

The Power of Partnering

IRS Rolls Out New Program Enlisting Partnerships with City and County Agencies

With the national rollout of its new Municipal Agency Partnering Program (MAPP), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is expanding the Office of Governmental Liaison's (GL) mission of partnering to city and county agencies. MAPP is similar to GL's Fed/State and Fed/Fed programs, which focus on state and federal agencies, respectively.

After piloting the program for more than two years, GL's MAPP team identified five types of agencies, which may provide cities and counties with the most potential for establishing new partnering relationships with the IRS:

- Tax/revenue/finance departments
- Assessors/property tax collectors
- Controller's offices
- Vendor/contractor regulatory agencies
- Business licensing agencies

The IRS already has relationships with 14 large municipalities. The team explored new opportunities to exchange data with these agencies. The team also explored the benefits of partnering with other agencies that may be willing to participate in mutually beneficial outreach and compliance activities with IRS.

Two key objectives of MAPP are to pursue and share information in a complimentary way that will assist in increasing federal tax compliance, as well as to provide information and assistance that will benefit local governmental agencies and improve service to the public.

County and city agencies that partner with the IRS stand to benefit from their involvement with MAPP, such as participation and/or involvement in IRS outreach programs, such as EITC Outreach/Awareness Day and ID theft guidance; access to IRS statistical information and a variety of web links to [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) sites with beneficial information for agencies and their customers; possible participation in IRS training, as well as possible participation in various IRS programs; for example, Mod IEIN/One Stop, Municipal Tax Levy Program, TIN Matching, and Treasury Offset Program.

Examples of ongoing projects that MAPP supports include:

- Small Business/Self-Employed Gift tax project with county recorders - to obtain local real estate conveyance records for Estate and Gift Tax to identify Form 709 non-filers
- Municipal Income Tax Levy Program - to establish an automated levy program for municipal income tax refunds
- State Audit Report Program - to make federal adjustments, city agencies will provide copies of their income tax audit reports to IRS
- Municipal vendor levy project - to verify that municipal government contractors are filing and paying federal taxes

- Exempt organization issues – to get information on tax-exempt organizations engaging in questionable/abusive or prohibited activities

With MAPP's national expansion, GL now has a complete portfolio of joint tax relationships at all levels of government. GL programs like MAPP augment IRS's tax compliance systems by helping IRS leverage compliance resources, thereby helping to reduce the tax gap.

To learn more about participating in MAPP, please e-mail sbse.hq.gl@irs.gov or go to [IRS.gov](http://www.irs.gov) (<http://www.irs.gov/govt/liaisons/article/0,,id=239914,00.html>).