

# March



*The Commission serves the Greater Wabash District by providing local, regional, and comprehensive planning; facilitating knowledge enhancement; securing and administering funds; and promoting cooperative solutions to regional issues.*

## **Wanting to apply for a grant? Here are some tips!**

1. Applications take time.... Prepare in advance
2. Make sure your SAM and GATA accounts are up-to-date.
3. Some grants require ordinances and policies, so be ready to put them in place.
4. Choose projects that are consistent with local plans.
5. Do your research! Know your utility rates, assets, or anything that may apply to the grant you are pursuing.

## **LWIA 23 and 26 Area Planning**

The Local Workforce Innovation Area 23 and 26 Regional Planning Teams are currently working to develop drafts of their Regional Plans. The Regional Plan conveys how partners from workforce development, education, and economic development work together to best serve our communities. The Greater Wabash Region serves counties in both LWIA 23 (Crawford, Lawrence, Richland) and LWIA 26 (Edwards, Wabash, Wayne, White). To learn more about Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) and what workforce services are available in your area please visit <https://so14lwib.com/> for LWIA 26 and <https://lwa23.net/> for LWIA 23.

## Revolving Loan Fund

Looking to open a business? GWRPC provides low interest loans to area businesses to create or retain private sector jobs. Loans can be between \$10,000 and \$300,000, with one job created per every \$30,000 in loan funds.

## West Salem OSLAD

The Village of West Salem was awarded approximately \$44,000 through the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development grant program through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. West Salem plans to renovate two existing tennis courts at Mill Pond Park, including converting one tennis court into two pickleball courts and adding new posts at the other tennis court to allow the net to be raised for volleyball. Fencing and lighting will be replaced, and a new ADA parking area will be installed.

## IEPA

### Lead Service Line Inventory

For many communities, affordability is the biggest hurdle to overcome. To assist communities in meeting the inventory requirements outlined in the LSLRNA, the IEPA is making \$6,570,000 available through the 15% Local Assistance and Other State Program Set-Aside, where no more than 10% of the grant funds may be used on a single program activity. This Set-Aside will be taken from the 2022 BIL- Lead grant to fund this round (Round 4) of the Lead Service Line Inventory Grant Program for the creation of a Complete Lead Service Line Inventory meeting the inventory requirements outlined in 415 ILCS 5/17.12.

### LSLI

## Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

### Community Development Block Grants

#### CDBG Project Requirements

1. Meet Low or Moderate Income Requirements
2. Document a threat to health or safety
3. Have the proper permits. To have the proper permits, an engineer must be hired, surveys must be completed, and permits must be submitted and received.

In order to submit a CDBG grant, the applicant must meet these criteria. Without this information, an application cannot be completed. We recommend

planning for applications a year in advance to make sure the application will be completed on time. Applications were submitted this cycle for Albion, Grayville, Bridgeport, and Noble. The application process can be lengthy, so we recommend that planning a year in advance. Contact **Jeff Vaughan** or **Mike Gill** so we can get started on those applications!

## **Illinois DCEO Grant Opportunities**

# FEMA

### **5-County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Lawrence, Crawford, Edwards, Wabash, and Wayne counties are in the process of updating their FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plans. The University of Illinois and Greater Wabash Regional Planning are working together to coordinate community meetings, and the next meeting dates will be released soon. If you missed the kickoff meeting, meeting notes and information are available at the link below.

### **BOX: Hazard Mitigation Information**

### **Assistance to Firefighters Grant**

Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. Funding is available for Fire Departments, Fire Protection Districts, and non-profit EMS. If you have an interest in AFG, please contact **Taegan Garner**.

Applications are due March 8th.

# Current Projects

## CDBG

- Grayville Waterline Replacement
- West Salem Lagoon
- Albion Sewer Lines
- Lawrenceville Waterline
- Crawford County Sewer Treatment Plant
- Olney Sanitary Sewer Relining
- Geff Water System Improvements

## Rebuild Illinois

- Olney Storm Sewer

## FEMA

- Multi Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

## ISP NG911

- Edwards County

## Energy Transition

- White County

## PARC

- Crossville

## LSLI

- Burnt Prairie



# Upcoming Projects

Economic Development Administration (EDA)

- Economic Development

Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)

- Community Development Block Grant

IEPA

- Lead Service Line Inventory

Delta Regional Authority (White County only)

- Strategic Planning Grant



## **Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)**

Illinois is currently trying to discover where broadband access is lacking with hopes to expand infrastructure in the near future. To do so, Illinois has released BEAD. More information on BEAD and other broadband programs can be found at the link below.

## Federal Broadband Updates

### Small Business Development Center

Michelle Brooks with SBDC will be at GWRPC the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1:00-4:00pm. SBDC offers free business advice for entrepreneurs.

### IECC SBDC

#### Notice!

- Check your GATA accounts to make sure ICQ's are completed!
- The GWRPC is now open Monday through Friday, 7:00 to 4:30!



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