

MASSWORKS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
September 2010

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program provides a one-stop shop for municipalities and other eligible applicants seeking public infrastructure funding to support economic development. The Program represents an administrative consolidation of six grant programs:

- Public Works Economic Development (PWED) Grants
- Community Development Action Grant (CDAG)
- Growth District Initiative (GDI) Grants
- Massachusetts Opportunity Relocation and Expansion Program (MORE)
- Small Town Rural Assistance Program (STRAP)
- Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Program

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program provides grant funding for publicly owned infrastructure including, but not limited to sewers, utility extensions, streets, roads, curb-cuts, parking facilities, site preparation, demolition, pedestrian walkways, streetscape, and water treatment systems. In recognition of the administration's commitment to and focus on job creation and economic development, the MassWorks Infrastructure Program will be centrally administered by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation and Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

For the past two fiscal years, the individual program managers have met regularly, coordinated reviews, and shared information on a pilot program basis. That exercise revealed that there is significant value in centralizing the programs and streamlining the grant process.

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program will reduce the burden on municipalities. Rather than having to “shop around” to different agencies at different times trying to piece together enough resources to advance their objectives, cities and towns will now have a single entry point for state economic development grants, with a single application, and a single solicitation schedule. The streamlining will reduce municipal grant management burdens as well. The MassWorks Infrastructure Program will provide a single draw schedule, single set of grant rules, and a single set of reporting requirements.

The Program will improve government efficiency. Each of these programs is designed to support job creation and economic development, but the programs were administered by different agencies, in different ways, at different times. Consolidating review and evaluation of these programs under the Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development enables the state to ensure that these grants meet their intended purpose to cause an immediate impact on job creation and development in the state. By streamlining the application and review process, the MassWorks Infrastructure Program will reduce duplication, improve accountability, and provide for the most effective management of state resources.

For more information, please visit www.mass.gov/eohed/infrastructure.