

The Council's Grant Renewal

Planning for our next grant while considering the topic of “Council and Process Efficiencies”

What are we trying to do?

The Regional Fishery Management Councils operate under a grant awarded by NOAA

- 2024 is the last year of our current grant
- A proposal for the next grant period, beginning in 2025, is due in 2024

At the same time, we are considering the topic of “Council Efficiencies”

- This topic has raised certain questions and ideas about Council operations and process, and possible refinements thereof
- This topic may have substantial budget impacts and help define what the Council needs in terms of meetings, travel, equipment, and more

It makes sense to bring these two topics together into one discussion

- The task at this meeting is to define how to do so

A typical grant renewal process

- A typical renewal process is shown in the next slide
- Staff propose that we largely maintain this process and timeline

What would the additional staff analysis entail?

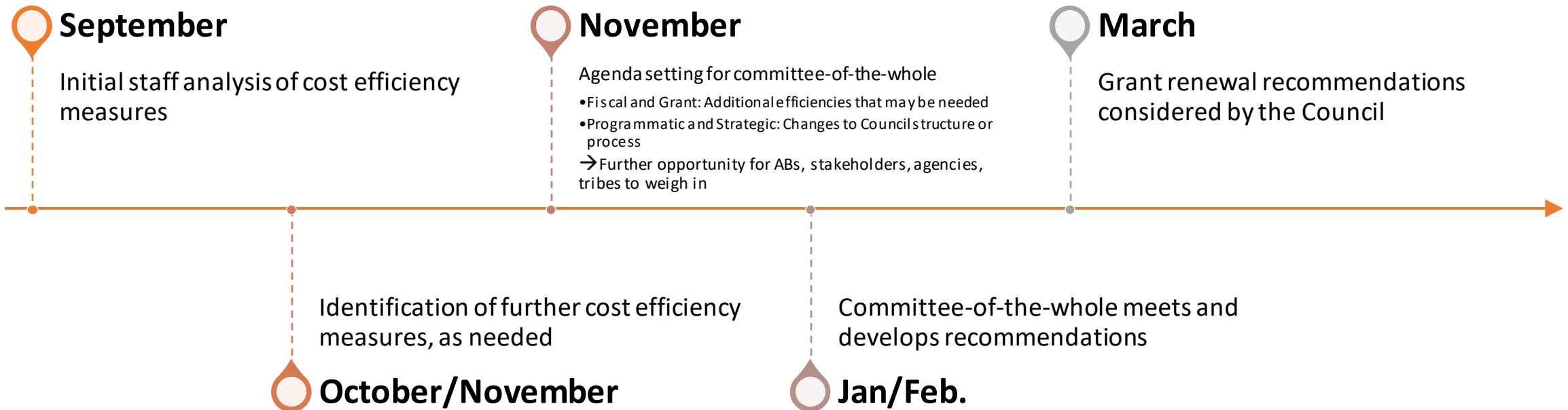
Question 1: how large of a budget deficit do we need to close?

- This question would be approached with staff analysis that identifies “low hanging fruit” expense reductions.
- These are things that would not be expected to visibly affect the function of the Council process.
- After the low-hanging fruit expense reductions have been identified, any remaining deficit would be the topic of Council consideration—presumably because these matters would more noticeably affect the Council

Question 2: what changes can be made to make up the remaining deficit?

- Depending on the answer to Question 1, no/few/many changes may be needed to achieve further deficit reductions
- Staff are in a position to identify factors that can be expected to meet necessary reductions

From staff analysis to committee-of-the-whole



Additional thoughts

- Much of the process as described is organized around fiscal questions
- This is not intended to preclude questions related to Council strategy, form, or function
 - Such questions can be considered as part of, or beyond the time of the grant renewal process

Questions for consideration

- Do you have further/different suggestions about the proposed process (timeline, steps, roles)?
- Do you have suggestions regarding dates for a committee-of-the-whole (envisioned as a two-day meeting):
 - Week of February 5th
 - Week of January 29th
 - Week of January 16t
 - Week of January 1st