

# CENSUS SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP GUIDELINES

## Construction Modernization

### Purpose

Increasing survey costs, falling response rates, and the demand for more timely and granular measures from data users require the evolution of the way in which we do business. The Construction Modernization project seeks to reengineer the measurement approach to the traditional construction surveys by utilizing alternative data sources, developing modeling techniques, and evaluating the use of satellite technology. These approaches would streamline and simplify data collection and processing efforts and result in much needed advancements in the quality, content, and timeliness of current and new data products.

### Working Group Focus

With the modernization of the Construction Indicator programs, the Census Bureau wants to gauge the success of this effort along the following criteria:

- Develop new data products, including products on repairs and improvements
- Develop new methodologies
- Reduce burden to respondents
- Reduce the need for field collection
- Remain cost neutral across the construction programs
- Protect the core value of the indicator and prevent reconstruction
- Consider demographic and economic measures due to sector shocks such as weather events and financial crisis

### Working Group Meetings and Members

- Working Group meetings will be held once a month
- Membership in the Working Group will consist of 2-5 Scientific Advisory Committee (CSAC) members and one will be designated as the Working Group Lead

### Working Group Deliverables

- A work plan that details the Working Group's activities
- Assistance with external communication and the impact to the programs
- Findings and reports

## CSAC Members

- Jeff Lower (Convener)
- Allison Plyer
- Andrew Samwick
- Krishnar Rao

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## Census Bureau Staffing/Subject Matter Experts

- Stephanie Studds, Chief of Economic Indicators Division
- Erica Filipek, Assistant Division Chief of Construction Indicator Programs, Economic Indicators Division
- William “Bill” Abriatis, Branch Chief, Residential Construction