

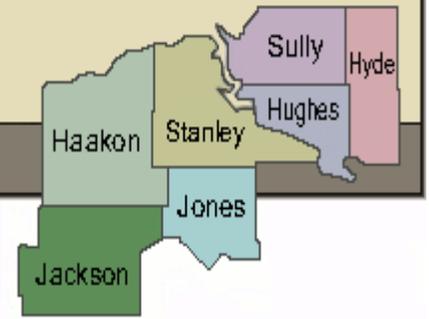
Central South Dakota Enhancement District

"Assisting Communities, Businesses and Individuals in Achieving Their Highest Economic Potential"

Volume 3, Issue 2
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www.csded.org

PO Box 220, 110 West Missouri
Pierre, South Dakota 57501



Energy Assistance Grants

The exact application forms and deadline for the state's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Grant Program are not yet known, but approximately \$5.7 million is expected to be made available to cities and counties that did not receive a direct allocation from the federal government under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Applicants should be determining projects now and securing cost estimates. Applicants will also need to provide information for energy savings (not necessarily dollars saved) and average pay back. This information should be available through vendor or industry sources. It is anticipated that while an applicant may have only one application, they might have more than one project in an application.

Grant percentages will most likely depend upon the number of the applications and requests the state receives. Think about the amount of local match you are willing to initially indicate in your applications.

The District office will e-mail out information to all the cities and counties as information is available. If you plan on having an application, please contact the District as District staff will be assisting with these applications.

Tourism Development Opportunities

Digital Revolution

The State is launching "Digital Revolution" a cooperative digital marketing program to improve online travel opportunities for tourists. The program will allow visitors to make online reservations and purchase tickets to events and attractions from any partner site. Informational meetings have been scheduled for August 11-Sioux Falls, August 12—Aberdeen and Pierre, August 13 in Rapid City and Deadwood. The 3 p.m. meeting in Pierre will be at the Ramkota.

Rooster Rush

The pheasant hunting season will soon be upon us and local communities can be involved via the Rooster Rush campaign. The state has developed promotional materials, toolkits, templates, and is providing funding assistance. Each Rooster Rush community can receive promotional funds up to \$500 to use on advertising and promotion. Eligible entities are CVBs, Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development Corporations/Offices, Downtown Organizations and Non-Profits. \$25,000 is available on a first-come, first serve basis. The application deadline is October 1, 2009. Contact Nicole Gall at nicole.gall@state.sd.us or 773-3301 for more information.

Great Events

Applications are being accepted until October 1 for the South Dakota Office of Tourism's Great Events campaign. Four events are selected by the South Dakota Office of Tourism based upon several criteria including:

- Length of event: Must be two or more days in length.
- Reoccurrences of event: Must be an annual event. Uniqueness: Must be a unique event (e.g., no Fourth of July, Labor Day, etc. celebrations).
- Growth Potential: Must have visitor appeal and growth potential. Growth potential is defined as rooms available in hotels/motels.
- Event can occur anytime during the year. Non-profit events only. Religious, political or for-profit events are not eligible.
- Event can be part of the Great Events campaign for no more than three (3) consecutive years.

The South Dakota Office of Tourism provides assistance to event organizers and supports promotional efforts for designated events in order to boost visitor spending and to increase the economic impact of the event on host communities. Contact Joey Hockett at 773-3301 for more information.

“Grant Funds Awarded”

Fort Pierre

Fort Pierre has been awarded \$1,875,000 from the Economic Development Administration funds for a stormwater drainage project. The CSDED was a co-applicant on the EDA funds. A \$900,000 CWSRF loan was also approved for the project by SDDENR. Other funds to be utilized will be CDBG and SDDOT, as well as local cash.

Fort Pierre has been awarded \$6,000 from the SD Department of Water and Natural Resources toward a \$15,000 engineering study to determine the water needs of the community including source, distribution/storage, and treatment.

Harrold

Harrold was awarded an additional \$67,500 of CDBG funds (\$267,500 total) for their storm water drainage project which is now under construction. Other funds for the project include Clean Water State Revolving Loan from the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Central Water Development District funds.

District staff assisted with these applications. If you are interested in learning more about project financing options for projects, please contact the CSDED office.

Directors Notes!

Last spring the Governor discussed the “Certified Ready” program. The program will designate sites as certified-ready for incoming businesses. I have been asked to serve on the task force regarding the criteria for certified ready sites. Potential areas of certification include zoning, electrical, water and sewer infrastructure, roads, environmental issues, land, etc. I will provide more information to you as this program develops.



Expectations were exceptionally high amongst several of our units of governments when the stimulus funds were initially discussed. However, in many instances it was determined some of the funding opportunities became loans or the programs just didn’t fit the needs of

a potential applicant. In some instances applications were started, but not completed, and others have been pulled by the entity/applicant once submitted. Yet, some will work well. The ultimate learning experience may be to have projects planned for in advance so when unexpected opportunities arise, they can be capitalized upon. There is simply not a grant for everything in this world and grants are not free—there are strings attached.

While the office continues to be extremely busy, every entity and member unit of government should make their requests directly to the office. Don’t ever feel you have used the office too much or can’t refer a non-profit. Project financing is only a small part of what this office does. Entities are also being assisted with comprehensive plans, ordinance development, county GIS base layers, housing, etc.

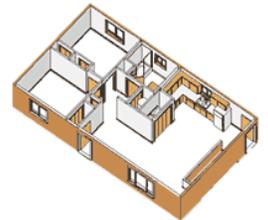
Survive and Thrive

Small Business “Marketing” Education Series Co-Sponsored

The US Small Business Administration and the SD Small Business Development Center Network presented an audio/video education series to help businesses understand today’s marketing practices. These no cost one hour training sessions were conducted each Thursday in July. Because there were a limited number of call-in lines for the program, the Central South Dakota Enhancement District, the Pierre Economic Development Corporation and Pierre Chamber co-hosted a site at the Pierre Chamber facilities. While attendees ranged from 3 to 9 persons per sessions.

Governor’s House

The income guidelines have changed -- for households with two or less individuals combined household income cannot exceed \$39,500 and for households with three or more individuals, combined income cannot exceed \$40,250. The net worth requirements did not change.



To learn more about the Governor’s House Program or if you know of someone who might want to purchase the home, please have them contact the CSDED Office at 773-2780 or go to the District website at www.csded.org.



Recovery Zone Economic Development Bond and Recovery Zone Facility Bond Programs

The counties of Haakon, Hughes, Jones, and Stanley have each been allocated an amount under both the Recovery Zone Economic Development and Recovery Zone Facility Bond programs. These are a new type of bond made available via the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These are bonds that allow for the **borrowing of funds** with a 45% subsidy.

RZ Economic Development Bonds are for public infrastructure and public facility capital projects. If the counties do not wish to utilize the bonding authority for themselves, they may allocate a portion to cities and other governmental entities for projects within county boundaries or they may simply waive the authority back to the state for reallocation. If as a city you would like a portion of your county's allocation, please contact your county auditor. It is our understanding that Bob Wilcox at the South Dakota Association of County Commissioners will have the waiver form to use for counties that may want to revert the funds back to the state for reallocation. **Once the funds have been reallocated to the state, the state can reallocate the funds to other counties, including those that did not originally receive an allocation. It is important to let the state know, if your county would like an allocation if you did not originally receive one.** We understand, the contact person at the state is Jason Dilges, Commissioner of Finance and Management at 773-3411.

The RZ Facility Bonds are for use by private business for depreciable capital projects (buildings and equipment). Projects will need to be occur in a designated "recovery zone area" which are based on poverty, unemployment, home foreclosures or general distress. The county or (if funds are allocated to a municipality) the city will need to designate the recovery zone area.

These bonds must be issued before January 1, 2011. Entities wishing to utilize the funds must follow SD laws involving borrowing of funds for the appropriate unit of governments. Entities will need to utilize bond counsel. While the District does not recommend one bond counsel over another, Meierhenry Sargent LLP has posted information on their website at www.meierhenrylaw.com.

South Dakota GIS Conference 2009

The 2009 South Dakota GIS Conference will be held **September 1-2** at the Teton Island Convention Center in Fort Pierre, South Dakota. The State of South Dakota, the Spatial Technology Consortium, and the Black Hills Digital Mapping Association are working together to bring you this networking and educational opportunity.

Anyone interested in Geographic Information Systems or spatial technologies is encouraged to attend. Join others from the private sector, educational institutions, and from local, state, tribal, and federal government organizations in exchanging of ideas and sharing of experiences.

The keynote speaker will be Ron Woodburn who is a charter member of the South Dakota GIS Consortium and its first Director.

The conference is free. Please register at <https://my.usgs.gov/Public/NSDIPartnershipOffice/SD/registration1.html>. or by going to www.bhdma.org.

Dates and Deadlines

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| August | 10----- | Written Comments Due on Five-Year State Highway Transportation Plan
E-mail Comments to:
duane.heermann@state.sd.us |
| | 11----- | Application Workshop for Wellmark Foundation Funds, Chamber of Commerce Community Room, Pierre 10:30 a.m.
Letters of Interest are Due Sept 11, 2009
For application and funding opportunity information go to:
www.welmark.com/foundation |
| | 12----- | Digital Revolution Informational Meeting, Ramkota, Pierre 3 p.m. |
| September | 1-2----- | GIS Conference, Fort Pierre |
| | 10----- | CSDDED Board Meeting, Stanley County Courthouse |
| | 21-23----- | County Convention, Watertown |
| October | 1----- | State Water Plan Applications Due |
| | 6-9----- | SD Municipal League Conference, Watertown |
- SDDENR Water, Sewer, and Storm Sewer Project Financing Application Deadlines (Projects Must Be on State Water Plan)**
- Consolidated Water Facility Construction Program
Deadlines are the 1st day of April, July, October and January
 - Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF Loan Programs
Deadlines are currently the 15th day of April, July, October and January



2010 CENSUS: IT'S IN OUR HANDS

The 2010 Census is a count of everyone living in the United States and is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. Census data are used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to distribute more than \$400

billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year and to make decisions about what community services to provide. The 2010 Census questionnaire will be one of the shortest in history and consists of 10 questions, taking about 10 minutes to complete. Strict confidentiality laws protect the confidentiality of respondents and the information they provide. The census count is also utilized in determining boundaries for SD state and local elected officials' seats as appropriate.

The CSDED newsletter pertains to items of interest to CSDED members and those we serve. This newsletter is funded in part by the Economic Development Administration.

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Bill Abernathy, Vice-Chairman, Pierre
David Page, Sec/Treasurer, Fort Pierre
David Neuharth, Stanley County
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