TO: All Political Subdivisions

FROM: James A. Johnson, Director of Data Analysis

RE: Gateway Debt Management

DATE: January 27, 2020

For the last several years, the Department of Local Government Finance (“Department”) has utilized Gateway Debt Management to fulfill debt reporting requirements under IC 5-1-18-9(b).

Under IC 5-1-18, the following debts must be reported in Gateway Debt Management:

- All bond issuances.
- All loans, with the exception of temporary loans payable from current revenues.
- Lease rentals of real property (buildings and other permanent structures).
- Any piece of equipment that is under a lease-to-own arrangement. Political subdivisions are not required to report short-term leases of equipment such as copiers and vehicles.
- Any debts incurred by municipal utilities or redevelopment commissions that must be reported by the establishing city, county, or town.

In 2020, the Department will again require units to complete an annual review and verify the accuracy of the debt information in Gateway. All political subdivisions are required to complete this report no later than February 28, 2020.

To fulfill this requirement, local officials should: (1) login to Gateway; (2) enter the “Debt Management” application; (3) review the debt reports previously submitted; and (4) sign the affirmation statement indicating that all debt information is current and correct. Any missing or incomplete debt reports must be submitted before signing the affirmation statement. Additionally, any submitted debt reports with errors must first be unlocked, corrected, and resubmitted before the affirmation statement can be signed.

Debt reports can be unlocked by contacting the Department at gateway@dlgf.in.gov. Any reports for debts that have been fully refinanced or repaid must be marked as “Retired” prior to signing the affirmation statement. If the unit has no debt outstanding, local officials must still sign the affirmation statement to indicate their unit of government has no outstanding debt.

The Department would also remind local officials that units are required under IC 5-1-18-6 to report any new debt, as it is incurred. Units must complete a report in Gateway Debt Management no later than one (1) month after the date on which the bonds are issued, the loan is closed, or the lease is executed.
In addition, for new debt issuances after January 1, 2013, certain supporting documentation must also be uploaded under the “File Upload” section of Gateway Debt Management. Indiana Code 5-1-18-7 requires that a copy of the official statement and bond covenants, if any, must be supplied with the supporting documentation.

Full instructions on completing a debt report and uploading supporting documentation in Gateway Debt Management can be found on the Gateway Help page.

If you need help accessing or utilizing Gateway Debt Management, or if you have any questions concerning this memorandum, please contact the Gateway support team at Gateway@dlgf.in.gov or (317) 234-4480.