 and 200.329;
- Personnel and payroll records for full-time and part-time employees compensated with the ARP/CSLFRF, including time and effort reports; and
- Indirect cost rate proposals.

**Storage:** Town records must be stored in a safe, secure, and accessible manner. Wherever practicable, such records should be collected, transmitted, and stored in open and machine-readable formats.

**Departmental Responsibilities:** Any department or unit of the Town, and its employees, who are responsible for creating or maintaining the covered documents in this policy shall comply with the terms of this policy. Failure to do so may subject the Town to civil and/or criminal liability. Any employee who fails to comply with the record retention requirements set forth herein may be subject to disciplinary sanctions, including suspension or termination.

The Finance Officer is responsible for identifying the documents that the Town must or should retain and arrange for the proper storage and retrieval of records. The Finance Officer shall also ensure that all personnel subject to the terms of this policy are aware of the record retention requirements set forth herein.

**Reporting Policy Violations:** The Town is committed to enforcing this policy as it applies to all forms of records. Any employee that suspects the terms of this policy have been violated shall report the incident immediately to that employee's supervisor. If an employee is not comfortable bringing the matter up with the supervisor, the employee may bring the matter to the attention of the Town Manager. The Town prohibits any form of discipline, reprisal, intimidation, or retaliation for reporting incidents of inappropriate conduct of any kind, pursuing any record destruction claim, or cooperating in related investigations.

**Questions About the Policy:** Any questions about this policy should be referred to Bonnie Swain, Finance Officer at 252-261-2394 or [bswain@southernshores-nc.gov](mailto:bswain@southernshores-nc.gov), who is in charge of administering, enforcing, and updating this policy.