



Northeast Council Of Governments (605)-626-2595

June 2011

COMMUNITY ACCESS/INDUSTRIAL PARK/AGRI-BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM

Community Access Grants are state funds for towns less than 5,000 in population and are for the construction or reconstruction of major streets in town such as Main Street and roads that lead to elevators, schools, hospitals, and farm-to-market roads. This program provides for 60% of the construction costs of the project, not including engineering or utility work. Grant size is limited to \$400,000.

The Industrial Park and Agri-Business Grant Programs provide funds to assist communities and counties who have a new industry or agri-business and need new or expanded access to the facilities.

Applications for all three programs are due July 15. Only applications for new projects will be considered. If you have projects that may qualify for this program please contact our office.

VOICES FOR CHILDREN INSERT

At the September 2010 NECOG Council meeting SD Voices for Children and SD Kids Count provided information addressing children's needs and critical issues that affect their welfare. As a follow up to this meeting, they provided our office with information specific to the NECOG region and asked us to pass along the information to our members. We provided parts 1 and 2 in our last newsletter and we are including parts 3 and 4 with this mailing.

OFFICIAL DOT STIP MEETINGS

The official DOT Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) meetings will be held in Aberdeen on July 12 at the Ramada Convention Center and in Pierre on July 28, 2011 at the Ramkota Hotel. Other locations include:

Rapid City Ramkota Hotel July 21, 2011
Sioux Falls Ramkota Hotel July 26, 2011
Mitchell Technical Institute July 27, 2011

All of the meetings are held at 7:00 pm. The STIP document lists the projects that South Dakota Department of Transportation has scheduled in the Federal Fiscal Years 2012 through 2016.

UPCOMING NECOG MEETING

The next NECOG meeting will be held on June 29th at 7:00 pm at the NECOG office.

DOT will be the guest speaker at this meeting. They will furnish a tentative STIP to be reviewed and discussed prior to the official public meetings listed in the previous section. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and state your concerns about particular projects.

ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTER GRANTS

Free workshops will be held around the country to provide information about the submission of competitive applications under

the 2011 Assistance to Firefighters Grants program. The workshop lasts about two hours. Interested representatives from fire departments as well as representatives from non-affiliated EMS organizations are invited to attend the workshops. Information will be presented on program changes, program priorities, eligibility requirements, and the application process. General assistance in writing a competitive narrative for a department's grant application will also be covered. Registration is not necessary. Local workshops include:

- 6/21/11 in Aberdeen at the Fire Station #2 at 1825 8th Avenue NW at 7:00pm
- 6/22/11 in Pierre at the Fire Department Station #1 at 215 West Dakota at 7:00pm

For more information you may contact Ted.young@dhs.gov or visit the following website:
http://www.fema.gov/firegrants/program/workshop_schedule.shtm

SCHOOL LAB CLEANUPS

SDDENR was appropriated \$750,000 as part of the 2011 Omnibus Bill. This will assist the department to continue its efforts to fund the statewide cleanup of waste tires and other solid waste. This is a continuation of department efforts that began in 1999. DENR will continue to utilize the regional landfills as sponsors for the tire cleanups and other solid waste throughout the state.

The department will also use funds for the cleanup of laboratory chemicals that have been in storage on school district properties throughout the State. The department has received several Solid Waste Management Program applications for assistance in funding these clean-ups, and awarding subgrants through the statewide cleanup grant will allow the department to address these requests in a timely manner to promote a healthier

environment for students and staff. The department proposes to fund these projects with a one-time 50 percent grant up to a maximum of \$10,000 for each school district. This should allow many schools to safely dispose of lab chemicals which are no longer of use to the school. For more information contact either Stacy A. Froelich or Andy Bruels with Water and Waste Funding Assistance at 605 773 4216 or the NECOG office.

THE FOURTH OF JULY

On this day in 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, setting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation. As always, this most American of holidays will be marked by parades, fireworks and backyard barbecues across the country.

2.5 million

In July 1776, the estimated number of people living in the newly independent nation.

\$231.8 million

The value of U.S. manufacturers' shipments of fireworks and pyrotechnics in 2007.

\$302.7 million

Annual dollar value of shipments of fabricated flags, banners and similar emblems by the nation's manufacturers.

81 million

Number of Americans who said they have taken part in a barbecue during the previous year.

These facts were found on the www.census.gov website under the facts for features section

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