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Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission Newsletter

*Serving Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne and
White Counties*

ENERGY NOW-Public Sector Energy Grants

March
2012

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity administers the Public Sector Energy Efficiency Program. PSEE provides incentives for projects that increase the energy efficiency of local governments, municipal corporations, public school districts, community college districts, and state/federal facilities located in the service territory of Ameren Illinois. The categories include lighting, HVAC, kitchen appliances. Examples: T12 lighting replacement, outdoor lighting, kitchen electrics such as freezers/refrigerators, sewer motors, and many more!



If you would be interested in learning more about this grant please call Sarah or David at GWRPC as soon as possible. You do not have to buy your power from Ameren to be eligible (the electric lines must be owned by Ameren). GWRPC will determine your eligibility based on your electric bill.

In addition, there will be a workshop held in Springfield on March 24th. The workshop will include officials from DCEO, and Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC). See attached information. If you are going, please register and also let Sarah Mann at GWRPC know that you plan to attend.

Southern Illinois Economic Development Conference

SIED 18th Annual Conference Thursday, April 12th at the

JALC Conference Center- Carterville, Illinois

Two Sessions...

Economic Development:
"Build a Better Workplace"
8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

**Elected Officials and
Local Government Symposium**
11:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

**Both sessions include a Networking LUNCH,
featuring KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**

Graham Richards,
American Politician and Entrepreneur

Registration Fee: **\$35 for either program, or \$60 for both.** For additional information, contact Dennis White or Ann Spencer at the Center for Business & Industry, John A. Logan College, Carterville, Illinois 62918. Call (618) 985-2828, ext. 8525, or register online at:

<https://secure.jalc.edu/cbi/sedc.php>

Important Grant Due Dates to Remember

April 13, 2012– CDAP Design Engineering Grants Due-Local governments can apply for up to \$100,000 for design engineering activities. Funds may be used for final design engineering plans for new or expanding water or sewer projects.

May 29, 2012- IDOT Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program- ITEP provides funding for community based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure. Project sponsors may receive up to 80 percent reimbursement for eligible project costs.

Summer 2012- Delta Regional Authority Grants Due- White County Only-

July 1, 2012- Illinois Department of Natural Resources OSLAD Grants– Open Space Land Acquisition and Development assists local government agencies in acquiring or developing public parks or open spaces. Funding assistance up to 50% of the project costs. Grant awards up to \$750,000 for land acquisition and \$400,000 for development projects. Examples of eligible projects include: picnic and playground facilities, outdoor nature facilities, sports courts and play fields, swimming pools and beaches, campgrounds and fishing piers, winter sports facilities, park roads and paths, parking and restrooms.

September 1, 2012- Illinois DNR Boat Access Area Development Grants– BAAD grants provide assistance to local governments for the acquisition, construction, and/or development of public boat and canoe access areas on Illinois lakes and rivers. The program provides up to 100% of construction costs and 90% of approved land acquisition costs. Grant limited to \$200,000. Examples of eligible projects include: water frontage land acquisition for public access areas, boat ramps, courtesy docks, restrooms and security lighting, parking areas, access roads, walkways, other boating facilities.

September 2012– FEMA- Assistance to Firefighters– Grant to help fire departments obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources needed to protect the public.

Fall 2012- Safe Routes to School Projects Due Date- The Illinois Safe Routes To School (SRTS) Program supports projects and programs that enable and encourage walking and bicycling to and from school. The program applies to schools Kindergarten through 8th grade.

Fall 2012- EPA Brownfield Grants

February 2013- CDAP Public Facilities Construction- Local governments can apply for up to \$400,000 for construction of water, sewer or storm sewer projects.

March 1, 2013- Illinois DNR Bicycle Path Program-The Illinois Bicycle Path Grant Program was created in 1990 to financially assist eligible units of government acquire, construct, and rehabilitate public, non-motorized bicycle paths and directly related support facilities. These grants are for 50% of the project up to \$200,000.

March 2013– CDAP Housing Rehabilitation Grants Due-Local government can apply for up to \$400,000 to help provide safe and sanitary living conditions for low-to-moderate income residents. Grant funds are used to upgrade the existing housing stock in the community.

Open Grant- MARS- The grants are through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to rehabilitate and retrofit properties for occupancy by persons with physical impairments. Local governments may request grant funds up to \$100,000.

Open Grant- CDAP Economic Development- Local governments can apply for up to \$750,000 in grant funds for infrastructure to assist a business in locating in an area that needs infrastructure. There is also a loan component in which businesses can apply for loan funds.

Open Grant- Economic Development Administration- grant funds available (50/50 match) that will promote comprehensive, entrepreneurial and innovation-based economic development efforts to enhance the competitiveness of regions, resulting in increased private investment and higher-skill, higher-wage jobs.

Open Grant- USDA/RD Community Facilities- Grant funds may be used to assist in the development of essential community facilities. Grant funds can be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and community and public services. This can include the purchase of equipment required for a facility's operation. Matching grant not to exceed \$30,000.

Open Grant- USDA/RD RBEG- Rural Business Enterprise Grant- provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses help fund business incubators, and help fund employment related adult education programs. There is no required maximum level of grant funding. However, smaller projects are given higher priority. Generally grants range \$10,000 up to \$500,000

Open Grant- FEMA/IEMA- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program- The Illinois Emergency Management Agency administers the HMGP and makes grants available to local governments as well as eligible private, non-profit organizations to implement cost-effective and long-term mitigation measures following a major disaster declaration. 75% federal grant funding. Only eligible for Counties in the NFIP with a PreDisaster Mitigation Plan.

**TBA- COPS Hiring Program
COPS Secure Our Schools
JAG (Justice Assistance Grants)**

Call or
E-mail
GWRPC
if your
community
wishes
to apply
for these

CDAP & EDA Grant Updates

By: David Jordan, Grant Coordinator

In 2010, **City of Olney** received a CDAP PF grant to replace storm sewers in the amount of \$294,945.

In 2010, The **City of Carmi** received \$350,000 to replace sewer treatment plant equipment.

Dundas West Liberty received a \$100,000 design grant in 2009.

The **Village of Cisne** received a design grant in 2010 for infrastructure planning.

The **City of Olney** received a Housing Grant in 2010 to upgrade 5 Low to Moderate Income Houses. Four houses have been finished and the contractor is working on the last house.

The **City of Fairfield** received an Economic Development Administration Grant in the amount of \$1.68 million to build a new water treatment plant. The project is starting construction.

The **City of Lawrenceville** received an EDA grant in the amount of \$1.776 million for improvements to the Lawrenceville Small Business Park.

The **City of Robinson** received a \$1.493 million grant from EDA for improvements to the Ridgway Industrial Park. This project is in the design phase.

NEW GRANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Village of Allendale – Safe Routes to School \$208,524

New Decision Data Tools Available Through GWRPC!

Partnering with Connect SI, Greater Wabash recently received access to Innovation Economy and Research 360. IE360 is the only web-based GIS solution offering direct access to decision critical innovation data including Venture Capital, Patents and Federal Funding. IE360 also includes county level Industry Output and Employment/Wage data to assist your organization's planning decision processes. IE360 also provides Data Visualization tools for creating chart and graph outputs and targeted industry cluster analysis.

Research360 increases the efficiency and effectiveness of your research efforts. This web-based GIS solution conveniently provides users with cutting edge GIS mapping and technological capabilities allowing you to create data-oriented reports and maps to support decisions and monitor regional progress. Research 360 can take any demographic data that you would like to for a range of areas (census tract, city, county, state) and plot them. Research 360 also has all businesses listed in Dun and Bradstreet and can filter by industry. Please call GWRPC today if you are interested in getting information from this system! For more information visit:

<http://www.decisiondata.net>

ITEP Grants Due May 29th

ILLINOIS TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (ITEP)

ITEP provides funding for community based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure. Project sponsors may receive up to 80 percent reimbursement for eligible project costs. The remaining 20 percent is the responsibility of the project sponsor. A project must qualify as one of the 12 eligible categories listed in the ITEP Guidelines Manual and it must relate to surface transportation to be eligible for funding. **In 2010, the Village of Palestine was awarded \$822,880 for a streetscape beautification project!**

"This federal funding will give communities throughout Illinois the opportunity to beautify their streets, develop bike paths and improve hiking trails," said Governor Quinn. "These community-based projects will create jobs, expand travel choices, enhance safety and improve the quality of life for Illinoisans." The ITEP is designed to improve transportation safety and the quality of life and in Illinois by promoting alternative transportation, bike and pedestrian travel, and streetscape beautification. The federal funds are awarded competitively, and any local or state government with taxing authority is eligible to apply. 20% local matching funds are required, and work must begin on the projects within three years. The program is funded through SAFETEA-LU, the federal surface transportation funding bill. For more information please visit www.dot.state.il.us/opp/itep.html.

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GWRPC Revolving Loan Fund

The GWRPC Revolving Loan Fund can provide low interest loans up to \$100,000 to small businesses in the 7 county region. Uses of loan funds can be for real property, improvements, equipment, and working capital.

GWRPC funded projects must create or retain one permanent private

sector job for every \$7500 of RLF funds. Any business located within the seven county region is eligible with priority going to the industrial sector. You may download an application on our web-site at

<http://www.gwrpc.com/services/rlf.html>



Important Upcoming Dates

Thursday, March 29th- GWRPC Annual Dinner Meeting-
The Holiday, Olney, IL- 6:30 p.m.

Friday, March 23rd- Energy NOW workshop and SEDAC presentation-
Springfield, IL

Thursday, April 12th- Southern Illinois Economic Development Conference-
John A Logan College- 8:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

About Our Newsletter

The Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission Newsletter is a publication of GWRPC. This newsletter covers special events and information about

GWRPC and the Illinois Counties of Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne and White. If you have any questions and/or comments about any

article in this newsletter, please contact us at:

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