Infrastructure Funding in 2022 & Beyond

Federal and state requirements for grant and loan programs are constantly evolving, especially in 2022. Our professionals at Martenson & Eisele, Inc. are here to help you navigate the ever-changing environmental, fiscal, and technical requirements of these programs to help you secure the infrastructure funding your community needs.

To learn how we can help you access available funding and make long-lasting improvements in your community, please contact us at our Menasha office today.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

Local governments received their first payments of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery (SLFR) funds back in June of 2021. Allocations can be viewed here: https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/Report/ARPA-Payments.aspx Since the US Treasury released the Final Rule on January 6th, 2022, eligible projects have been broadened for sewer and water projects, including culvert repair and dam and reservoir rehabilitation.

Eligible infrastructure Expenditure Categories (EC) include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Centralized Wastewater Treatment
- Centralized Wastewater
 Collection and Conveyance
- Decentralized Wastewater
- Combined Sewer Overflows
- Stormwater Treatment
- Water Conservation
- Nonpoint Source Treatment
- Drinking Water Treatment
- Drinking Water Transmission & Distribution
- Drinking Water Source
- Drinking Water Storage



Municipalities with less than 250,000 residents are required to submit an *Annual Project* and *Expenditure Report*. The first annual report is due on **April 30th, 2022** and should cover the period between the award date and March 31st, 2022.



BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) was signed in November of 2021. While local agencies are currently developing procurements policies involving many unknowns, we are aware of funding being allocated under historic programs for stormwater, wastewater, drinking water, roadways and bridges. These programs are summarized as follows.

CLEAN WATER & DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUNDS

From the BIL, Wisconsin is estimated to receive \$142 million in the first year, 2022 allotment under the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) State Revolving Funds (SRF) programs. Total BIL funds will be allocated over five years. SRF programs include the Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) and Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP). These are historic grant/loan programs which have been in place since 1991.

The CWFP covers the planning, design and construction of wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. Common projects include:

- Sewer replacement / rehabilitation
- Wastewater treatment facility / plant upgrades
- Wastewater collection, transmission, storage, treatment & disposal
- Stormwater controls for runoff rates, volumes, and quality

The SDWLP covers the planning, design and construction of drinking water infrastructure. Common projects include:

- New wells
- Wellhouse rehabilitation
- Storage facilities
- Watermain replacements
- Lead service line (LSL) replacements
- Drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage & distribution





Deadlines to submit the Intent to Apply (ITA) are typically by <u>October 31st</u> for the following state fiscal year (FY) funding cycle. Therefore, principal forgiveness applications for FY 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) funding are closed. Martenson & Eisele will be monitoring if a supplemental application period is opened as more information is known about allocated BIL funding. FY 2024 Intent to Apply is anticipated to be due <u>October</u> 31st, 2022.

WISDOT FUNDING PROGRAMS (ROADWAYS & BRIDGES)

A portion of the BIL allocates funds towards roadway and bridge improvements. Total allocated funds for Wisconsin are unknown at this time, but the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) issued a notice regarding two solicitation periods for fiscal year (FY) 2022 and FY 2023.

Funds will be distributed via four established programs:

- Surface Transportation Program (STP)
- o Local Bridge Improvement Assistance Program
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)*
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)*
 *Offered FY 2023-2026 only

For **FY 2022**, WisDOT will be soliciting for **construction-ready** projects only through STP and the Local Bridge Improvement Assistance Program. Example construction projects include:

- Preservation mill & overlay
- Resurfacing
- o Pavement Replacement
- o Bridge Rehabilitation deck repairs
- o Bridge Replacement replace deck, girders, or abutments

The deadline for FY 2022 is April 1, 2022.

For **FY 2023-2026**, WisDOT will be soliciting for **design and construction** or **construction-only** projects through all four programs listed above. Eligible projects are listed on the WisDOT's road and bridge assistance programs website. Example projects include:

- Roadway reconstruction
- Roadway drainage improvements
- Roadway widening / re-shouldering
- On-road and off-road bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Bridge / Box structure replacement

The deadline for FY 2023 is **June 1, 2022**.

If you're interested in pursuing a state or federally funded infrastructure project, our professionals at Martenson & Eisele can help! Please contact us at (920) 731-0381 or info@martenson-eisele.com to learn more about our available services.

