

## Caleb Knutson

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**From:** Caleb Knutson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 3, 2023 9:19 AM  
**Subject:** Spring 2023 Mipa Newsletter

# MID-IOWA Planning Brief

April 2023

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

Greetings, we are pleased to share the Mid-Iowa Planning Brief, a grant funding opportunity notice by the Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance for Community Development for its members, partner organizations, and jurisdictions of the seven-county Mid-Iowa region.

***The MIPA annual meeting will be held on Friday June 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. We will have some business to conduct, after that we have a few exciting guest speakers: Liesl Seabert of Iowa Economic Development Authority's Empower Rural Iowa, Regional Director Angela Martinez, and Alex Smith from U.S Economic Development Administration. This is an exciting opportunity to hear both the state and federal EDA's. You won't want to miss out on this opportunity.***

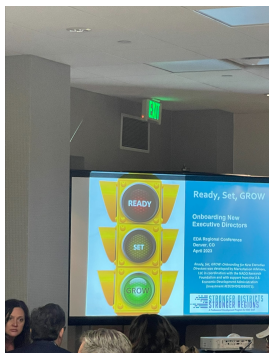
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## Update from MIPA Staff:

Greetings,

April was a packed month. It was so busy you are receiving the April Mid-Iowa Planning Brief in May! I attended two wonderful conferences in April. First was the Denver Region EDA conference. It was the first in-person Denver Region EDA conference since the pandemic. It was a great three-day conference, and I was able to learn about many great opportunities for the Mid-Iowa region. I really found it helpful talking to other EDD staff from around the Denver Region.

The second conference was the week-long Heartland Economic Development Course in Kansas City. The Heartland Economic Development Course serves as one of the education requirements for the Certified Economic Development accreditation. There was a lot of information, but what I enjoyed the most was the ethics section. This is the nerd in me, but I love working through the hypothetical ethics worksheets and problems.



As always if you need anything, or have any questions please reach out [cknutson@midiowapanning.org](mailto:cknutson@midiowapanning.org) or 515.644.2655.

Thanks,

PS: If you find a grant opportunity outside of the list below and want to apply, please let me know. I am happy to help, no matter the source of funds.

## FUNDING: Multiple 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
<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)	<b>Floating (NOIs as soon as possible)</b>
<b>USDA Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program</b>	Helps a Microenterprise Development Organization to establish RLFs with capital funds so they can lend money to small businesses of fewer than 10 employees (Eligible: non-profit organizations and higher education)	<b>Open window – no date established</b>
<b>Iowa Women’s Foundation</b>	CORE Grants for projects that impact Iowa women and girls in the following categories: employment, childcare, housing, education and training, transportation, and mentors. Emergency Grants are also available for small, one-time only cash awards for immediate emergency needs. (Eligible: local governments, nonprofits, stakeholder groups and organizations)	<b>Rolling Basis Until Funds are Depleted</b>
<b>IEDA Manufacturing 4.0 Program</b>	Provides grant funding for projects that improve manufacturing processes in specified fields (Eligible: manufacturers)	<b>Rolling Basis Until Funds are Depleted</b>
<b>Buildings Upgrade Prize</b>	A Department of Energy program that encourages more energy efficient buildings. Buildings UP provides more than \$22 million in cash prizes and technical assistance to support the transformation of existing U.S. buildings into more energy-efficient and clean energy-ready homes, commercial spaces, and communities. Upgrades may include transitioning to efficient electric equipment, including heat pumps and heat pump water heaters, and improving building efficiency through measures such as insulation and air sealing.	<b>Ongoing, until funds run out</b>
<b>Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines Affordable Housing Program</b>	Provides subsidies (grants) to develop affordable housing, both rental and owner-occupied. Projects can be adaptive reuse, rehab, and new construction. Funds can be used to pay for development projects, down payment assistance, and rental assistance. Subsidies can be as much as \$50,000 per unit and \$750,000 total (Eligible: local governments, non-profit entities, and for-profit developers).	<b>May 1 (Application Period Opens with submissions due by June 2)</b>
<b>USDA Conservation Innovation Grant</b>	50-50 grants to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies in	<b>May 7</b>

	conjunction with agricultural production. Funds pilot projects, field demonstrations, and on-farm conservation research (Eligible: “all non-federal entities.”).	
<b>IFA HOME Program</b>	Grants for affordable housing development and rehab, rental assistance, homebuyer assistance, single-family, and multi-family (Eligible: local governments, non-profit housing agencies, some for-profit housing entities)	<b>May 19</b>
<b>Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program</b>	The CFI program is a new competitive grant program created to strategically deploy publicly accessible electric vehicle charging and alternative fueling infrastructure to communities, in addition to along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs) (Eligible: local governments).	<b>May 30</b>
<b>Iowa DOT and Living Roadways Trust Fund – LRTF Grants</b>	Supports integrated roadside vegetation management (IRVM) programs; and educates the public on the benefits, use and care of roadside vegetation, including native plants. Grants can be awarded for specialized equipment to accomplish IRVM operations; roadside plantings that demonstrate the best management practices of IRVM; inventories of roadside vegetation; and research, education, and public awareness concerning IRVM issues (eligible: local governments).	<b>June 1</b>
<b>Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines Affordable Housing Program (See Article)</b>	Provides subsidies (grants) to develop affordable housing, both rental and owner-occupied. Projects can be adaptive reuse, rehab, and new construction. Funds can be used to pay for development projects, down payment assistance, and rental assistance. Subsidies can be as much as \$50,000 per unit and \$1 million total (Eligible: local governments, non-profit entities, and for-profit developers).	<b>June 2</b>
<b>Iowa Workforce Housing Tax Incentive Program</b>	Provides tax credits/incentives from the State of Iowa for housing projects of all kinds. Up to 20% of eligible project costs can be rebated in the form of a tax incentive (Eligible: local governments and private or nonprofit developers and landowners)	<b>June 9</b>
<b>EDA STEM Talent Challenge Funding Opportunity</b>	EDA’s Office of Innovation & Entrepreneurship is seeking applications from eligible applicants to create and implement innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) work-based learning models (such as Registered Apprenticeships) that complement their respective region’s innovation economy. The STEM Talent Challenge seeks to develop or expand regional workforce capacity to support high growth, high-wage entrepreneurial ventures, industries of the future (which usually includes industries that leverage emerging technologies), and other innovation—driven businesses that have a high likelihood of accelerating economic competitiveness and job creation in their respective regions and in the United States. (Eligible: local governments, certain nonprofits, institutions of higher learning, economic development organizations, and science or research parks)	<b>June 12</b>
<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)	<b>July 1</b>
<b>CDBG Water and Sewer Program</b>	Water and wastewater capital improvements: plants, mains, lagoons, pumps, towers, etc. (Eligible: local governments)	<b>July 1 (next quarterly round)</b>

<b>Iowa DOT State 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 MIPA 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).	<b>July 1</b>
<b>IEDA Enhance Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Grant</b>	Funds for capital projects, such as trails, libraries, community centers, pavilions, entertainment venues, museums, recreational facilities, and more (Eligible: local governments and certain nonprofits).	<b>July 15</b>
<b>REAP Open Spaces Program</b>	State funding for recreation, conservation, and outdoor resources projects, including land acquisition and development. Funding is available up to 100% of the costs. (Eligible: local governments).	<b>August 15</b>
<b>IEDA Sports Tourism Grant (See Article)</b>	The Sports Tourism Grant from the IEDA's Enhance Iowa program will provide financial assistance for projects that market or promote sporting events in Iowa. (Eligible: local governments, non-profits)	<b>The first of each month and at least 90 days prior to the scheduled event</b>
<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)	<b>Ongoing, until funds run out</b>
<b>Alliant Energy Foundation Community Grants Program</b>	Grants for playgrounds, health and wellness projects, public safety, education, culture and arts, and other local needs (Eligible: local governments and non-profits in communities served by Alliant Energy)	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Iowa Historic Preservation Tax Credits – small projects</b>	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).	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>ITC/ IRDC "Power of Connection" Community Grant Program</b>	Grants up to \$5,000 for capacity building, strategic planning, studies or assessments for a variety of community programs and issues (Eligibility: rural communities)	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Highway Safety Improvement</b>	Provides grants for low-cost, systematic safety improvements in the \$10,000/mile range, focusing on lane departure crashes. (Eligible: local governments)	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP)</b>	Provides 100 hours of engineering assistance for operations and traffic safety issues. (Eligible: local governments)	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>IDOT RISE Grant – Immediate Opportunity</b>	RISE funds roadway improvements to facilitate economic development projects, such as expanding businesses, industrial/commerce parks, etc. Immediate opportunity relates to an immediate, nonspeculative opportunity for permanent job creation or retention. Up to \$12,000 per RISE eligible job created or maintained may be awarded up to 80% of the RISE eligible costs. <i>Applications are accepted any time.</i> (Eligible: local governments)	<b>Ongoing</b>

## **FUNDING: Federal Home Loan Bank Provides Housing Grant Funds**

Now is the best time to begin preparing your 2023 Competitive Affordable Housing Program (AHP) application. FHLB Des Moines has increased the grant request limit to \$1,000,000 per project and a maximum subsidy of \$50,000 per unit. The program funds projects of local governments, non-profit, and for-profit developers. If your community has a possible housing project, this program is worth exploring.

The 2023 AHP application round opens **Monday, May 1** and closes **Friday, June 2** at **4:30 p.m.**

<https://www.fhlbdm.com/products-services/affordable-housing/ahp-sponsors/>

**Please call Caleb to discuss applying for these funds.**

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## **FUNDING: EDA Public Works Grant**

This open grant (no set deadline) is designed for major economic development and industrial projects. The Public Works grants fund infrastructure to support economic opportunities. The Economic Development Administration's (EDA) supports development in economically distressed areas of the United States by fostering job creation and attracting private investment. Under this NOFO, EDA solicits applications from applicants in order to provide investments that support construction, non-construction, planning, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects under EDA's Public Works program. Grants and cooperative agreements are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities, including those negatively impacted by changes to the coal economy and nuclear power plant closures.

**Please call Caleb for additional information.**

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He/Him/His

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