## NFMA RELEASES DRAFT RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES IN DISCLOSURE FOR STATE REVOLVING FUND REVENUE BONDS

## For Immediate Release

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The National Federation of Municipal Analysts (NFMA) announced today that it has released the draft Recommended Best Practices in Disclosure for State Revolving Fund Revenue Bonds (RBP) for public comment through September 30, 2023. The ten major categories of disclosure identified in this RBP contain specific items the NFMA considers to be material in assessing credit risk for State Revolving Funds (SRFs), including Clean Water SRFs and Drinking Water SRFs managed at the federal level by the Environmental Protection Agency. The guidelines described in the RBP are applicable to debt secured by revenue generated from the SRFs, with these revenues typically consisting of loan repayments or other similar debt obligations payable from a pool of specified local governmental borrowers and specifically pledged under an indenture or resolution to related bondholders.

This is the first time the NFMA has elected to address SRFs in a Recommended Best Practices in Disclosure paper. According to Disclosure Committee Chair, Angela Kukoda, "SRFs were selected because they have truly become a critical financing vehicle for improving the quality of our nation's water infrastructure and public health".

The NFMA enlists committees consisting of analysts and other municipal industry stakeholders, including representatives of issuers, to participate in the writing of its RBPs and White Papers. All such papers, including the RPB released today, are subject to revision based on comments received during the public comment period. "Upholding high standards for transparency and making sure investors have access to the information they need to assess credit risk will help SRFs continue financing essential clean water and safe drinking water projects nationwide," said Mark Capell, NFMA Chair, continuing, "Everyone involved in developing this draft understood its importance to communities nationwide. We appreciate their work and look forward to receiving additional feedback during the comment period that will help make it even more effective."

The NFMA has written RBPs and white papers on approximately 30 different sectors and topics in the municipal bond market. To view all of the NFMA's RBPs and white papers, go to <u>www.nfma.org</u>, and look under "Resources" for Best Practices in Disclosure and Position Statements.

Established in 1983, the NFMA is an organization of approximately 1,200 members, primarily research analysts, who evaluate credit and other associated risks in the municipal market. These individuals represent, among others, mutual funds, insurance companies, broker/dealers, bond insurers, rating agencies, and financial advisory firms.

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