



An innovative leader in responsible planning and development for over 40 years
coordinate. partner. advocate. serve.

West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Serving the counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk, and St. Croix

EVENTS & FUNDING

AUGUST 2021

EDA Announces Release of \$3 Billion in American Rescue Plan Funds

On Thursday, July 22nd the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) **announced** the release of six **Notice of Funding Opportunities** (NOFOs) that will guide the administration of the \$3 billion in supplemental funding that EDA received through the American Rescue Plan. U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced the programs - collectively called *Investing in America's Communities* - through which EDA will invest the \$3 billion to assist communities across the country. This EDA investment is the largest economic development initiative from the Department of Commerce in decades and is intended to help communities across the country to "build back better". *Investing in America's Communities* includes:

- \$1 billion for the **Build Back Better Regional Challenge**
- \$500 million for the **Good Jobs Challenge**
- \$500 million for **Economic Adjustment Assistance**
- \$100 million for **Indigenous Communities**
- \$750 million for **Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation**
- \$90 million for **Statewide Planning, Research, and Networks**

Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. If you have project ideas or questions, please contact [Craig Johnson](#) or [Susan Badtke](#) at 715-836-2918.

COVID-19 Resources & Funding

Economic conditions are rapidly changing throughout our Region due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, our office and the Regional Business Fund, Inc. are continuing to develop a list of resources to assist communities and business respond to immediate and long-term challenges. The WCWRPC COVID-19 Resources webpage, available [here](#), provides a list of helpful resources, programs and agencies.

COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide

US Dept. of Agriculture

Rising to Challenges: Navigating through COVID-19 in Wisconsin: Strategies and Resources for Small Businesses and Community Groups

Publication by Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Upcoming Events: August - September 2021

Institute for Business & Entrepreneurship Training Opportunities

Various Dates - University of Wisconsin System

Value Capture Strategies Webinars - U.S. Dept. of Transportation

August 4, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Developer Impact Fees-The Primer

August 25, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Special Assessment Districts-The Primer

September 15, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Risk Assessment-The Primer

October 6, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Making the Business and Economic Case-A Primer

Managing Economic Development Organizations Webinar

August 4, 2021 - Wisconsin Economic Development Association Academy

Entrepreneurship in Economic Development: What Practitioners Need to Know Webinar (Parts 1,2, and 3)

August 11, 18, and 25, 2021 - UW Madison Division of Extension

Rural Infrastructure Intersections: Healthcare and Broadband Webinar

August 17, 2021 - Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative

Using PASER and WISLR to Manage Your Roads (Online)

August 17-26, 2021 - UW Madison Transportation Information Center

Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation Annual Meeting

August 27, 2021

Chippewa Falls, WI

2021 Virtual Housing Conference

September 1-2, 2021 - Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority

Healthcare Partnerships for Downtown Success Webinar

September 2, 2021 - Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative

Fall Town and Village Workshops SAVE THE DATE - Wisconsin Towns Association and

UW Local Government Center

September 13, 2021 - Cable, WI

September 14, 2021 - Eau Claire, WI

September 15, 2021 - Tomah, WI

September 16, 2021 - Stevens Point, WI

September 20, 2021 - Minocqua, WI

September 21, 2021 - De Pere, WI

September 22, 2021 - DeForest, WI

Basic Economic Development Course

September 13-16, 2021

Madison, WI - Wisconsin Economic Development Association

Wisconsin Economic Development Association Legislative Day

September 15, 2021

Madison, WI

American Planning Association-Wisconsin Chapter Annual Conference

September 16-17, 2021

Green Bay, WI

Saving Wisconsin's Historic Theatres Workshop

September 17-18, 2021

Spring Green, WI - Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation and The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation

First Impressions Regional Workshop Series - Wisconsin Economic Development

Corporation

September 21, 2021 - Cumberland, WI

September 22, 2021 - Weyauwega, WI

September 23, 2021 - Delavan, WI

Wisconsin Counties Association Annual Conference

September 26-28, 2021

La Crosse, WI

Wisconsin Economic Development Association Best Practices Conference

September 29 - October 1, 2021

Appleton, WI

Funding Opportunities: August - October 2021

Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program in Wisconsin

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis

Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Grants

August 2, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Our Town Grants

August 5, 2021 – National Endowment for the Arts

Rural Cooperative Development Grant

August 10, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Public Humanities Project

August 11, 2021 – National Endowment for the Humanities

American Rescue Plan Arts Funding for Rural & Tribal Communities JUST ADDED

August 12, 2021 – National Endowment for the Arts

Community Design & Planning Services 2021-2022 Senior Capstone Project JUST ADDED

August 14, 2021 – UW Madison

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) JUST ADDED

August 15, 2021 - Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

Wisconsin Humanities Council Grants

August 15, 2021 (Major Grants) – Wisconsin Humanities Council

Notice of Discharge Grants

August 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Broadband Infrastructure Program

August 17, 2021 – National Telecommunications & Information Administration

Manufacturing USA Technology Roadmap (Mfg Tech) Grant Program JUST ADDED

August 17, 2021 - US Dept. of Commerce

Housing Grant Program JUST ADDED

August 23, 2021 - Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority

Recreational Boating Facilities

September 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Ready, Set, Go! Grants

September 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Farm Labor Housing Direct Loans & Grants

Opens September 1, 2021; closes November 1, 2021 – Second Round – US Dept. of Agriculture

C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant

September 1, 2021 – Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin

Surface Water Management Grants

September 2, 2021 (PRE-PROPOSAL) – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Shooting Range Grant Program (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RANGES)

September 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Community Grant Application

September 15, 2021 – Foundation for Rural Service

Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program (Preliminary Proposals) JUST ADDED

September 24, 2021 - Institute of Museum and Library Services

National Leadership Grants for Libraries (Preliminary Proposals) JUST ADDED

September 24, 2021 - Institute of Museum and Library Services

Signals and ITS Standalone Program JUST ADDED

September 24, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

Infrastructure & Capacity Building Challenge Grants

September 28, 2021 – National Endowment for the Humanities

Go Outside Fund

September 30, 2021 – Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin

Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Fishing Pier

October 1, 2021 - Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

County Conservation Aids

October 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Fund for Wild Nature

October 1, 2021 – Fund for Wild Nature

Urban Forestry Grant

October 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Creation and Presentation Program Grants

October 14, 2021 – Wisconsin Arts Board

North American Wetlands Conservation Act U.S. Small Grants

October 14, 2021 – US Fish & Wildlife Service

Wisconsin Humanities Council Grants – Recovery Grants

October 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Humanities Council

Quadratic Energize the Environment Grant-Spring Cycle

October 30, 2021 - Quadratic Cares

Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (Notice of Intent to Apply)

October 31, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Clean Water Funds (Notice of Intent to Apply)

October 31, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

The Lawrence Foundation

October 31, 2021 – The Lawrence Foundation

Environmental Remediation Tax Incremental Financing (ER TIF) Districts

October 31, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue

The following state or federal funding agencies have various programs and deadlines:

Community Development Block Grant Planning (PLNG) Program

Applications accepted on a continuous basis – Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

Community Development Investment Grant Program

No submission deadlines – Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

EDA Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program

Contact the WCWRPC if interested

Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program

Ongoing – Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

Contact the WCWRPC if interested

Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Funding to Small Cities and Towns

Applications accepted on a continuous basis – Community Heart & Soul

Community Development Block Grant-Emergency Assistance Program

Varies - Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Contact local Natural Resources Conservation Service field office

Idle Sites Redevelopment Program

Continuous application process – Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

Ongoing – US Dept. of Agriculture

Strategic Economic and Community Development (SECD) Program

Open – US Dept. of Agriculture

Water & Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program

Ongoing – US Dept. of Agriculture



REGIONAL
BUSINESS FUND, INC.

The Regional Business Fund, Inc. (RBF, Inc.) is a non-profit economic development corporation whose purpose is to promote business and economic development in west central Wisconsin. The RBF, Inc. offers low-interest loan funds to businesses that expand within the region, diversify the economy, add new technology, revitalize buildings in the region's downtowns, create or retain quality jobs, and increase capital investment in the region. The RBF, Inc. offers the following programs:

- **Revolving Loan Fund**
- **Growth Loan Fund**
- **Micro Loan Fund**
- **Downtown Facade Fund**
- **Technology Enterprise Fund**
- **EDA Fund**

For more information, visit our **website**, or please contact:

- **Tobi LeMahieu**, Fund Manager
- **Heidi Biesterveld**, Lending Specialist
- **Mai Xiong-Thao**, Loan Processor

WCWRPC Staff:

Lynn Nelson
Executive
Director



Eric Anderson
Senior
Planner



Susan Badtke
Senior
Planner



Heidi Biesterveld
Lending
Specialist



Hailee Bushman
Assistant
Planner



Craig Johnson
Associate
Planner



Tobi LeMahieu
Fund
Manager



Landon Profaizer
Associate
Planner



Edwin Rothrock
Associate
Planner



Lisa Ruth
Office
Manager



Chris Straight
Senior
Planner



Mai Xiong-Thao
Loan
Processor



Kim Zimmerman
Financial
Manager



*Copyright © 2021 West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, All rights reserved.
"You have expressed interest in receiving information from the WCWRPC and its work in the region."*

Our mailing address is:
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
800 Wisconsin Street
Mail Box 9
Eau Claire, Wi 54703