

## Caleb Knutson

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**From:** Caleb Knutson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 5, 2022 11:48 AM  
**Cc:** Andrew Collings  
**Subject:** June-July MIPA Planning Briefing

# MID-IOWA Planning Briefing

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July 2022

[midiowaplanningalliance.org](http://midiowaplanningalliance.org)

Good Morning. We are pleased to introduce the Mid-Iowa Planning Briefing, a newsletter by the Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance for Community Development for its members, partner organizations, and jurisdictions of the seven-county Mid-Iowa region.

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### UPDATE: MIPA Staff

These past couple months here at MIPA have been exciting. I started out with a goal to visit all our member communities. Thus far I have been able to visit a few of our communities: Elkhart, Kellogg, Ogden, Urbandale, Colfax, Pella, Marion County, and Indianola. More community visits are already on the calendar and more to be scheduled. I look forward to making a visit to every member community.

An exciting highlight in June is that I was fortunate enough to attend ABI's Taking Care of Business conference in Dubuque. Which was a great conference and I enjoyed learning about all the steps Iowa businesses are taking to strengthen Iowa's economy.

As always if you need anything, or have any questions please reach out [cknutson@midiowaplanning.org](mailto:cknutson@midiowaplanning.org) or 515.334.0075. Hope you had a wonderful and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.

Caleb Knutson

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### UPDATE: OCIO Broadband Community Engagement

Just a reminder that the OCIO office will be releasing new Broadband Maps on or around July 1. Be on the lookout for additional communications from MIPA regarding future grant funding opportunities for broadband internet funding for your community.

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### UPDATE: July Executive Committee Meeting Re-Scheduled

The July MIPA Executive Committee Meeting has been re-scheduled to August. The date has not been determined as staff is working with both EDA and USDA to have in-person representatives from both agencies at the meeting. All board members and communities are invited to attend and additional details will be sent out once the date has been confirmed.

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## FUNDING: Multiple Grant Opportunities

Several funding opportunities are outlined below that MIPA members and associated organizations may want to consider. MIPA has staff and experience to help communities submitting the best possible applications for these funds. As always, please feel free to contact us to explore other potential funding sources for your projects.

Source/Program	Funding Uses	Due Date
<b>FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program</b>	Hazard mitigation plans and projects, including tornado safe rooms, building and utility retrofits, minor flood control projects, elevations and relocations of buildings in flood hazard areas and storm water management projects (Eligible: local governments and some nonprofits)	Floating (NOIs as soon as possible)
<b>Iowa Women's Foundation Building Community Childcare Solutions Grant</b>	This grant funds innovative solutions to childcare issues in a community (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits).	July 15
<b>Iowa Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)</b>	A variety of smaller-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, and community improvements such as historic preservation, vegetation management, and some environmental mitigation related to storm water and habitat connectivity (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits).	July 31
<b>Iowa DOT Federal Recreational Trails Grant</b>	Establish recreational trails throughout Iowa. The program is restricted to the acquisition, construction or improvement of recreational trails open for public use or trails which will be dedicated public use upon completion. This grant is very competitive, so SICOG is interested in major projects, especially those that connect one trail to another or connect two communities or destinations (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits).	July 31
<b>RISE Local Development Grant</b>	Funding to provide road/street access to expand business opportunities (Eligible: local governments)	August 15
<b>Wellmark Foundation MATCH Grants</b>	Up to \$100,000 Safe and healthy environments for people to be active (trails, parks, playgrounds, other recreational projects) and up to \$50,000 for access to healthy foods (food programs, community gardens, etc.) (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits).	August 1 for access to food
<b>CDBG Water and Sewer Program</b>	Water and wastewater capital improvements: plants, mains, lagoons, pumps, towers, etc. (Eligible: local governments)	August 15 (next quarterly round)
<b>IDNR Water Recreation Access Cost-share Program</b>	Provides funds for constructing and improving boat access facilities to Iowa's lakes and streams. Projects can include boat launching ramps, docks, and related infrastructure (Eligible: local governments)	September 1
<b>IDNR Solid Waste Alternatives Program</b>	Program to encourage landfill alternatives – recycling, diversion, new technologies, new manufacturing processes, etc. (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits)	September 1
<b>Certified Local Government Program</b>	Program that funds projects related to historic preservation, such as National Register nominations, education projects, surveys, planning for preservation, and other planning projects (Eligible:	August 15

	recognized Certified Local Governments, which are registered local governments with active historic preservation commissions).	
<b>Iowa's Nonprofit Innovation Fund</b>	\$20 million investment to assist nonprofit organizations meet the increased demand for resources following the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides grants to help nonprofits that have struggled to invest in much-needed infrastructure. The program provides a maximum award of \$3 million, with a minimum request of \$500,000. Eligible expenses for the infrastructure projects include construction costs, acquisition, site development, and engineering and architectural services.	September 1 (date may be flexible, depending on how fast funds go)
<b>IEDA Destination Iowa Program</b>	Destination Iowa is an ARPA \$100 million pool of funds that consists of four funding programs. These are: Economically Significant Development Fund, Outdoor Recreation Fund, Tourism Fund, and Creative Placemaking Fund. The first three funds are more traditional in nature and include capital projects that address these three areas. The creative placemaking pool funds a small number of very large placemaking projects on a long-term basis (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits, with some exceptions).	September 1
<b>CDBG Community Facilities and Services</b>	This annual competitive program offers grants to assist communities for a variety of projects including day care facilities, senior centers, vocational workshops and other community services such as storm water projects. (Eligible: local governments)	Ongoing, until funds run out

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**FUNDING: Rural Innovation Grant Program**

ON July 1<sup>st</sup> IEDA & ERI opened six competitive grants available for rural communities with a population under 20,000. Specifically, funding has been allocated to the following for current fiscal year (FY) 2023 through FY 2024:

- **Rural Innovation Grant Program** – Provides up to \$50,000 per grant for supporting creative, non-traditional ideas that focus on current issues and challenges faced by rural communities associated with the themes of community investment, growth and connection; the
  - **Rural Scale-Up Grant Program** – Provides up to \$20,000 per grant to support the replication and spread of creative solutions that are addressing current issues and challenges faced by rural communities; the
  - **Rural Enrichment Program** – Provides up to \$20,000 per grant to support small quality of life projects that will create meaningful results in rural communities. Developing quality spaces for people to want to live, work, play, and engage will support the vibrancy of Iowa's rural places. Eligible projects must be open to the public and contribute to the vitality and engagement of the community; the
  - **Rural Housing Assessment Grant Program** – Provides \$10,000 per grant to support the use of publicly available online information through the "Profile of Iowa" tool and rural community efforts to interpret this hard data with supplemental information, as well as to implement through changes to development codes, local ordinances and housing incentives specific to their community needs in partnership with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach; the
  - **Rural Child Care Market Study Grant Program** – Provides \$10,000 to support the use of data and analysis by rural communities to determine the specific needs and solutions for their area. Funding from the program will empower communities to assess their current child care market environment and develop strategies; and the
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- **Rural Leadership Bootcamp Grant** – Provides training, mentorship, and \$1,000 in funding to rural communities and regions initiating leadership programs. This program targets rural communities who want to start a local leadership program and work to engage participants in community leadership roles. Grantees are required to participate in a two-day bootcamp resulting in a work plan and a one-year mentorship.

Guidelines, scoring rubrics, and informational webinars for all programs are available on the [Center for Rural Revitalization's website](#). Applications are accepted via [iowagrants.gov](http://iowagrants.gov) and are due by September 1, 2022. Applications will be scored by volunteer panels that will include the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative Task Force members and expert professionals. Successful applicants will be informed early October.

Here are the links and dates for the informational webinars:

- [Rural Scale-Up Grant Informational Webinar](#) – Tuesday, July 12, 9-10AM
- [Rural Innovation Grant Informational Webinar](#) – Tuesday, July 12, 11AM-12PM
- [Rural Housing Assessment Grant Informational Webinar](#) – Tuesday, July 12, 3-4PM
- [Rural Enrichment Grant Informational Webinar](#) – Wednesday, July 13, 9-10AM
- [Rural Leadership Bootcamp Grant Informational Webinar](#) – Wednesday, July 13, 1-2PM
- [Rural Child Care Market Study Grant Informational Webinar](#) – Wednesday, July 13, 3-4PM

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As ever, please feel free to reach out if you have any thoughts, questions, or ideas.

Best,  
Caleb

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