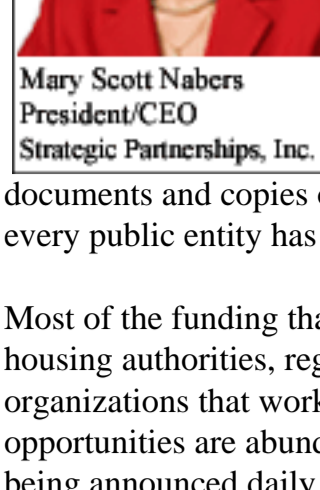




What's happening with stimulus funds now?



Mary Scott Nabers, President/CEO of Strategic Partnerships, Inc.

Stimulus funds are flowing quickly now and almost every community throughout the country has felt the impact.

Most of the federal stimulus money will end up in the thousands of regions throughout the country so government contractors are advised to make inquiries in the various states to ask about end-users, planning documents and copies of grant applications.

Most of the funding that is currently flowing is headed to school districts, city housing authorities, regional health facilities, public safety departments and to organizations that work in the area of energy.

(MORE)

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Strategic Partnerships, Inc. provides opportunity identification for all 50 states. For more information, click here.

Broadband requests total seven times what's available

More than 2,200 applications received for Recovery Act funding

The good news - nearly 2,200 applications have been received seeking \$28 billion in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to expand broadband service throughout the country.

California took the lead in its requests, with nearly 180 applications from government, tribal and nonprofit agencies and private sector for-profit businesses.

A telephone company in Chatham, Michigan, has applied for an \$8.6 million grant to bring high-speed DSL broadband service to remote, unserved households within its rural service territory.

Not all applications were for millions of dollars. The Housing Authority of Rock Island, Illinois, is seeking \$176,000 to expand its Neighborhood Network Center sites to include better educational and employment opportunities for residents of its four low-income public housing sites.

The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) are responsible for administering the funding in grants and loans.

To view the complete listing and description of projects for which applications for funding were received, click HERE.

For information about these and other funding opportunities, contact Reagan Weil or Richard Hartmann at 512-531-3900.

Airports get \$35.4 million for security technologies

Major portion of funding for screening units for facilities across country

Three airport security projects will share \$35.4 million in Recovery Act funding being administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City has been awarded \$4.1 million for a closed-circuit television system to provide enhanced surveillance capabilities throughout the airport.

This recent announcement means that DHS has obligated more than 30 percent of its Recovery Act funding to date and expects to have more than 50 percent obligated by the end of this month.

Upgrades could save up to \$1 million on utility bills

'Retrofit Ramp-Up' program funded by \$450 million in Recovery Act funds

Energy upgrades expected to save up to \$100 million each year in utility bills for residences and businesses will be funded by a \$450 million energy upgrade program administered by the U.S. Department of Energy.

A request for information (RFI) has been issued for competitively selected local energy efficiency projects. It targets community-scale retrofit projects that will have a long-term impact on energy use and provide a national model.

The first part of the funding solicitation targets programs that will include building energy retrofits for entire neighborhoods, including residential, commercial and public buildings.

It is hoped that the programs will increase energy efficiencies for neighborhoods, towns and states that can be replicated nationwide.

Energy efficiency, conservation projects to be funded

Twenty-two states to share \$354 million in Recovery Act funding

Millions of dollars from the U.S. Department of Energy have been awarded to 22 states to finance energy efficiency and conservation projects from Recovery Act funding.

One of the goals of the Recovery Act is to increase the amount of energy created and consumed from renewable sources. The funds are expected to promote cheap, clean, reliable energy while helping meet long-term clean energy and climate goals.

Projects funded include development of an energy efficiency and conservation strategy, energy efficiency audits and retrofits, transportation programs, creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements, development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections and installation of renewable energy technologies on municipal buildings.

California received the largest award with \$49.6 million. California will offer communities a number of pre-designed energy efficiency measures and technologies they can purchase.

Forest restoration projects throughout the country will collectively receive \$89 million from Recovery Act money to fund projects related to forest problems caused by fire, insects, invasive species and disease.

The 78 projects to receive money administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture were submitted by 20 different states and the District of Columbia and are on federal, state and private forest and rangelands that have been damaged by fires, insects and the outbreak of diseases.

Among the projects will be efforts to restore forest health by reducing insect and disease problems. That can include everything from thinning smaller trees and controlling spread of pests that could cause massive tree deaths.

The money also will provide for technical and financial assistance for lands owned by states, local governments, private organizations and individuals.

27 community facilities awarded total of \$17.5 million

USDA announces variety of projects to benefit from ARRA funding

Community facilities such as libraries, hospitals and abused children's centers are among those that will benefit from \$17.5 million in Recovery Act funds administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In Minnesota, a \$200,000 loan and \$44,000 grant went to the City of Darfur, a \$260,000 loan and \$75,000 grant went to the City of Lewisville, the City of Pipestone was awarded a \$3 million loan, the Krain Township was awarded a \$260,000 loan and the City of Floodwood earned a \$209,000 loan and \$134,000 grant.

In Iowa, the Pocahontas Community Hospital will get a \$75,900 loan to purchase a digital mammography machine and additional equipment. Decatur County earned a \$95,000 grant, the City of Edgewood was awarded a \$100,000 grant and the Decatur County Hospital was awarded an \$89,870 grant.

In addition to the \$17.5 million that USDA Rural Development is providing to fund the most recently announced 27 projects, recipients will invest \$8.2 million from other sources.

What the states are doing

A proposed joint satellite broadband project in Colorado will seek stimulus funding from the \$7.2 billion available to extend broadband Internet service throughout the country.

The City Council in Reno, Nevada, is turning over most of its \$43.7 million in stimulus funds for rebuilding schools in the city and to build a new medical building at the University of Nevada-Reno.

All that is holding up building of a new minor-league stadium in Woodstock, Illinois, is for the developer to select an underwriter. Then the McHenry County Board will likely grant \$15 million in stimulus bonds for construction of the stadium.

In Columbus, Ohio, state transportation officials are "all aboard" in their support for a private company's bid to make passenger trains to run on the proposed national high-speed rail network.

Water infrastructure improvements are expected in New York City, New York, when \$220 million in stimulus funds is awarded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

Improvements to housing, commercial property and infrastructure will be paid for by \$5.1 million in Recovery Act funds in Minnesota. A dozen projects are being funded by the state's Department of Employment and Economic Development, using stimulus funds.

Tree removal for rural private property owners will be part of what is paid for in Washington state with \$4.7 million in Recovery Act funds from the U.S. Forest Service.

Two community projects in rural areas of Illinois will be funded by Recovery Act funds. Pulaski County has been awarded \$50,900 to expand two garbage bays for two ambulances.

Having realized a savings of \$30 million in previous transportation projects because of increased number of bids and lower bid amounts, the state of Maryland will be able to add two more transportation projects to be funded from its Recovery Act funds.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation has received \$354 million in stimulus funds. While some goes to local government entities, more than \$289 million will be spent on roads, bridges and other state highway projects.

New paved roads and parking pads will be ready for campers next year at the Cosby Campground in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Fish farmers, too, are being assisted by Recovery Act funds. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has \$50 million in stimulus funds to share with fish farmers to help offset the rising cost of feed.

The City of Mesa, Arizona, is joining up with a commercial partner to build a concentrated solar power array using federal stimulus funds.

Energy efficiency and conservation projects in Wisconsin will receive funding of more than \$11.7 million in Recovery Act money to lower energy use and reduce carbon pollution.

Widening of Interstate 215 in San Bernardino, California, will be done in part thanks to a \$128 million infusion of stimulus cash.

Other national news

Medical facility in Louisiana to benefit from funding

A new three-story medical facility will be constructed in Plaquemines Parish in Port Sulphur, La. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Louisiana Recovery Authority together have dedicated \$13.5 million toward the construction of the annex hospital.

Electric loans announced by U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Nearly 25,000 rural electric customers in 19 states will benefit from the repair of more than 3,300 miles of electric distribution and transmission lines and other system improvements that will be paid for with \$794 million in electric loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Arkansas environmental agency awarded funds from EPA. The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality has been awarded \$452,500 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The funds will be used to assist with permitting, enforcement and program management of hazardous waste activities.

NY Post office may be transformed into train station

An agreement between the state and federal governments and Amtrak could soon lead to a \$1.1 billion transformation of New York's Fraley Post Office into a new train station.

FEMA, LRA funds to help replace La. college building

Funds totaling \$3.1 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Louisiana Recovery Authority will be added to the money necessary to replace the Nunez Community College Administration Building in St. Bernard Parish, La.

Arkansas agency awarded \$10M for water infrastructure. Awarded \$10.229 million by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The funds can be used for loans to eligible public water systems for infrastructure improvements to ensure safe drinking water for residents of the state.

Calendar of events

Boston public-private partnerships workshop starts today

The Council for Public-Private Partnerships and the Federal Transit Administration will host a workshop on "The Implementation of PPPs for Transit" today, Wednesday, and Thursday, at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge in Boston.

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All 50 states have own recovery Web sites

All 50 of the states and the District of Columbia now have their own "recovery" sites where citizens can track where ARRA dollars are being spent in their respective states.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is an unprecedented infusion of \$787 billion into a flailing 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.

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The State and Local Government Pipeline is a free, weekly, national e-newsletter detailing important happenings throughout the country and the premier source for state and local government news and contracting opportunities. Publisher: Mary Scott Nabers. Barton Oaks Plaza One, Suite #100, 901 S. Mopac Expressway, Austin, Texas 78747, Ph: 512.531.3900, www.partnerships.com

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