

STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT PIPELINE Your source for state and local government news and contracting opportunities

hard-to-come-by information, budget data, planning documents and historical records. The reality is that sales teams with the best information and data always

Gaining 'competitive advantage' in contracting



have a competitive advantage when it comes to capturing government contracts. So, the question becomes...what is the best way for sales teams to get this kind of valuable information? There are many ways and numerous strategies for information gathering but sometimes the best way is to formally ask for it. The federal government has provided a powerful tool for acquiring intelligence not readily available. It's called the U.S. Freedom of

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Follow the money State recovery Web sites ARRA - Text of the Act Procurement and advocacy services

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May 6, 2009

Civil works projects get \$4.6 million in ARRA funds

"In addition to the opportunity to help the nation and her citizens recover from this time of economic hardship," said John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, "the Corps will be able to use these funds to accomplish work on water resources projects that will benefit the nation for years to come."

The projects include nearly 180 construction projects, nearly 900 operation and maintenance projects, 45 Mississippi River and tributaries projects, 67 investigations projects, and nine projects under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). No project on the lists is a new start.

The Corps made its allocation of Recovery Act construction funds based on the economic and environmental return of its ongoing projects. All of the projects had to meet congressional critera: be obligated and executed quickly; result in high, immediate employment; have little schedule risk; be executed by contract or direct hire of

64,000 indirect jobs in firms supplying goods and services for the construction as well as the businesses that

temporary labor; and complete a project phase, a project, an element, or provide a useful service that does not The myriad of projects is spread throughout all areas of the country.

To view the projects list, click **HERE** and look under RECENT REPORTS. \$93M in renewable energy projects get funding boost

Money to support wind energy projects, renewable energy laboratory Renewable energy projects are getting a boost from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Energy Secretary Steven Chu recently announced that \$93 million in the federal economic stimulus funds will be used to support wind energy projects. Additionally, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory will receive more than \$100 million in ARRA funds.

of more "green" jobs and increased renewable energy generation.

With the Obama administration seeking to generate 10 percent of the nation's electricity from renewable sources by 2012, funding for these projects will "advance wind technology so that it can reliably supply a substantial portion of our nation's electricity," said Chu. The announced funding includes \$45 million for wind turbine drivetrain research and development testing, \$14

Recovery Web site won't show contracts until October Officials say lack of data storage space will also cause problems State and local governments aren't the only ones dealing with not having ample technological means for

At a recent congressional hearing, officials said details on grants and contracts on the federal site might not be available until October, and Earl Devaney, chair of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, said having the spending data then will be a formidable task. There also has been concern expressed because the transparency and spending rules only specify that the first two phases of spending be reported. Thus, if the stimulus funds go to states and then are passed on to local governments, the contractors who contract with the

local governments will not have to be listed. In the meantime, federal government contracting information including stimulus funding - is still being made available on the Federal Procurement Data System's Web site.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory will receive \$68 million for a research support facility, \$92 million

for renewable energy and site infrastructure and \$13.5 million for upgrades to the Integrated Biorefinery

Innovative business solutions being offered With billions of federal dollars headed to local governments throughout the country, several large technology companies are looking at innovative financial solutions to ensure the funds do indeed stimulate the economy. One major technology company is making \$2 billion in financing available for technology companies to launch

technology projects now that are expected to get American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding in the future. Such public-private partnerships include projects like health information and smart grid technology. A major computer hardware company has set up an Economic Stimulus Learning Center aimed at educating the public regarding the stimulus bill. Another company is offering a new computing solution geared toward helping entities that receive funds track and manage the funds while also meeting transparency requirements. One business law firm has published a guide to federal clean energy funding from the ARRA. The guide is said to review the various programs and sources of funding for clean energy companies and projects - in wind, solar, biofuels, smart grid, transmission, green building, energy efficiency and more. Another major technology

With \$500 million in grants about to become available for training workers to participate in the "greening" of America, Washington, D.C., may be behind the curve. A large number of under-skilled workers populate the

and public-sector construction projects and job training. The funds come from county borrowing and address

lawmakers requested \$103 million of economic stimulus funding for the Houston and Galveston ports. What they got was \$124 million, \$20 million more than they sought. Of that figure, \$99 million will go to the Port of Houston and the remaining \$25 million will go to the Port of Galveston. The money is expected to be used for projects that include dredging, port operations, maintenance, rehabilitation of facilities and marsh restoration.

construction projects, open space purchasing and local development, facilities upgrades, development

Texas ports get more money than they asked for Rarely do you get more from the federal government than you asked for, but it happened in Texas. Texas

planning and job training.

D.C. facing lack of skilled workers

The fate of the state's automakers in Michigan is playing a major role in an expected \$1.3 billion budget deficit. State lawmakers are anticipating that most of the shortfall will be filled with federal economic stimulus money, but the state also is anticipating having to trim the budget by hundreds of millions of dollars. Officials also are having to be careful where they cut, as some major recipients of budget funds, such as education and Medicaid, would be cut at the risk of losing stimulus funds. With \$2.5 billion coming to the state in stimulus

development team visiting officials in Washington to seek help. State government officials as yet are unclear whether any of the stimulus money can be used for administrative staff or for upgrading information systems so they can deal with the large sums of federal money. Maybe we don't need those machine guns after all The Harris County (Texas) sheriff is not likely to get his machine guns from ARRA funding after all, and a helicopter program proposal has been scaled back. The sheriff recently laid out his plans for spending \$7 million in ARRA funding, which included machine guns, money for computer systems to track inmates and jailers and a proposed \$6.6 million to lease, equip, fuel and staff a helicopter to assist law enforcement units on the ground. The machine guns are out and the helicopter proposal has been cut back to spending only \$1.7 million to lease a helicopter. The proposed \$2.5 million tracking system, however, made the initial cut. Other proposals include a \$1.7 million electronic record system for inmates and the remainder of the money would be

requirements of the federal government. So Colorado officials are going to the top - with their economic

Alaska has accepted more than \$929 million in federal stimulus money, despite Gov. Sarah Palin's early opposition to some of the funding saying it would only increase the nation's debt. The legislature chose to override her opposition. Among the funding rejected was \$28.6 million for energy conservation because the governor said it would have caused the state to have to adopt new energy efficiency standards. However, \$13 million in recovery funding was accepted for the Fairbanks school district. **Colorado's** National Renewable Energy Laboratory will see at least \$110 million from the federal economic stimulus package. The laboratory focuses on research into renewable and alternative energy technologies, one

than \$550,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds will be used to replace the wastewater system in the town of Hillsville. The funds will be administered by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. And in Alleghany County, \$10 million in recovery funding will help the county build a

youth through a program that works with both education and business representatives to find jobs for residents ages 16-24. Massachusetts, which will receive some \$8.7 billion in federal recovery funds, plans to use some of those funds for \$114 million in projects that will improve the Silver Line services and speed traffic on the busiest bus corridor in Boston. Silver Line service will be added from Dudley to S. Station. Another existing bus route will be replaced by a high-speed bus route with priority routing through stop lights.

Delaware's Wilmington station, the 11th busiest Amtrak system in the country, will use its \$20 million in

economic stimulus funding to restore the building's exterior, add new concrete curbing and make the building compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act. The system will receive \$1 billion per year for five years.

Pennsylvania's Fox Chase Cancer Center will benefit from more than \$200,000 in American Recovery and

looking forward to restoration of the Everglades from approximately \$96 million in federal economic stimulus money. The funds are part of a larger amount of federal money coming to the state - some \$250 million - to be

California is finding that even some small government entities can apply for and receive stimulus funds. Los Gatos, whose population is approximately 30,000, was awarded \$529,000 for street improvements. The project

officials plan to use the \$20.5 million in federal recovery funds it will receive to find jobs for more than 16,500

includes a new traffic light and improved left turn lanes on one roadway and sidewalks and bike lanes on another. Construction should begin in June. The big cities are also benefiting. In the city of Los Angeles,

used for civil works projects, including \$6 million to shore up a dike around Lake Okeechobee.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. Hazardous fuels activities include reducing the volume of hazardous fuels on federal forests and grasslands and on lands owned by states, local governments, private organizations and individual land owners. through financial assistance and partnership agreements. Ecosystem improvement activities are designed to improve and protect forest health, include thinning, removal of competing vegetation, planting native species and constructing new stream channels and ponds. For a list of the hazardous fuels and ecosystem restoration projects, click **HERE** and look under RECENT REPORTS.

To assist with efforts to reduce energy consumption and thus the nation's dependence on foreign countries for

address the climate crisis - while creating millions of new jobs that can't be outsourced," said Energy Secretary

Saving or creating jobs is the goal of the more than \$424 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding recently announced for some 20 states, territories and the District of Columbia. The ultimate goal, of course, is public safety, but these grants also meet one of the priority needs of law enforcement nationwide -

The funds can be used for such items as support for drug and grant task force activities, expansion of domestic violence shelter staffs, funding for community crime prevention and treatment programs, equipment purchases,

crime victim and witness programs and more. The funds are part of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. For application information, click <u>HERE</u>. To view planning summaries by

More than 650 Bureau of Land Management projects throughout the country will share \$305 million from the federal economic stimulus bill. The projects are intended to restore landscapes and habitat, boost renewable

fuel, nearly \$800 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding has been announced to accelerate biofuels research and commercialization. The funds will also be used for commercial-scale

"Developing the next generation of biofuels is key to our effort to end our dependence on foreign oil and

quantity, healthy forests that provide clean air, and recreation opportunities while reducing wildfire risks," said

"These projects provide benefits to current and future generations, including improved water quality and

More than 100 hazardous fuels reduction and ecosystem improvement projects funded by the federal economic stimulus bill will share \$224 million in funding. All of the projects are located on forest lands in more than 26

energy efficiency improvements on bureau properties. For more information about these and other funding opportunities, contact Reagan Weil or Richard Hartmann at 512-531-3900. Local, state governments could benefit from proposal Legislation would allow local governments to use GSA award schedules Legislation expected to be filed soon in the U.S. House would, if passed, allow state and local governments to use American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to purchase products and services through the General Service Administration's (GSA) multiple award schedules. Thus, local entities would be able to purchase the

same goods products and services that federal agencies buy from contractors. The cooperative purchasing allowed through GSA would be a boon for both local government entities as well as contractors, who could cast a wider net for purchasers. There are already some GSA schedule that allow non-federal entities to purchase off them, such as for law enforcement, firefighting and security products and for IT equipment. At the federal level, GSA officials say they have already identified \$40 billion to \$50 billion in funding appropriated to federal

agencies for which contract vehicles such as GSA schedules can be used. That amount could increase

Recipients include the University of Connecticut, Michigan Technological University, the University of Michigan,

Residents of New Jersey next month will be witness to the nation's biggest mass transit construction project in recent years when an \$8.7 billion project to build rail tunnels under the Hudson River to link New Jersey to Manhattan. The project, which will be worked round-the-clock, is expected to employ thousands. The project, which officials say will be completed in 2017, is aimed at easing the commute for New Jersey drivers and

encouraging drivers to use trains instead of motor vehicles. In addition to creating construction jobs, the project also is expected to jump start investment in Manhattan, creating an additional 44,000 jobs. The New Jersey Port Authority has contributed \$3 billion to the project, the New Jersey Transit has added \$1.5 billion and \$1.25 million is expected from New Jersey toll funds. The federal government will sweeten the pot with \$3 billion in

significantly if the program were opened up to local government entities as well.

Michigan State University, the University of Houston and the University of Wisconsin.

Six universities receive \$13M from DOE for projects

Huge mass transit project in Jersey to employ thousands

DOE offers online course on school energy savings

All 50 states have own recovery Web sites

and Senate and signed by President Barack Obama, HERE.

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United States economy. The ARRA is designed to create or save millions of jobs and to address pressing needs throughout the country, from education to infrastructure. To view the bill as passed by the U.S. House

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enacted federal stimulus package. Click here for procurement consulting and advocacy services

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Construction, operation/maintenance projects dominate activities Civil works projects totaling \$4.6 million were recently released by the U.S. Corps of Engineers. The projects will be funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Corps officials say they intend to put citizens to work on the projects quickly throughout the nation while at the same time improving the country's water resource projects over the long term. The Corps list of recovery projects is expected to create or maintain more than 57,000 direct construction industry jobs and more than

require additional funding.

One of the goals of the economic stimulus program is to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy resources to decrease the nation's dependence on foreign oil. This \$93 million infusion of funds into the wind energy industry will help continue the development of this renewable energy source. The funds will leverage the Department of Energy's national laboratories, universities and the private sector to help improve reliability and overcome technical challenges for the wind industry. The outcome will be creation

support them.

million for technology improvement, \$24 million for wind power research and development and \$10 million for the National Wind Technology Center. Some of the goals of the projects include producing dependable and effective hardware for utility scale wind turbines; improve the quality and use of lighter weight, advanced materials for turbine blades, towers and other components; and provide for developing up to three consortia between universities and industry to focus on

wind energy challenges.

Research Facility.

keeping up with the transparency requirements regarding monitoring and reporting how their federal stimulus funds are being spent. The federal government's recovery Web site, www.recovery.gov, faces lack of data storage space to provide all of the information being sought.

Each of the states, too, has a Web site dedicated to the federal stimulus funding, but the depth and breadth of the information on each varies. Stimulus news briefs

area, making the district's ability to compete for this grant funding a negative. To win a grant, municipalities must be able to demonstrate that they can train adults quickly and put them on the early-funded shovel-ready projects. Much of the money has to be expended within 24 months, and some D.C. officials fear that is not enough time to train workers and to get programs started. Some \$9.6 million has already been received for green job training as part of the federal stimulus package, but competition for the additional \$500 million will be stiff, and some in D.C. do not think a workforce can be trained in time. Pennsylvania county creates its own stimulus Montgomery County in Philadelphia is creating its own economic stimulus, as officials there prepare to spend \$20 million of their own funds over the next year. If all goes as planned, the local stimulus plan would mean \$105 million in county-issued grants and loans over the next seven years, with a goal of increasing both private

Michigan likely to patch budget with ARRA funds States may seek funds to monitor stimulus dollars Like many other states, Colorado is finding keeping up with the federal stimulus money headed its way to be a headache. Colorado officials say their nearly 20-year-old database system is too outdated to monitor the billions of dollars coming into the state and that more administrative staff is needed to meet the monitoring

dedicated for new patrol cars, buses for transporting inmates and equipment and training for officers. No final word yet on exactly how the funds will be spent. What the states are doing **Virginia's** Carroll County will use a U.S. Department of Agriculture \$1.2 million grant and a low-interest federal loan of \$5 million to construct a new regional water system to serve more than 300 homes and businesses in a new development in the county and to strengthen the water supply for the entire county water system. More

of the cornerstones of the recovery package. The lab garners \$100 million from the ARRA and an additional \$10 million for the lab's National Wind Technology Center near Boulder. Florida will look to ARRA funding for youth job programs whose goal is to create more than 2,500 jobs in the Tampa Bay area for adults up to 24 years old. The state's 24 regional workforce boards each will fund summer jobs from the \$43 million in stimulus funds being made available. Among the recipients: Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance - \$2.5 million, WorkNet Pinellas - \$1.1 million, Pasco Hernando Workforce Board - \$986,761, Polk County Workforce Development Board - \$1.3 million; Suncoast Workforce Board - \$1 million. The state also is

Reinvestment Act funds to be used for medical research. The center, located in Philadelphia, intends to use the money to examine cancer symptoms and provide caregivers with information on the types and severity of these symptoms.

and hire school liaison officers.

biorefinery demonstration projects.

creating and retaining jobs.

Money distributed to reduce hazardous fuels

Stimulus funding will help accelerate biofuels research

Follow the money

states and territories.

Steven Chu said. The U.S Department of Energy's (DoE) Biomass Program will use its national laboratories, universities and the private sector to help improve biofuels reliability and overcome key technical challenges, with the goal of creating third-generation biofuels like green gasoline, diesel and jet fuels. The funding represents both new funding from the ARRA as well as money from existing projects. For more information on the four main areas across which the funds will be spread, click HERE and look under RECENT REPORTS. \$424 million in DOJ grants will assist local law enforcement

Six cost-shared University Advanced Combustion and Emissions Controls research and development projects will share in \$13 million in U.S. Department of Energy funding. The research projects will contribute to the development of high efficiency internal combustion engines with the goals of improving fuel economies by 20-40% in light-duty vehicles and attaining 55% brake thermal efficiency in heavy-duty engine systems. The projects were selected for award negotiation and will be cost shared at a minimum of 20%. Funding beyond 2009 is subject to annual appropriations.

Other national news

financial support.

Calendar of Events

and the amount of ARRA funds allocated. For links to each of the state and District of Columbia recovery Web sites, <u>HERE</u>.

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company is offering software to help government agencies track funding projects.

funds, lawmakers are being careful not to take too big a chunk of those funds for this year, which would leave an even bigger budget deficit next budget year.

new wastewater treatment plant near the Jackson River.

Texas will see more than \$600 million in federal stimulus dollars to build a new hospital and behavioral health center at Fort Hood, the world's largest Army post. This comes as Fort Hood is in the throes of more than \$1 billion in projects from infrastructure to housing. **Nevada** plans to use \$26.4 million in Bureau of Land Management stimulus funds for nearly four dozen projects that range from renewable energy investments to habitat restoration, infrastructure development and capital improvements. Minnesota's Richfield Police Department will purchase night-vision binoculars, drug-detection dogs and a SWAT van from the more than \$171,000 the department received in ARRA funding. Sixteen other cities in the same county will share in the \$5.5 million coming to that county. They plan to make purchases such as

computer hardware and handguns and also plan to use some of the money to help pay overtime for officers

The funding includes \$41 million for development and transmission of renewable energy on public lands, \$100 million for projects that protect treasured landscapes (habitat restoration, cleanup of abandoned mines, construct and repair recreational trails, repair and restore non-motorized trails, hire Youth Corps members for trail maintenance jobs and construct safety shelter on national trails) and construction, maintenance and

energy development on public lands and create jobs.

state for these funds, click HERE and look under RECENT REPORTS.

650 Bureau of Land Management projects approved for funding

savings over the baseline standard in building projects. The 90-minute presentation is followed by a 30-minute question and answer session. For more information, click <u>HERE</u>. Don't miss out on another issue!

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The U.S. Department of Energy is offering a free, two-hour Web-based training course to help building

The course is offered through DOE's EnergySmart Schools program. The course, available at the user's convenience, includes a recorded Webinar with recommendations on how to achieve 30 percent energy

professional implement the recommendations in the Advanced Energy Design Guide for K-12 school buildings.

Many of our subscribers forward this newsletter to co-workers and associates. If you are not a subscriber, but

All 50 of the states and the District of Columbia now have their own "recovery" sites where citizens can track

accountability and transparency in how the funds are spent and their Web sites show the projects being funded

where ARRA dollars are being spent in their respective states. The states are charged with ensuring

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