

Caleb Knutson

From: Caleb Knutson
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 4:14 PM
To: brenda@ameschamber.com; Tami.Curry@RunnellsIA.com; Mike Swesey; greg@ameschamber.com; listonmargaret@gmail.com; alynch@dsmpartnership.com; jbrown@waukee.org; Anthony Brown; sven.peterson@perryia.org; jeff.davidson2013@gmail.com; citycolfax50054@gmail.com; monroecityhall@mchsi.com; cindy.kane@prairiecityiowa.us; city@baxter-iowa.com; sullycty@netins.net; schipper@partnercom.net; citylynnville@netins.net; cityofmingo@outlook.com; oaklandacres@iowatelecom.net; cityoflambsgrove@aol.com; mbmohler@netins.net; cityofvaleria@yahoo.com; tanyam.ndc@gmail.com; ceysink@marioncountyiowa.gov; gbuydos@cityofpella.com; glenn@571polson.com; mdcityhall@windstream.net; rlmoffatt@dmgov.org; clyde.evans@wdm.iowa.gov; dlord@ankenyiowa.gov; adejong@urbandale.org; tom.hockensmith@polkcountyiowa.gov; pdekock@cityofclive.com; apfaltzgraff@grimesiowa.gov; lmurray@pleasanthilliowa.org; moliver; ddurham@windsorheights.org; llawler@mitchellville.org; elkhartcityadministrator@cityofelkhart.com; lfaisal@storycountyiowa.gov; jcook@cityofnevadaiaowa.org; jlettow@huxleyiowa.org; zearing@netins.net; steve.schinker@cityofames.org; barbmcbreen@gmail.com; cdissell@indianolaiowa.gov; lparris@norwalk.iowa.gov; dmarkley@carlisleiowa.org; cityclerk@cityofmilo.com; mark.goldsberry@hartfordia.com; bfagen@cumming.iowa.gov; jeff.davidson2013@gmail.com; tanyam.ndc@gmail.com; administrator@colfaxia.gov; cdissell@indianolaiowa.gov; lparris@norwalk.iowa.gov; rgocken@wcedc.com; lfaisal@storycountyiowa.gov; steve.schinker@cityofames.org; ceysink@marioncountyiowa.gov; glenn@571polson.com; gbuydos@cityofpella.com; JBrown@waukee.org; Anthony Brown; listonmargaret@gmail.com; Mike Swesey; David Wilwerding; mike@ameschamber.com; cbrown@urbandale.org; barbmcbreen@gmail.com; cityofcambridge@huxcomm.net; erizvic@indianolaiowa.gov; cityofalleman@huxcomm.net; aritchie@cumming.iowa.gov; briand@newtongov.org; jodyr@newtongov.org; dmorse@knoxvilleia.gov; lharter@storycountyiowa.gov; Elizabeth (Liz) Faust
Cc: Andrew Collings
Subject: Newsletter

MID-IOWA Planning Briefing

November 2022

midiowaplanningalliance.org

Greetings, we are pleased to share 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.

Update from MIPA Staff:

Recently I presented an overview of MIPA to the Empower Rural Iowa Taskforces. It was a great opportunity to share the happenings within the MIPA region with the taskforce members and the Lt Governor, Adam Gregg. If you want MIPA representation at an event or meeting, please let me know. I am always happy to discuss the Mid-Iowa region with members and regional partners.

Now that the CEDS has been submitted for final EDA approval, I have had the opportunity to get back on the road for community visits. These visits are a highlight for me, and I really enjoy learning more about each member community. The conversations are always productive and provide us with ideas on how MIPA can support member communities. As of now we have 59 member communities. Which represents over 90% of the population of the MIPA region.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving week!

As always if you need anything, or have any questions please reach out cknutson@midowapanning.org or 515.334.0075.

Caleb

***IMPORTANT* FUNDING: Assistance to Firefighters Programs Status Update**

The FY 2022 AFG, SAFER and FP&S application periods are slated to open after the first of the year.

In preparation, it is recommended that you ensure that you are registered with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). **SAM registration must be renewed annually, and failure to register or maintain active status will prevent your organization from applying.** For those new to SAM.gov, it is imperative that you start now as this process can take up to four weeks to complete. Registering for an account in SAM.gov is **FREE**. You do not need to contract with an outside entity to register. If you need help with your SAM.gov registration, please let us know.

The objectives of the AFG Program are to provide critically needed resources that equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Last year over \$414 million was awarded to 2,500 agencies nationwide. There is a 15% local cost share requirement for the AFG Program.

The objectives of the SAFER Program are to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities to respond to emergencies and assure that communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. Local fire departments accomplish this by improving staffing and deployment capabilities, so they may more effectively and safely respond to emergencies. With enhanced staffing levels, recipients should experience a reduction in response times and an increase in the number of trained personnel assembled at the incident scene. Last year over \$560 million was awarded to 500 agencies nationwide. There is no cost share or match for the SAFER Program.

The objectives of the Fire Prevention & Safety Grant Program are to provide critically needed resources to carry out fire prevention education and training, fire code enforcement, fire/arson investigation, firefighter safety and health programming, prevention efforts, and research and development. The FP&S Program provides financial assistance directly to eligible fire departments, national, regional, state, local, tribal and non-profit organizations such as academic (e.g., universities), public health, occupational health, and injury prevention institutions for fire prevention programs and supporting firefighter health and safety research and development such as clinical studies that address behavioral, social science, and cultural research.

Keep in mind these funds are popular and are more competitive than ever. As the funding levels continue to decline and equipment costs rise, fewer and fewer grants are given. MIPA remains available to assist.

Please call Caleb or Andrew to discuss applying for these funds.

FUNDING: Derelict Building Grant Program Applications Open

The Derelict Building Program is available for *Iowa towns of 5,000 or fewer residents* to address neglected commercial or public structures that have sat *vacant for at least 6 months*. The application **deadline is Friday February 25, 2023** for applicants who are seeking funding assistance with conducting asbestos inspections, asbestos abatement, structural engineering analysis, phase I and phase II site assessments, building deconstruction and building renovation expenses.

Grant funding is competitive and requires local match money. Please note that diversion from the landfill is a key element of the program. Any entity that applies for a grant for demolition work shall show they have a plan to divert debris from the landfill.

Please call Caleb or Andrew to discuss applying for these funds.

FUNDING: Vacant State/Federal Building Fund (VSBF)

This grant program was established to fund the demolition of vacant buildings owned by the state or formerly owned by the federal government and now under county ownership that are no longer used for state purpose. \$1,000,000 dollars is allocated for the 2022 - 2023 fiscal year. **Applications are due December 12, 2022.**

Program Parameters:

- Must have a state-owned building or formerly federal-owned building now under county ownership that is vacant/no longer used for a state or federal purpose in your community or county.
- Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis.
- County/City can apply for both grant and loan for the same project.
- County/City is the applicant. IEDA contract will be with the County/City.
- IEDA will give funding priority to new recipients.
- For a large campus, applicant may request funds for one part of a larger project as long as the ownership of the entire campus leaves state or federal control.
- A contract if awarded will be between the State and The City/County.
- If awarded, a development agreement between the City and the Developer will be required to be finalized before the first draw of funds.
- A resolution from the City council in support of the project will be required with the application for assistance.
- No more than 50% of the cost of a demolition of a vacant building(s) shall be funded from a grant under this program.

Please call Caleb or Andrew to discuss applying for these funds.

FUNDING: Multiple Grant Opportunities

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

Source/Program	Funding Uses	Grant Application Due Date
FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	Hazard mitigation plans and projects, including tornado safe rooms, building and utility retrofits, minor flood control projects,	Floating (NOIs as soon as possible)

	elevations and relocations of buildings in flood hazard areas and storm water management projects (Eligible: local governments and some nonprofits)	
IDOT RISE Grant	RISE funds roadway improvements to facilitate economic development projects, such as expanding businesses, industrial/commerce parks, etc. (Eligible: local governments)	November 30
IDNR Fish Habitat Program and Wildlife Habitat Promotion	Programs and projects to improve fishing and wildlife habitat. (Eligible: County conservation boards)	November 30
Vacant State/Federal Building Fund (VSBF)	This grant program was established to fund the demolition of vacant buildings owned by the state or formerly owned by the federal government and now under county ownership that are no longer used for state purpose. \$1,000,000 dollars is allocated for the 2022 - 2023 fiscal year. (See Article)	December 12
Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program	Grants to communities for the redevelopment, rehabilitation or deconstruction of buildings to stimulate economic growth or reinvestment in the community. Strong applications will show the potential of catalytic economic growth in the community; improve appearances & safety; make use of underutilized property, exhibit appropriate design standards; and be well-funded (Eligible: local governments who apply on behalf of private property owners).	December 15
CDBG Water and Sewer Program	Water and wastewater capital improvements: plants, mains, lagoons, pumps, towers, etc. (Eligible: local governments)	December 31 (next quarterly round)
IDNR Solid Waste Alternatives Program	Program to encourage landfill alternatives – recycling, diversion, new technologies, new manufacturing processes, etc. (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits)	December 31
IHSEMD Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program	Funding from FEMA to support the development of hazard mitigation projects, mostly related to flooding but also including other activities (Eligible: local governments, some non-profits).	Rolling Basis through December 31
IEDA Enhance Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Grant	Funds for capital projects, such as trails, libraries, community centers, pavilions, entertainment venues, museums, recreational facilities, and more (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits).	January 15, 2023
Theater Catalyst Grant	Provides IEDA Catalyst Grants specifically to renovate and revitalize former or operating theaters, including movie and live show theaters. This is a specific set-aside to address the detrimental impacts of COVID and a changing economy ((Eligible: local governments who apply on behalf of private property owners).	January 27, 2023
FEMA Fire Grant – Assistance to Firefighters Grant (see article)	Up to 95% grant funding for purchase of fire equipment, PPE, vehicles, training, and related activities (Eligible: fire departments and non-affiliated EMS agencies)	January 31, 2023 (projected)
Paint Iowa Beautiful	Award of donated paint for community projects, which can be about anything (Eligible: non-profits, local governments, community groups)	February 10, 2023
IDNR Derelict Building Grant (see article)	Grant to help fund the rehab or removal of derelict former commercial and industrial buildings; can include environmental studies, asbestos testing, environmental remediation, etc. (Eligible: local governments with less than 5,000 population)	February 25, 2023
CDBG Community Facilities and Services	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

Iowa Historic Preservation Tax Credits – small projects	Up to 25% of project cost in the form of a State tax credit to offset the costs of the building rehabilitation or restoration. Project must affect a designated historic building on the National Register of Historic Places. Projects can have eligible costs up to \$750,000 (Eligible: property owners – governments can partner to mobilize the project).	Ongoing
ITC/ IRDC "Power of Connection" Community Grant Program	Grants up to \$5,000 for capacity building, strategic planning, studies or assessments for a variety of community programs and issues (Eligibility: rural communities)	Ongoing
Highway Safety Improvement	Provides grants for low-cost, systematic safety improvements in the \$10,000/mile range, focusing on lane departure crashes. (Eligible: local governments)	Ongoing
Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP)	Provides 100 hours of engineering assistance for operations and traffic safety issues. (Eligible: local governments)	Ongoing

Caleb Knutson
He/Him/His
Senior Planner
Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance
420 Watson Powell Jr. Parkway, Suite 200, Des Moines IA 50309
515.644.2655 cknutson@mid-iowaplanning.org

