



Windsor's Use of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA or "the federal stimulus bill") was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. The \$787 billion economic stimulus bill gives federal agencies the ability to distribute funds to states and local communities to:

- To preserve and create jobs, and promote economic recovery
- To assist those most affected by the recession
- To provide investments needed to increase economic efficiency by spurring technological advances in science and health
- To invest in transportation, environmental protection, and other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits
- To stabilize state and local government budgets, in order to minimize and avoid reductions in essential services and counterproductive state and local tax increases.

The Town of Windsor stands to benefit from both formula-based funding and competitive grants funds under the ARRA. Here is a list of the funds that we have been awarded or have applied for and how those funds will be used:

Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant

Background

This program has both formulary and competitive grant components. The town can receive up to \$108,000 through a formula grant to carry out energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy sources projects. Applications are due September 15th and the State of Connecticut will approve and announce grant awards by November 15th. This is a reimbursable grant, so the town will need to appropriate and expend the funds and then request reimbursement. There is also a pool of funds set aside for regional energy programs.

Status

Staff is currently evaluating which projects to pursue under the formula grants. In addition, staff will be meeting with the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and nearby towns to explore possible joint applications to the competitive grants.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

TBD

Amount Requested

TBD

Amount Approved

TBD

Staff Contact

Al Neumann, ph. 285-1870

Fire Station Construction – Hayden Station Firehouse

Background

In conjunction our work to create a design to rebuild Hayden Station Firehouse, the fire department is in the process of completing a grant application to assist in funding the construction. The ARRA includes \$210 million for the building or rebuilding of fire stations nationwide. This grant is being managed by the Department of Homeland Security. That department expects 10,000 requests for assistance totaling \$10 billion dollars; this equals a 1% to 2% chance of the town receiving the grant. The department indicates that its funding focus will be on densely populated towns and cities with high unemployment. This grant does not require a match by the town, but the guidance does indicate that towns that do contribute will receive a higher ranking in the accepted applications.

Status

Town Council approved submitting a grant application on July 6, 2009 for \$1.8 million of the total project cost of \$2.8 million. The grant was submitted by the July 10, 2009 due date. The review period is to begin in September, but no award notification date has been established.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

TBD

<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Approved</u>	<u>Staff Contact</u>
\$1,800,000	TBD	Paul Goldberg, ph. 285-1983

Community Development Block Grant-Recovery (CDBG-R) Funding

Background

The Community Development staff has submitted an application for Small Cities Community Development Block Grant-Recovery (CDBG-R). The application was in response to a specific invitation from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to 12 towns to apply for funds to assist neighborhoods that may be at risk of a higher home foreclosure rate.

The town's application proposes a comprehensive approach to meet the goal of stabilizing potentially at-risk neighborhoods. Our three focus areas include: blight and dangerous building removal, infrastructure improvements, and facilitating the rehabilitation and refinancing of homes that are in foreclosure.

DECD has yet to receive final approval from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on the proposed use of funds within the State. Once a grant agreement is signed, the town is to give priority to projects which can be committed within 120 days. All funds must be expended by September 30, 2012.

As an initial proposal to the state, the application requests \$200,000 for clearance and demolition activities, \$100,000 for public facilities and improvements, \$320,000 for rehabilitation and refinancing activities and \$100,000 for planning and administration costs, for a total request of \$720,000. It is expected that these allocations may change after DECD has received and reviewed all applications.

Status

Application for this grant was made in May 2009.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Approved</u>	<u>Staff Contact</u>
\$720,000	TBD	Jim Hallisey, ph. 285-1985

Day Hill Road Pavement Rehabilitation

Background

Through the Capital Region Council of Governments, the town has been approved to receive up to \$2,079,000 to complete pavement rehabilitation work on a portion of Day Hill Road.

The section of Day Hill Road to be improved extends from Route 187 east to the Alstom Power driveway, in both the eastbound and westbound directions. The town has designed this project, which is to be 100% federally funded. The agreement requires the town to advertise, award, administer, inspect and assume responsibility and liability for the improvements.

Status

If all State of Connecticut Department of Transportation approvals are in place in a timely manner, the town plans on advertising the contract in July or August 2009. The work should be completed this construction season.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

TBD

<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Approved</u>	<u>Staff Contact</u>
\$2,079,000	Up to \$2,079,000	Tom Lenehan, ph. 285-1804

Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), Direct Grant – Scheduling Software

Background

This is a formulary grant with no local match requirement. The Police Department originally applied to use these funds to purchase scheduling software. The grant application has since been amended to allow the WPD to use the grant funds to replace the Department’s automated fingerprinting system (AFIS). As with all the Recovery Act grants, there are objectives and standards criteria regarding the creation or retention of jobs. These criteria will be met by the equipment vendor.

Status

Application for this grant was made in May 2009 and the award was offered and accepted in July 2009.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

TBD

<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Approved</u>	<u>Staff Contact</u>
\$26,173	\$26,173	Chief Kevin Searles, ph. 688-4545, ext. 508

COPS Hiring Grant – 2 Police Officer Positions

Background

This is a competitive grant, and by the award criteria, is more likely to go to jurisdictions that have experienced layoffs in the last year in their sworn police force, as the grant's objective is to restore sworn officers to their previously held positions. Windsor Police applied for two fully funded police officer positions. There is no local match for this grant, and the funding sought would pay all salary and benefits for two officers for a three-year period. There is a retention requirement, meaning that the town will be required to retain the funded positions for one year following the three year grant award period. When reviewed, the grant award could be modified to fund one and not two positions.

Status

Application for this grant was made in May 2009. The federal government has made an initial round of COPS awards and the Town of Windsor was not selected.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

2

<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Approved</u>	<u>Staff Contact</u>
\$514,406	TBD	Chief Kevin Searles, ph. 688-4545, ext. 508

Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), Pass-Through Grant

Background

This is a non-competitive formulary grant in the amount of \$30,000 with no local match required.

Status

The criteria and use of these funds have just recently been posted and the Windsor Police Department expects to be making application for these funds in early August 2009.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

TBD

<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Approved</u>	<u>Staff Contact</u>
TBD	TBD	Chief Kevin Searles, ph. 688-4545, ext. 508

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Mentoring Grant

Background

If funded, the competitive grant would provide personnel resources to plan, develop, and implement a program for at-risk or high-risk youth over a 3-year time frame. This grant requires no local match.

The grant further requires a community-based approach to both providing the service to young people and developing the continuing mentoring resource.

Status

Application for this grant was made in April 2009 and is still pending review.

Projected # of Jobs to be Created and/or Preserved:

TBD

Amount Requested

\$500,000

Amount Approved

TBD

Staff Contact

Chief Kevin Searles,
ph. 688-4545, ext. 508