

Florida League of Cities

ALERT

FAST
Federal
Action Strike Team

TO: Key Officials
FLC Board of Directors
Members, Federal Action Strike Team
Directors, Local and Regional Leagues

FROM: John Charles Thomas, Director
Policy and Political Affairs

DATE: February 20, 2009

RE: Economic Stimulus Update

On Tuesday, February 17th, President Obama signed the Recovery Act into law. The Office of Management and Budget and Treasury will quickly make the funding available to federal agencies. Federal agencies will in turn allocate funds in five distinct methods. Certain funds are allocated by formula to states and localities. Other programs allocate funding through competitive grants. A few programs respond directly to demand from eligible individuals, while some programs will receive a onetime automatic disbursement. Finally, many programs will allocate funds according to public operating and spending plans.

Click http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_reports&docid=f:hr016.111.pdf for a copy of the final conference report. Attached is a breakdown of the program funding as detailed in final conference report.

Now is the time to make sure all of your transportation projects meet all requirements for funding. March 10, 2009 is the deadline for the State of Florida and localities to be notified of funding apportionment. All local governments interested in administering transportation projects must be certified under FDOT Local Agency Program (LAP). In addition, all projects must meet federal requirements including:

- All projects must be prioritized on the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) list if the municipality is located in a metropolitan area and the Statewide Transportation Improvement

Program (STIP). If the municipality is located in a non-metropolitan area, it must still be listed on STIP;

- All projects must have completed the required assessments of environmental impacts according to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA);
- All projects right of way acquisitions must conform with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies;
- All project construction workers must be paid a fair wage according to the Davis Bacon Act; and
- All project materials must be American made unless specifically addressed by FDOT and the federal government.

Some of the factors that FDOT will take into consideration regarding whether to fund specific projects include concurrency models and congestion relief, revenue generation, is the project located in an economically disturbed area, can the project be completed in three years, and are all the projects geographically balanced across the state.

Please expedite funding to your transportation projects by ensuring you meet all state requirements above and that you continue to work with other local governments and the MPOs to maintain a priority ranking for your project locally. Many MPOs are meeting now or very soon to priority rank projects.

Additional information can be obtained from FDOT's website on the Federal Economic Stimulus.

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/economicstimulus/>.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program

EECBG received \$3.2 billion in the economic recovery package. According to the Governor's Office, Florida will receive \$23.5 million. Sixty percent or \$14.1 million must be allocated to non-entitlement cities and counties.

In order to apply for funds, each organization/city has to register and create a log in...a process they say could take up to 21 days.

Each eligible grant recipient must become familiar with FedConnect, the mechanism for applying for the EECBG Program. The web link for submitting applications through FedConnect is:

https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/PublicPages/FedConnect_Ready_Set_Go.pdf.

Before submitting an application through FedConnect each organization must complete the following steps:

Step 1: Request a DUNS Number at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/displayHomePage.do>

Step 2: Register with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) at <http://www.ccr.gov/>.

Step 3: E-Business Point of Contact must register in FedConnect at <https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/>.

Please allow 21 days to complete the registration process.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact John Dailey, JDA Strategies (john_dailey@comcast.net) or Allison Payne at the League at 850-701-3602 or e-mail: apayne@flcities.com.

To access this and other information on the stimulus plan, please also visit the League's website at www.flcities.com/legislative/economicstimulus.asp.