## The SAFFIRe Project Team







- Expertise in governmental and non-profit accounting, auditing, financial reporting, analytics, public administration, public policy
- Provides outreach & engagement and survey research services to states, local government and non-profits
- Manages ICMA's state chapters (IL and WI)
- Supports Continuous Auditing & Reporting Lab (CARlab)
- Extensive XBRL and reporting technology expertise with critical experience on SEC/EDGAR/UGT use case
- Collaborates with DTC, MSRB, GASB, GFOA, ICMA, AGA, AAA-GNP, audit firms and other key stakeholders

#### The SAFFIRe Vision

Provide states, local governments and non-profits with a financial reporting framework, including a **standard taxonomy** & **open repository**, which:

• Increases the efficiency, effectiveness and timeliness in preparing and consuming financial data

• Provides modern big-data analysis capabilities

• Enhances the transparency and accountability of information

# Financial Reports: Accountability Tools Used by Many Stakeholders

The U.S. has approximately 90,000 local governments of which a large portion provide financial reports to all or some combination of the following stakeholders:

- States
- MSRB (i.e., EMMA)
- Bond Rating Agencies
- Auditors
- Investors & Financial Institutions
- U.S. Census Bureau
- Professional Associations (i.e., GFOA)
- Elected Officials
- Citizens
- FAC (Single Audits, or A-133's)

### Reporting is Cumbersome, Costly & Not Timely

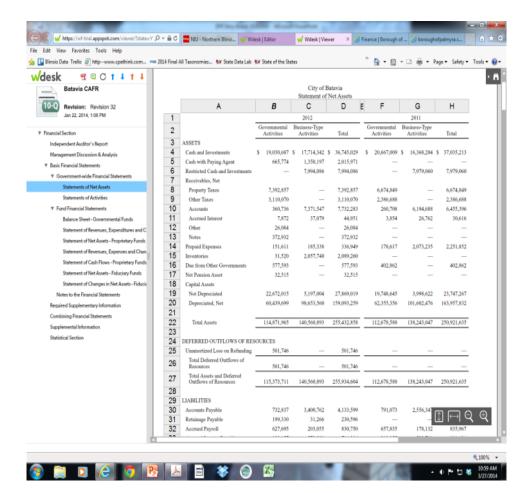
## Current Financial Reporting: Human Readable Only (PDFs) CITY OF BATAVIA, ILLNOIS

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

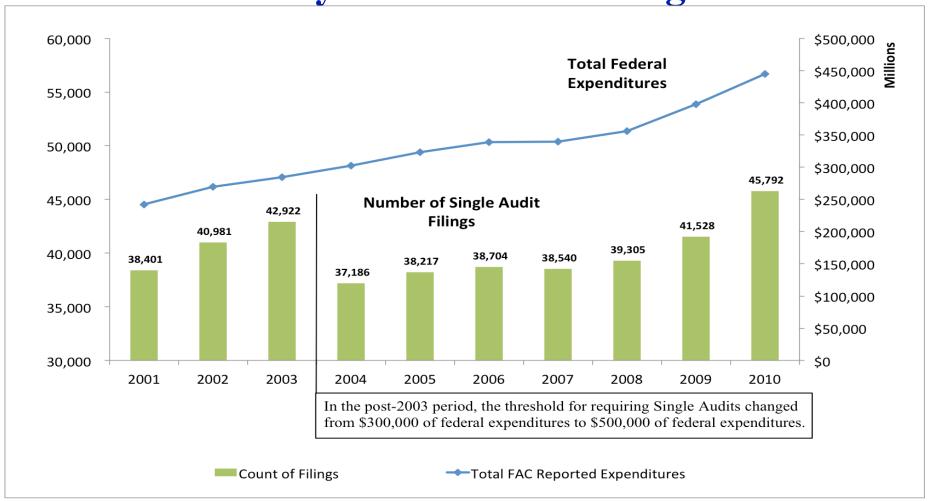
December 31, 2012

	Governmental	Business-Type	
	Activities	Activities	Total
ASSETS			
Cash and Investments	\$ 19,030,687	\$ 17,714,342	
Cash with Paying Agent	665,774	1,350,197	2,015,971
Restricted Cash and Investments	-	7,994,086	7,994,086
Receivables (Net, Where Applicable,			
of Allowances for Uncollectibles)			
Property Taxes	7,392,857		7,392,857
Other Taxes	3,110,070		3,110,070
Accounts	360,736	7,371,547	7,732,283
Accrued Interest	7,872	37,079	44,951
Other	26,084		26,084
Notes	372,932		372,932
Prepaid Expenses	151,611	185,338	336,949
Inventories	31,520	2,057,740	2,089,260
Due from Other Governments	577,593	-	577,593
Net Pension Asset	32,515	-	32,515
Capital Assets			
Not Depreciated	22,672,015	5,197,004	27,869,019
Depreciated (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	60,439,699	98,653,560	159.093,259
Total Assets	114,871,965	140,560,893	255,432,858
DEFENDED OF THE OWN OF BESOURCES			
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	F04 F14		
Unamortized Loss on Refunding	501,746		501,746
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	501,746		501,746
A COME DESCRIBED CONTROL OF DESCRIPES	301,140		301,740
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows			
of Resources	115,373,711	140.560.893	255.934.604
VA ANADIECES	410,575,711	240,700,073	227,224,004

#### Desired Financial Reporting: Human and Computer Readable



## **Accountability in the Case of Single Audits**



## More dollars dependent upon limited accountability and allocation mechanisms

Data used to compile this graph were obtained from the Federal Audit Clearinghouse

### **Accountability Measures Are Limited by PDFs**

#### **General Information**

#### **Financial Statement Findings:**

- Auditor Opinion(s)
- Going Concern
- Significant Deficiencies
- Material Weaknesses
- Material Non-compliance

#### **Federal Programs:**

- Reporting Threshold Info & Risk Assessments
- Relationships Between Audit Findings and Funding
- Federal Awards Expended
- Federal Award Findings (Compliance, Internal Controls and/or Other)

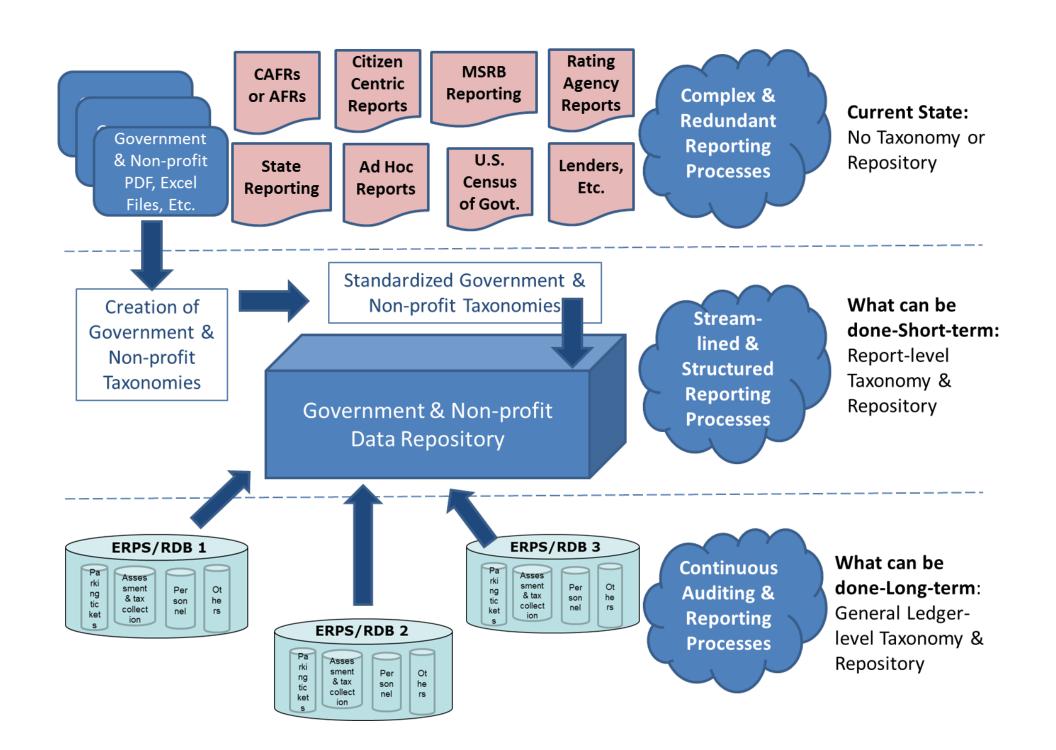
#### We Can Do Better!

#### **Provide Inputs for Grant Allocation Process**

- Who has the greatest need (i.e., liquidity, discretionary reserves, debt limits, etc.)?
- Who operates efficiently (i.e., operating cost ratios)?
- Who has the capacity (i.e., working capital)?
- Your ideas?

#### Strengthen Efforts in <u>Identifying Program Success</u>

- Which types of audit findings matter the most with regards to outcomes? Fiscal stewardship? Fraud?
- Who is using dollars wisely (achieving desired outcomes with dollars expended)?
- How do recipients compare across jurisdictions? Programs? Both?
- How will they or have they expended federal dollars (trends & forecasts)?
- Your ideas?



## **SAFFIRe Project Mission**

Collaborate with all relevant state and local government reporting stakeholders, i.e. all **consumers** and **producers** of financial information, to produce an open <u>financial reporting solution</u> that:

- is flexible, reliable, and affordable
- leverages a comprehensive, consistently designed, standard semantic vocabulary
- is easy to use and access with standards based interfaces
- offers both human readable *and* computer understandable information
- supports continuous reporting and monitoring, and;
- is semantic-oriented, guidance-based, and model-driven enabling structured-authoring and meaning-based content validation







## Striking the right balance for success

Citizens' burdens & needs

Administrators' burdens & needs

<sup>1</sup>bal·ance noun \'ba-lən(t)s\:
a state in which different things…have an equal or *proper* amount of importance

n-Webster.com

Government & Non-profit PDFs, Excel Files, Etc.

CAFRs or AFRs

State

Reporting

Citizen Centric Reports

Ad Hoc

Reports

MSRB Reporting

U.S.

Census

of Govt.

Rating Agency Reports

Lenders, Etc. Complex & Redundant Reporting Processes

Current: No Taxonomy or Repository

Government & Non-profit Taxonomies



Government & Non-profit Data Repository Streamlined & Structured Reporting Processes

Short-term: Report-based Taxonomy & Repository

ERPS / RDB

Parking tlokets

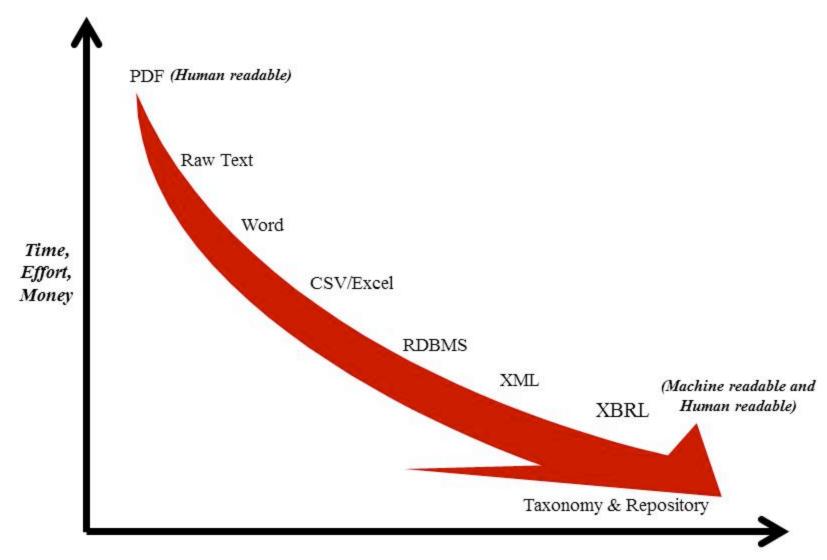
Assessment & tax collection

Personnel

Oth ers

Continuous
Auditing &
Reporting
Processes

Long-term: General Ledger-based Taxonomy & Repository



Reasoning Capability, Metadata, Context & Knowledge Representation