

Caleb Knutson

From: Caleb Knutson
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:39 AM
To: Andrew Collings
Subject: FW: MIPA Newsletter

From: Caleb Knutson
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:22 PM
Cc: brenda@ameschamber.com; Tami.Curry@RunnellsIA.com; mswesey@dsmpartnership.com; greg@ameschamber.com; listonmargaret@gmail.com; alynch@dsmpartnership.com; jbrown@wauke.org; abrown@adeliowa.org; Sames@vanmeteria.gov; 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@cityofbondurant.com; ddurham@windsorheights.org; llawler@mittchellville.org; elkhartcityadministrator@cityofelkhart.com; lfaisal@storycountyiowa.gov; jcook@cityofnevadaiaowa.org; jlettow@huxleyiowa.org; zearing@netins.net; steve.schainer@cityofames.org; barbmcbreen@gmail.com; cdissell@indianolaiaowa.gov; lparris@norwalk.iowa.gov; dmarkley@carlisleiowa.org; cityclerk@cityofmilo.com; mark.goldsberry@hartfordia.com; bfaen@cumming.iowa.gov; jeff.davidson2013@gmail.com; tanyam.ndc@gmail.com; administrator@colfaxia.gov; cdissell@indianolaiaowa.gov; lparris@norwalk.iowa.gov; rgocken@wcedc.com; lfaisal@storycountyiowa.gov; steve.schainer@cityofames.org; ceysink@marioncountyiowa.gov; glenn@571polson.com; gbuydos@cityofpella.com; JBrown@wauke.org; abrown@adeliowa.org; listonmargaret@gmail.com; mswesey@dsmpartnership.com; dwilwerding@cityofjohnston.com; mike@ameschamber.com; cbrown@urbandale.org; barbmcbreen@gmail.com; cityofcambridge@huxcomm.net; erizvic@indianolaiaowa.gov; cityofalleman@huxcomm.net; aritchie@cumming.iowa.gov; briand@newtongov.org; jodyr@newtongov.org
Subject: MIPA Newsletter

MID-IOWA Planning Briefing

October 2022

midiowapanningalliance.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:

Much of September and October has been dedicated to updating and approving the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Thank you to everyone for reviewing the suite of CEDS documents. The board meeting for adoption was held on October 18th and the CEDS has now been submitted to EDA for approval.

During September I was a grant reviewer for the Empower Rural Iowa. From the Empower Grants a few MIPA communities received funding. Congratulations to Dallas Center, Polk City, and Slater on their successful grant applications. If you have questions or want to apply for a grant next year, please reach out.

I was also able to visit the Polk County Emergency Management office and meet with Polk County Emergency Management Director A.J. Mumm. It was a great opportunity for me to pick his brain on our CEDS because I want to ensure that MIPA is supporting the local Emergency Management Directors, as well as their hazard mitigation plans.

Have I been to your community? I will be hitting the road again more frequently in November. Please reach out to me so I can schedule a visit with your community.

REMINDER Your MIPA dues pay for grant writing services. Please let me know how we can be of assistance to you or your community.

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

Caleb

FUNDING: Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program

Through the Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program, the Iowa Economic Development Authority provides grant funds 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. Economic growth may include the creation of additional jobs, growth of new or existing businesses, development of new housing units, increase property values, or potential population growth.

Maximum grants are \$100,000 and rarely does IEDA fund a grant less than that amount. 40% of funds will be awarded to cities with populations under 1,500. A mandatory pre-application process will precede the official grant application. Applications are by invitation only after approved pre-application. Funds available for the rehabilitation of one commercial building per community or two buildings with same ownership that are adjacent to each other. The pre-application is due January 27, 2023. **Local governments should promote this opportunity to local commercial building owners who need building improvements. Please talk with Caleb or Andrew soon to work on an application.**

***FUNDING* IMPORTANT: Wastewater and Drinking Water Financial Assistance Program Available (WDFWAP) – Due October 28**

The Iowa Finance Authority offers grants for local governments and IDNR permitted water and sewer authorities, entities, and districts, to complete water and sewer projects that improve the environment. Projects that are most likely to be funded meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Disadvantaged communities, as named by the IDNR;
- Projects that significantly improve water quality in their watershed;
- Projects that use alternative wastewater treatment technologies;
- Communities with the highest water and sewer rates;
- Projects that use technology to address nutrient reduction; and
- Projects that will improve source waters for drinking water utilities.

Up to \$500,000 of funding is available per project with a total amount of \$6 Million available statewide. If you have a project in mind that you believe qualifies, please call. This funding can fit many types of water and wastewater projects.

MIPA has been successful with this grant. Please call Caleb or Andrew to discuss this opportunity.

FUNDING: Upcoming Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program

FEMA typically opens up the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants during the November/December months. Staff assumes this year will follow a similar timeframe but will not know for sure until the NOFOs have been issued.

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.

Both the AFG and SAFER grants are highly competitive applications that require pre-planning. Below is a copy of critical items needed to apply for funding taken from last year's NOFO. **It is crucial that communities/fire departments have a UEI number from sam.gov. Now is the time to register to ensure it is received prior to the opening of the application window.** DUNS numbers are no longer being used as they had been in previous years.

e. Other Key Dates

Event	Suggested Deadline for Completion
Obtaining DUNS Number	Four weeks before actual submission deadline
Obtaining a valid EIN	Four weeks before actual submission deadline
Creating an account with login.gov	Four weeks before actual submission deadline
Registering in SAM or Updating SAM registration	Four weeks before actual submission deadline
Registering Organization in FEMA GO	Prior to beginning application
Submitting complete application in FEMA GO	One week before actual submission deadline

FY 2021 AFG NOFO

[Back to the Top](#)

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, 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)
Wastewater and Drinking Water Treatment Financial Assistance Program (SEE ARTICLE)	Grants up to \$500,000 for water and wastewater projects that have a direct impact on the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy, such as new treatments, storm water improvements, and related projects (Eligible: local governments, water and sewer operators, and IDNR permit holders)	October 28
Branching Out	Tree planting projects in public spaces; grants up to \$5,000 are available (Eligible: Cities served by Alliant Energy)	November 1
IEDA CDBG Upper Story Conversion Program	Renovation/rehab of upper story space into affordable and mixed-income rental housing in downtown areas; up to 7 units owned by one developer or owner can be improved (Eligible: local governments, development agreement with a developer).	November 1
IEDA CDBG Downtown Revitalization Program	Grants up to \$650,000 for renovation of exterior facades of at least 6 buildings (8 to get full grant amount) in downtown areas (Eligible: local governments).	November 1
IFA Iowa HOME Program	Housing Program for developers with 10 years of housing experience – ownership and rental, including new construction, rehab, and adaptive reuse; up to 80% of the area median income (Eligible: local governments, developers, non-profits).	November 15
Iowa Child Care Business Incentive Grants	Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) and the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) have announced a second round of funding for the Child Care Business Incentive slots grant. This new opportunity seeks to provide additional flexibility in the ways employers can partner with local child care providers to meet the needs of their employees. Grants will support projects that increase licensed or operational child care slots, add slots to meet new time/day requirements of employees, or fill currently licensed (but unfilled) slots for the benefit of employees. (Eligible: businesses and providers, with other partners possible)	November 16
U.S. DOT Thriving Communities Program	The Thriving Communities program will provide two years of intensive technical assistance to under-resourced and disadvantaged communities to build upon their existing expertise to identify, develop, and deliver transportation and community revitalization activities. Capacity builders funded through Thriving Communities will help selected communities in a variety of activities from preparing application materials or predevelopment activities to deploying innovative community engagement, workforce development, and clean technology strategies.	November 22
Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) Grants	EPA grants to clean up and redevelop sites that have real or perceived environmental hazards. Grants can fund environmental assessments, revolving loan funds for development projects, and	November 22

	hazard cleanups, all of which can revitalize underutilized properties. (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits)	
IDNR Fish Habitat Program and Wildlife Habitat Promotion	Programs and projects to improve fishing and wildlife habitat. (Eligible: County conservation boards)	November 30
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
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
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@midiowaplanning.org

