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CIVIL TALK

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Celebrating Our 23rd Year In Business

A NEWSLETTER FROM HENEGHAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

May 2009

LOOKING FOR DOLLARS? HERE ARE SOME PLACES TO TRY

As local units of government and other entities continue looking for ways to fund projects, Heneghan and Associates (HA) continues to try and help get the word out about the different funding revenues and agencies.

Recently, HA received notification of available funding through **Community Resource Group, Inc. (CRG)**. This funding is made possible through a \$1.0 million Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) loan awarded by the USDA Rural Development, aimed at the Mississippi River Delta Area. Through this program, CRG will provide loans to improve small water and wastewater utilities in communities located within the 240 federally designated counties known as the Delta Regional Authority in Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee.

The loan is eligible for communities with populations of less than 25,000. The loan amount is generally in the amount of \$150,000 or less to finance predevelopment expenses and/or small capital improvement projects. CRG is requesting the completion of any required environmental reviews prior to completing the loan.

Examples of projects eligible for this loan funding include: To meet compliance requirements for public drinking water and wastewater regulations; To improve public health and system security; To extend service to new customers or improve service to existing customers; To create opportunities for economic development; and To conduct predevelopment activities that allow them to qualify for longer-term financing.

According to Holly Baker with CRG, a 1% origination fee is due at closing. Interest rates are as follows: Less than 24 months = 4%; 25-60 months = 4.25%; 60-120 months = 4.5%. Ten years is the maximum time allowed for repaying the loan and the funding is distributed according to a first come, first serve basis. If you think you might qualify for this loan through CRG and you're interested in applying, you might want to act quickly.

Moving on to a more familiar funding source is the **Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP)** offered through the **Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)**. CDAP is a grant program funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to assist communities by providing grants to local governments to assist in financing economic development projects, public facilities and housing rehabilitation. The program is aimed at assisting low-to-moderate income persons by creating job opportunities and improving the quality of their living environment. Local governments

must have populations of 50,000 or less and can not be located in an urban county or the 38 cities that receive federal entitlement funds which includes Madison and St. Clair Counties. Listed below are the different programs offered through CDAP and dates the applications are due.

1. **Economic Development**—grant funds up to \$750,000 for loan by local government to businesses locating or expanding in the community. Funds can be used for machinery and equipment, working capital, building construction and renovation. Grants may also be available for public infrastructure. Applications can be submitted at any time.

2. **Emergency Public Facilities**—grant funds up to \$100,000 for projects that improve public infrastructure and eliminate conditions detrimental to health, safety and public welfare. The funding priority for the component is water, sanitary and storm sewer projects. Applications can be submitted any time.

3. **Mobility and Accessibility Rehabilitation Supplement (MARS)**—grant funds up to \$100,000 to provide safe and accessible housing conditions for low-to-moderate income residents of owner occupied and rental units for occupancy by persons with physical impairments. Applicants should contact CDAP staff for information on funding status.



CDAP funds helped build the Gateway Regional Water Company which was designed by Heneghan and Associates.

4. **Public Facilities Construction and Design Engineering** grants are also offered through DCEO, but were due in February and May 15 respectively.

For communities looking to enhance park systems for resi-

dents, the **Illinois Department of Natural Resources** offers the **Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD)** grant. This program provides funding to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. Projects can include small neighborhood parks or tot lots to large community and county parks and nature areas.

IDNR also offers the **Land & Water Conservation Fund** program known as **LWCF** and **LAWCON** which is intended to assist local governments in providing frontage on public surface waters or land for creating public water impoundments to promote water-based recreational opportunities.

Grant funding for both programs up to 50% of the approved project cost can be obtained. Grant awards up to \$750,000 are available for acquisition projects, while development/renovation projects are limited to a maximum of \$400,000. Applications are due to IDNR between May 1 and July 1 each calendar year with grant awards typically announced by December or January.



Manns Elected Vice-President for Heneghan and Associates

For the first time in the 23-year history of Heneghan and Associates, the stockholders have elected a vice-president. Mr. Robert J. Manns, a stockholder and 13-year employee of the firm, will be the first to serve as vice-president.

“I am glad the firm has decided to take this step,” said Division Manager of the Jerseyville office Robert Manns. “With the company’s continual growth and heavy workload, this is a natural progression to the next level to guarantee the company keeps running efficiently and effectively.”

President and owner of Heneghan and Associates Dean Heneghan agreed with Manns, “To keep the firm moving in a positive direction and to put the firm in a position of being able to strengthen management, electing a vice president was the right step to take at this time.”

Since 1986, Heneghan and Associates has provided professional engineering services to 80 communities, 30 water companies/districts, 8 counties, and 6 state agencies. As vice-president, Manns says he looks forward to strengthening those relationships while building new ones.

CIVIL TALK is published by
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Armed Forces Day—May 16th

Memorial Day—May 25th



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