

Vierbicher *Bulletin*

Volume 11, No. 1

Information for Municipal Officials

April 2001

Public Funding Opportunities

New Political Leadership Brings Changes to Funding Programs

We are faced with changes in the political leadership that we haven't seen for awhile. With a new governor and president there will undoubtedly be shifts in policy. That, together with new initiatives, will create numerous changes with public funding programs. Following is a brief summary of what to expect.

Clean Water Fund Changes

Governor McCallum's Executive Budget is proposing to reduce the funding authority for the 2001-2003 biennium from \$110M to \$85M. Since this reduction is greater than 20%, it has triggered a provision in Wisconsin Statutes which requires eligible municipalities to submit applications by June 30. Since the State Budget will not be approved until after the June 30 deadline, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is recommending Clean Water Fund loan applications be submitted by June 30.

Technology Development Initiative

The State of Wisconsin is proposing a number of initiatives to promote development and expansion of high technology businesses. A new Technology Development Zone Program has been created. The new program would create 20 technology zones in the state. Each zone would have up to \$5M available in tax credits.

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce is also proposing to modify existing programs to provide grant funds to communities to support technology development. The Community Based Economic Development (CBED) Program will be directed to fund Technology Based Incubator projects. Also, the Department is looking to modify

the CDBG Public Facilities Program and/or CDBG Public Facilities for Economic Development Program to fund telecommunication infrastructure improvement projects.

Wis-DOT-TEA Program Changes

Governor McCallum's Executive Budget is proposing a new name and a substantial increase in funding for the WisDOT-TEA Program. The new name will be Tommy G. Thompson Transportation Economic Assistance Program. The funding level is proposed to be \$7M over the 2001-2003 biennium, up from the current \$3.5M funding level. Governor McCallum is also recommending the TEA program promote development of the rural areas of the state.

TIF Changes Recommended

In 1999 former Governor Tommy Thompson created a Working Group on Tax Incremental Finance (TIF). The group was asked to evaluate and recommend proposed changes to the TIF law. Following is a partial list of the recommendations made by this group.

- Expenditure period changed from seven to 10 years.
- Maximum life of industrial TIDs changed from 23 years to 15 years.
- Land annexed after 1/1/2000 cannot be included within a TID unless subject to a boundary agreement with the town, or three years have lapsed since the annexation.
- Eliminate residential and retail property values from the base and increment calculations for industrial TIDs.

It is anticipated the recommendations will be introduced as legislation during the 2001 Legislative Session.

Agency Contacts:

- Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources,
S.E. - Dan Kaemmerer, 414/263-8704
N.E. - Gary Hanson, 920/492-5823
N. - Diane Conklin, 715/635-4130
W. - LaVane Hessler, 715/836-6574
S.C. - Stefanie Brouwer, 608/275-3218
- Wis. Dept. of Commerce,
Area Dept. Mgr., 800/HELPBUS
- Wis. Dept. of Transportation,
Dennis Leong, 608/266-9910
- Wis. Dept. of Administration,
CDBG Housing,
Martha Wilson, 608/266-5842
Planning,
Kassandra Walbrun, 608/264-6116
- USDA Rural Development,
Mark Brodziski, 715/345-7610
- Economic Development Admin.,
John Peck, 616/938-1712



VIERBICHER
ASSOCIATES
Committed to Quality Service Since 1976

Is Your Project Fundable?

Some of the "typical" municipal capital projects receiving grant funds are listed below. If your community has one of these projects, you should investigate your grant opportunities.

- ▼ Municipal Buildings
 - ADA Improvements
 - Fire Stations
 - Community/Senior Centers
- ▼ Water Systems
 - Wells and Reservoirs
 - Treatment Facilities
 - Booster Stations
 - Water Mains
- ▼ Municipal Parks
 - Land Acquisition
 - Park Development
 - Boating Facilities
- ▼ Storm Water Systems
 - Storm Water Management Plans
 - Detention Basins
 - Storm Sewers
- ▼ Sanitary Sewer Systems
 - Wastewater Treatment Plants
 - Lift Stations
 - Sewer Mains
- ▼ Industrial Park Infrastructure
- ▼ Streets and Roadways
- ▼ Brownfield Redevelopment
- ▼ Lake Rehabilitation
- ▼ Comprehensive Plans

Vierbicher Can Help!

Vierbicher Associates, Inc., has 24 years of grant writing experience. We have assisted local governments obtain nearly \$50M in grant funds and create 80 Tax Incremental Districts.

For more information on available funding, please contact:

Gary W. Becker, 800-261-3898

gbec@vierbicher.com

David J. Pawlisch, 800-261-6468

dpaw@vierbicher.com

© 2001 Vierbicher Associates, Inc.

Application Deadlines

| <u>Infrastructure Programs</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| DNR - Clean Water Fund Application | June 30, 2001 |
| DNR - Clean Water Fund (<i>Intent to Apply</i>) | December 31, 2001 |
| DNR - Safe Drinking Water Act (<i>Intent to Apply</i>) | December 31, 2001 |
| DNR - Safe Drinking Water Act (<i>Final Application</i>) | April 30, 2002 |
| DOC - CDBG Public Facilities (<i>Pre-Application</i>) | Summer 2001 |
| DOC - CDBG Public Facilities for Econ. Dev. | No Deadline |
| DOT - Transportation Economic Assistance | |
| | June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1, 2001 |
| EDA - Public Works & Development Grants | No Deadline |
| Rural Dev. - Water & Waste Systems Program | No Deadline |
| Tax Incremental Financing | No Deadline |

| <u>Water Resources Programs</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|---|-----------------|
| DNR - Lake Planning Grants | August 1, 2001 |
| DNR - Lake Protection Grants | May 1, 2001 |
| DNR - River Planning Grants | August 1, 2001 |
| DNR - River Protection Grants | May 1, 2001 |
| DNR - Urban Non-Point Source & Storm Water Grant .. | May 1, 2001 |

| <u>Recreation Programs</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|---|-----------------|
| DNR - Recreation Boating Facilities | Quarterly |
| DNR - Local Park Program | May 1, 2001 |
| DNR - Urban Green Space | May 1, 2001 |
| WI Conservation Corps | Quarterly |

| <u>Municipal Buildings Programs</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|---|-----------------|
| DOC - CDBG Public Facilities (<i>Pre-Application</i>) | Summer 2001 |
| Rural Dev. - Community Facilities Program | No Deadline |

| <u>Economic Development Programs</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|---|-----------------|
| DOC - Development & Enterprise Zone | No Deadline |
| DOC - CDBG-Economic Development | No Deadline |
| Tax Incremental Financing | No Deadline |

| <u>Brownfield Redevelopment Programs</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|--|-------------------|
| DOC - CDBG Blight & Brownfield Redevelopment | No Deadline |
| DOC - Brownfield Grant Program | Fall 2001 |
| DNR - Land Recycling Loan Program (<i>Intent to Apply</i>) | |
| | December 31, 2001 |
| Environmental Remediation TIF | No Deadline |
| Tax Incremental Financing | No Deadline |

| <u>Comprehensive Planning Programs</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|--|-----------------|
| Comprehensive Planning Grants | Fall 2001 |
| DOT - SMIP (LE & STP-D) | Spring 2002 |



Engineering, Architecture, Environmental, Surveying, GIS, Community Development, Planning

400 Viking Drive, P.O. Box 379
Reedsburg, WI 53959
(608) 524-6468

6200 Mineral Point Road
Madison, WI 53705-4504
(608) 233-5800

P.O. Box 650
Scofield, WI 54476-0650
(715) 359-2003

P.O. Box 542
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821-0542
(608) 326-1051

www.vierbicher.com