



CIVIL TALK

CIVIL ENGINEERING ♦ SURVEYING

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING ♦ GRANT WRITING

www.haengr.com

A NEWSLETTER FROM HENEGHAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Celebrating Our 24th Year in Business

July 2010

Disaster Recovery “Ike” Funding

When Hurricane Ike decided to leave its mark on the U.S. in 2008, trails of damage were visible from the Gulf of Mexico to as far north as Minnesota. Heneghan and Associates was asked to provide engineering services for a municipality who received damage from Ike to one of its lake’s spillways.



2008 flooding in downtown Alton

During the summer of 2007, portions of northern Illinois received between 125 and 175 inches of rain. That combined with the above-normal precipitation in winter 2007-2008 created an almost permanent soil saturation condition for spring 2008. Then from March 1 to May 31, 2008, another 150-175 inches of precipitation fell across the Mississippi River Basin, compounding the situation and causing a major flooding event.

To help communities recover from the damage left from Ike’s fury, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, (DCEO) is offering a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a new program called the “Disaster Recovery Ike Action Plan.” A total of \$169,191,249 in Ike funding has been set aside for the State of Illinois. Communities located in an Illinois county that was declared under one of the three 2008 FEMA declarations are eligible to apply for this funding. The following categories of projects will be considered: **Economic Development Activities**—1) Small Business Stimulus; 2) Large Business Stimulus; 3) Business Rental Assistance; 4) Commercial Buyouts. **Housing Activities**—1) Affordable Rental Housing Program; 2) Homeownership-Community Stabilization Program; 3) Housing Rehabilitation & Repair; 4) Housing Buyouts Program. **Public Infrastructure**—1) Public Infrastructure (for communities with demonstrated capacity) 2) Public Infrastructure (for all other communities). **Planning and Technical Assistance**—1) Planning Activities 2) Technical Assistance/Increasing Capacity at Local Level.

Economic Development: Under the **Small Busi-**

ness Stimulus Program, loans may be forgiven up to \$50,000 for small business owners. The purpose of these loans is to provide funds to help ensure business survival and as much as possible to remain in or move back to the area of their original pre-flood location. Local communities impacted by 2008 disasters seeking to support large business job creation or retention are eligible to apply for CDBG-disaster recovery (DR) grants on behalf of the businesses.

Under **Large Business Stimulus Program**, grant funds up to \$750,000 may be available for loan by a local government to businesses locating or expanding in the community. These funds may be used for machinery and equipment, working capital, building construction and renovation. The funding may also be utilized for improvements to public infrastructure in support of a business creating and/or retaining jobs in the community.

Under the **Business Rental Assistance Program**, the goal is to provide financial assistance to employers who either are located in or planning to locate in a business rental space that was physically damaged due to the 2008 natural disasters.

The **Commercial Property Buyouts Program** is for use by proposed property buyout programs in flood-prone areas for which FEMA funds are not available. In these instances, CDBG funds will be available to cover all or a substantial portion of the cost.

Keep in mind that for all three of the above mentioned Ike funding programs, the area where the property is located must meet either low-to-moderate income (LMI) by 51%, urgent need, or slum/blight national objectives.

Under the **Public Infrastructure Program**, the Ike public assistance supports projects that FEMA or other sources cannot fund, but which are critical to recovery. Examples include water and sewer systems, storm drainage systems, levee systems damaged by flooding in 2008, generators for public utility and roads and bridges in need of immediate, short term repair/restoration or which can support long term flood/storm mitigation efforts.

City and county governments are eligible applicants of Ike’s public infrastructure program. Criteria for selection includes the urgency of the need for infrastructure activity, demonstrated threat to health, safety or

“Ike” (Cont.)

welfare, insufficient other local, state, or federal funds are not obtainable within the time frame needed, use of additional local taxes or fees places extra burdens on the residents. Again, the project should support an eligible community with a 51% low-to-moderate income population, or address slum/blight in the affected community.

The individual grant threshold for the public infrastructure category is \$500,000 per application. However, DCEO reserves the right to increase the maximum award, based on the unique aspects or circumstances of the project.

There are four different housing programs. The priority of the **Affordable Rental Housing Program** is to assist projects that have sustained damages due to the storms and flooding, or that could positively benefit from rehabilitation work involving flood-proofing and related mitigation efforts to help reduce or eliminate the impact of future flooding and disasters.

Out of the State’s 102 counties, 41 are declared in one or more of FEMA’s 3 declarations made in 2008. If you need assistance with applying to the Ike funding program, Gary Phillips (618-533-6525) or Emily Fortschneider (618-498-6418) can help!

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
JERSEVILLE, IL
PERMIT NO. 121

Meet & Greet Gary Phillips



Do you recognize this person? Some of you will and others will not know who this is. For those of you who don’t know this man, this is Gary Phillips. Gary has worked for Heneghan and Associates for the past 16.5 years. Gary currently works with HA as a Senior Technician

in our Centralia office. Although Gary’s skills and knowledge are diverse, he primarily performs CADD work, applies for and submits grant and loan paperwork on behalf of our clients, as well as keeps the offices up-to-date on computer technology and programs. Gary can assist you with understanding the Ike DR grant guidelines and application. Gary has an associates of science degree from Kaskaskia College. When not at work, you might find Gary taking pictures, walking or chasing his dog, traveling to Branson with his wife, or helping with the different events at his church. Gary has one son who is a history instructor for several different community colleges.

CIVIL TALK is published by **Heneghan & Associates P.C.** Questions or comments? Contact Susan Isringhausen (618-498-6418) or Cheryl Moody (618-281-8133) or e-mail skisringhausen@heneghanassoc.com or camoody@heneghanassoc.com

www.haengr.com

WEB SITE

COLUMBIA 618-281-8133
JERSEVILLE 618-498-6418
CENTRALIA 618-533-6525
GODFREY 618-466-8076

Return Service Requested

1004 State Highway 16
JERSEVILLE, IL 62052

HENEGHAN & ASSOCIATES

