ECIA Spotlight

President Signs American Rescue Plan Act

According to the National Association of Counties (NACo) The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 offers approximately $1.920 billion in fiscal relief to be split evenly between municipalities and counties. Highlights from the NACo March 4, 2021 Legislative Analysis include:

- Counties that are CDBG recipients would receive larger share, based on population or calculated share under the CDBG allocation method.
- NON-COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES: $60.1 billion to cities and other non-county municipalities.
- $42.07 billion in direct federal aid for municipalities with populations of at least 50,000, using a modified CDBG formula.
- $35.38 billion for municipalities with populations less than 50,000, based on each jurisdiction’s percentage of the state’s population.
- Amount per jurisdiction may not exceed 75% of its most recent budget as of January 27, 2020.

Funds may be used to:
1. Respond to the public health emergency in regard to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries like tourism, travel, and hospitality.
2. For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue (i.e., online, property or income tax) due to the public health emergency, or
3. Make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

The deadline to spend funds would be December 31, 2024.

ECIA, NICC Receives EDA B2R Grant

ECIA and NICC received an EDA Business Resiliency & Recovery grant of more than $315,000 to help northeast Iowa businesses prepare for, respond to, and recover from pandemic impacts through technical assistance and training opportunities. The project will equip and staff a business helpline and triage system, offer one-to-one business counseling, research best practices for and develop capacity trainings, and staff a business helpline and triage system, offer one-to-one business counseling, research best practices for and develop capacity trainings, and assist with the addition of 22 new blue-collar jobs and resilience. Wendy Mihm-Herold, NICC Vice President of Business and Community Solutions, said, “Our experienced team has been working with businesses affected by COVID-19 since March 2020 and we are ready to implement this initiative. These dollars will help us provide much needed one-on-one expert consultation to assist businesses on efficiency, human capital, strategic planning and growth strategies.” Interested businesses should call 563.588.3350 between 8:30-4:00, M-F or email sbhelpline@ecia.org.

Clinton, Dubuque Rank #1 & 2 Per Capita

Based on economic development activity per capita in 2020, Scott County was featured in Site Selection magazine. The report featured the top U.S. counties that host the most jobs and private investment per capita, using the Mississippi River Valley corridor as the sample area. The study showed that Scott County’s economy is among the most vibrant and growing in the nation, with Scott County ranked #1 for per capita jobs and #2 for per capita private investment.

FREE Training Sessions in 2021

The sessions noted below have been confirmed and will be held via Zoom or webinar. Look for more information regarding these sessions and others to be added via ECIA’s website and Facebook page! Contact Caitlin Siemionko at csiemionko@ecia.org for more information on these sessions.

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ECIA

ECIA Mobility Coordinator Tricia Wagner notes, “Now, as staff and clients are receiving the vaccine, and near a reopening, the agencies are excited to get their doors open into the community. They have been isolated for almost a year, and we are excited to create a sense of normality and renewed socialization.”

ECC Bond Passes

Further advancement in Clinton and the surrounding region is the result of a successful March referendum with (EDA) to aid in the expansion of operations at the Edgewood Locker, assist with the addition of 22 new blue-collar jobs and resilience. Wendy Mihm-Herold, NICC Vice President of Business and Community Solutions, said, “Our experienced team has been working with businesses affected by COVID-19 since March 2020 and we are ready to implement this initiative. These dollars will help us provide much needed one-on-one expert consultation to assist businesses on efficiency, human capital, strategic planning and growth strategies.” Interested businesses should call 563.588.3350 between 8:30-4:00, M-F or email sbhelpline@ecia.org.

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