

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

www.dot.wisconsin.gov

Jim Doyle
Governor

Frank J. Busalacchi
Secretary

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Date: March 23, 2009

To: Local Government Officials and Associations

From: Secretary Frank J. Busalacchi

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank J. Busalacchi".

Subject: Revision of Second Stage Solicitation Guidelines for Local
Transportation Recovery Projects

On February 27, 2009, I wrote to you announcing the beginning of Stage 2 of the process of soliciting local transportation projects for funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act). Since that time, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has worked continuously to move projects forward. We have worked closely with local governments and have been in regular contact with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to clarify the requirements of the Recovery Act.

A common request we have heard from local governments relates to the possibility of accelerating work from calendar year 2010 to 2009 in order to create additional and badly needed jobs as quickly as possible. Recent FHWA assurances give us confidence that we may allow this. We will consider all projects currently scheduled after January 2010 eligible for Recovery Act funding if construction activity can be accelerated by at least one construction season. This expands the number of projects potentially eligible for the Stage 2 solicitation.

Because of this expansion, we are extending the application date from April 1, 2009 to April 8th to allow more time for you to consider the projects you wish to submit. April 8th is the deadline for a complete application, not for plan submittal. By April 8th, WisDOT must receive a complete application in order to verify a project meets FHWA eligibility guidelines and confirm the project can meet required deadlines for design submittal. To allow the maximum opportunity to accommodate construction activity during the 2009 construction season, we have added an additional date for design submittals beyond the dates included in my letter of February 27th. The submittal dates for projects currently scheduled between January 1 and September 30, 2010 are as follows:

May 1, 2009: the deadline for completed plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E) submittal for projects that could possibly be ready for bid letting in late June or July of 2009; and

June 1, 2009: the deadline for PS&E submittal for projects that could possibly be ready for bid letting in late July or August of 2009.

Once WisDOT has established the eligibility of the projects submitted by April 8th, we will work with the metropolitan planning organizations and others to set priorities and establish a final list of projects to utilize the funding the Recovery Act provides for local transportation projects. We will then work with local communities to insure the projects are delivered so that we can build Wisconsin's local transportation infrastructure and create jobs.

The individual project eligibility requirements the Recovery Act sets are the same as for the usual federal-aid local programs administered by WisDOT. There is additional eligibility information attached. All the normal project review, permitting and approval processes required for federal aid projects are required for recovery projects. For local officials who would like additional information, please contact WisDOT region staff in your region as listed on the WisDOT Web site or contact your county highway commissioner.

Further detailed guidance, application forms and contact information is available on the WisDOT Web site at <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/>. The FHWA also has very good information regarding recovery projects posted on its Web site at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/economicrecovery/index.htm>. It is critical that you take an opportunity to review this information in its entirety for additional guidance. This information will be updated continually.

Once again, I want to emphasize our commitment to work cooperatively with local government officials to identify all federally eligible projects and provide the opportunity for your communities to benefit from Recovery Act funding. The transportation projects we move forward with Recovery Act funds will create job opportunities throughout Wisconsin, provide much-needed improvements to our state and local transportation system, and pave the way for continued economic growth and prosperity. I look forward to working together with all of you to support these common goals.

Theodore
Lipscomb/CtyBoard/Milwaukee County
03/25/2009 11:38 AM

To
cc
bcc
Subject

Steven
Kreklow/DOA/Milwaukee County
03/24/2009 10:45 AM

To DepartmentHead, DAS_Fin_Contacts
cc DAS_Budget & Capital Rm 308, Sarah Jankowski/DOA/Milwaukee County@MILWCO, Damian Albert/DOA/Milwaukee County@MILWCO, Antionette Thomas-Bailey/DOA/Milwaukee County@MILWCO, Cynthia Archer/DOA/Milwaukee County@MILWCO, Thomas G Nardelli/Co Exec/Milwaukee County@MILWCO
Subject

Hello all,

As my office has been working with departments on federal stimulus funds we have been asked numerous questions regarding the types of funds available and eligibility requirements. Based on what I have been able to ascertain many of the stimulus programs are still in the process of defining eligibility requirements and methods for allocating funds. A recent GFOA newsletter included steps that municipal governments should follow to research stimulus opportunities. I have adapted these guidelines in the attached document to make them more applicable to County departments. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or your assigned analyst.

Thanks.

Steven R. Kreklow

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Federal Stimulus Funds Research Process.pdf

Federal Stimulus Funds

Research Process for Departments¹

County departments should take the following steps to understand stimulus funds potentially available to them:

- Consider which grant programs to apply for by visiting www.grants.gov for more information on how to fund and apply for federal grants including a resource page on “Applicant Frequently Asked Questions.”
- Visit the individual federal agency Web sites to access information regarding eligibility for specific grant distributions and to understand how to apply for the grant. Begin a dialogue with designees in the appropriate federal agency. Departments can access federal agency Web sites at www.recovery.gov/?q=content/agencies. These Web sites include information on grants distributed by formula as well as through a competitive bid process.
- Information on specific allocations to local governments is currently available on the Web sites of the following departments:
 - *Department of Justice:* www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/;
 - *Department of Housing and Urban Development:* www.hud.gov/recovery/; and
 - *Department of Transportation:* www.fhwa.dot.gov/economicrecovery/index.htm.
- For information on State of Wisconsin plans for distribution of stimulus dollars review the Office of Recovery web site at <http://www.recovery.wisconsin.gov/>
- Additional information on availability of State of Wisconsin stimulus funds is available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>
- Regularly review the GFOA Web site at www.gfoa.org as well as the Web sites of other national associations representing the interest of state and local governments such as the National League of Cities (www.nlc.org), the United States Conference of Mayors (www.usmayors.org), and the National Conference of State Legislatures (www.ncsl.org/statefed/2009economicstimulus.htm) – to review new information regarding access to stimulus funds.
- Contact DAS-Fiscal Services to discuss potential stimulus fund opportunities.

¹ Adapted from GFOA Newsletter, Volume 84, No. 5, March 13, 2009

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: March 19, 2009
TO: Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr., Chairperson, Transportation, Public Works Committee
FROM: Jack H. Takerian, Interim Director, Transportation and Public Works
SUBJECT: **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – WisDOT Solicitation for Funding of Bridges and Roadways (Informational Report)**

The Milwaukee County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) will be submitting to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) for their review and funding consideration of local roadway and bridge projects.

BACKGROUND

WisDOT Phase 2 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Applications - Bridges

On February 27, 2009, the WisDOT Secretary of Transportation announced the Phase 2 solicitation of the stimulus application. The requirements for this phase are as follows:

1. The project must achieve approval of all Environmental Documents.
2. WisDOT must approve all exceptions to standards requested
3. Agency must have a Design Study Report completed and approved.
4. Agency must be able to complete 404 Permit, Railroad Coordination, Utility Coordination, Right of Way Acquisition and Traffic Mitigation Plan within timeframe.
5. The starting date and required construction must be known.
6. Projects must be in the Transportation Improvement Plan.
7. The Agency must submit and achieve approval for Electronic Plans, Specifications and Estimates package to WisDOT.
8. Existing approved projects must be an unauthorized project scheduled to be let after September 30, 2010.
9. A new project is one that has not been approved by WisDOT.
10. Plans, Specifications and Estimates package to WisDOT by May 1, 2009 or December 1, 2009.

DTPW has prepared several bridge projects for application submission to WisDOT with the hope of favorable approval. These projects are:

1. Rehabilitation of Root River Parkway Bridge P-40-0561, at approximately \$1,000,000
2. Rehabilitation of Jackson Park Drive Bridge P-40-056, at approximately \$1,000,000
3. Rehabilitation of Whitnall Park Drive Bridge P-40-0713, at approximately \$1,000,000
4. Rehabilitation of the East Mason Street Bridge B-40-0524, at approximately \$5,000,000
5. Rehab/Restore three historic pedestrian bridges in Lake Park at approximately \$3,500,000*
6. Replace three multi-use/pedestrian bridges in Lyons Park at approximately \$ 400,000*

* These projects will be applied for by the Parks Department.

WisDOT Phase 2 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Applications – Local Roadways

The requirements for applications in Phase 2 are as follows:

1. The project must achieve approval of all Environmental Documents.
2. WisDOT must approve all exceptions to standards requested.
3. Agency must have a Design Study Report completed and approved.
4. Agency must be able to complete 404 Permit, Railroad Coordination, Utility Coordination, Right of Way Acquisition and Traffic Mitigation Plan within timeframe.
5. The starting date and construction complete date is defined.
6. Projects must be in the Transportation Improvement Plan.
7. The Agency must submit and achieve approval for Electronic Plans, Specifications and Estimates package to WisDOT.
8. Existing approved projects must be an unauthorized project scheduled to be let after September 30, 2010.
9. A new project is one that has not been approved by WisDOT.
10. Project must be scheduled to be bid let after September 30, 2010
11. Design has to be completed and delivered for construction December 1, 2009

DTPW has prepared several local roadway projects for application submission to WisDOT with the hope of favorable approval. These projects are:

Selected Project	Proposed Cost
1. CTH F – North 107 th Street (Brown Deer Rd. to NCL)	\$5,200,000
2. CTH NN – West Oklahoma Ave. (S. 72 nd St. to STH 100)	\$7,200,000
3. CTH W – North Port Washington Rd. (Daphne to Good Hope)	\$7,900,000
4. CTH S - West Mill Road (N. 56 th St. to N. 84 st St.)	\$3,560,000
5. CTH ZZ – West College Ave. (S. 13 th St. to S. 27 th St.)	\$5,900,000
6. CTH ZZ – East College Ave. (Pennsylvania to Packard)	\$1,900,000
7. CTH Y - West Layton Ave. (S. 27 th St. to Loomis Rd.)	\$8,100,000
8. CTH U – South 76 th Street (Puetz Rd. to Imperial Dr.)	\$6,200,000
9. CTH S – West Mill Road (N. 43 rd St. to Teutonia Ave.)	\$4,500,000
10. CTH T – West Beloit Road (Hwy 100 to S. 124 th St.)	\$8,100,000
11. CTH BB – West Rawson Ave. (North Cape to S. 92 nd St.)	\$5,500,000
12. CTH ZZ – West College Ave. (Loomis Rd. to S. 51 st St.)	\$ 1,300,000

CONCLUSION

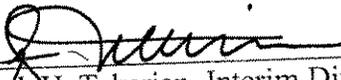
The Department of Transportation and Public Works has selected the above projects from its current ten (10) year local roadway and bridge plans. Each project was analyzed to meet the qualifications set by WisDOT for each particular area discipline.

Other projects within the ten (10) year plans were not selected due to the project not meeting the requirement and were not prepared for submission due to any of the following:

1. The project did not meet any of the ten application requirements.
2. To qualify for consideration, the project has to be in Milwaukee County highway 10-year plan.
3. Ease of project design and delivery for construction to meet the deadline of December 1, 2009.

4. Right of way acquisition must be completed by December 1, 2009 in order for the project to proceed to bid letting.

These projects have been approved by the administration to be applied for and meet the guidelines given to TPW. If these projects are approved by WisDOT; complete funding for each project selected would come from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.



Jack H. Takerian, Interim Director
Transportation & Public Works

cc: Scott Walker, County Executive
Lee Holloway, County Board Chairman
Theodore Lipscomb, County Board Supervisor, District # 1
Thomas Nardelli, Chief of Staff, County Executive' Office
Terry Cooley, Chief Staff, County Board of Supervisors
Cynthia Archer, Director Department of Administrative Services
Steve Kreklow, Fiscal and Budget Administrator
Roy del Rosa, Director, Inter-Government Relations
Greg High, Director, Architecture, Engineering & Environmental Services/TPW
Pamela Bryant, Capital Finance Manager, DAS
Brian Dranzik, Fiscal & Policy Administrator/TPW
Ben Eruchalu, RCM-Highway Design, TPW Transportation Division
Mahmoud Malas, RCM-Structures, TPW Transportation Division
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Vince Masterson, Fiscal Mgt Analyst, Admin & Fiscal Affairs Division/DAS