



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

TO: Phillip L. Nelson, City Manager

FROM: Brian Murphy, Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Services

SUBJECT: Federal Stimulus Package Projects

DATE: December 18, 2008

Climate Communities and ICLEI USA put together their “Empowering Local Government Climate Action: Blueprint for the New President and 111th Congress” during Local Climate Action Week, December 8-15. More than 230 local government officials across America have endorsed the Blueprint. President-elect Obama seems likely to tie economic stimulus dollars to clean energy projects as written in the December 4, 2008 New York Times article (see attached).

Attached is a copy of the City of Troy’s current and upcoming projects submitted for the Blueprint. All of this information from across America is to reinforce the Local Climate Action Week message that there are thousands of ready-to-go local government projects that would create jobs, reduce energy consumption and decrease GHG emissions. Projects include transit construction projects; green infrastructure construction; renewable energy projects; and green technology projects.

Climate Communities is a national coalition of cities and counties that is educating federal policymakers about the essential role of local governments in addressing climate change and promoting a strong local-federal partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability provides expertise, technical support, and innovative tools to help local governments advance their emissions reductions and sustainability goals.

Copies of the Federal Stimulus Package Projects have been sent to the Michigan Municipal League as well as to Congressman-elect Gary Peters.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: John R Reconstruction and Widening, Long Lake to Square Lake

Project Description: Project reconstructs and widens John R Road from two (2) lanes to five (5) lanes. Included with the project are drainage improvements, traffic signal improvements and water main replacement. Eight (8) foot wide sidewalks along both sides of the newly constructed road along with American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant facilities are included as part of the project to provide for non-motorized modes of transportation.

Cost: \$8,500,000

Schedule: Fall 2009

Jobs Created: 121

Project Benefits: This section of John R carries approximately 25,000 vehicles per day (vpd). During the peak hours the roadway operates over capacity resulting in long delays and congestion. By widening the road, congestion can be reduced leading to improved air quality levels, reduced fuel consumption and improved travel times for people and goods.

Project: John R Reconstruction and Widening, Square Lake to South Boulevard

Project Description: Project reconstructs and widens John R Road from two (2) lanes to five (5) lanes. Included with the project are drainage improvements, traffic signal improvements and water main replacement. Eight (8) foot wide sidewalks along both sides of the newly constructed road along with American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant facilities are included as part of the project to provide for non-motorized modes of transportation.

Cost: \$7,000,000

Schedule: Fall 2009

Jobs Created: 100

Project Benefits: This section of John R carries approximately 22,000 vehicles per day (vpd). During the peak hours the roadway operates over capacity resulting in long delays and congestion. By widening the road, congestion can be reduced leading to improved air quality levels, reduced fuel consumption and improved travel times for people and goods.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Streambank Erosion Corrective Actions – City-Wide

Project Description: The City of Troy has over 9000 linear feet of streambanks that are severely eroded, causing critical and sometimes dangerous conditions in our local waterways. In addition, the sediment that is eroding is being displaced and causing sedimentation problems in the waterways, including the destruction of habitat, and turbidity in the water column, diminishing water quality for plants and wildlife.

Cost: \$7,000,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 99

Project Benefits: By reducing erosion and sedimentation in the areas' water resources, the project will improve wildlife habitat and reduce nonpoint source pollution from runoff sources. Sediment deposition will be decreased in downstream communities, thereby improving the overall health of our local waterways.

Project: Troy/Birmingham Intermodal Transit Center

Project Description: The Cities of Birmingham and Troy are collaborating to design and construct an intermodal transit center along the common border which is a CN rail line, in the area of Maple and Coolidge Roads. The feasibility of the project was confirmed by the conceptual and preliminary engineering/design study conducted by Wendel Duchscherer of Amherst, New York. The scope of the project includes a 3,000 to 3,500 square foot building and a tunnel under the CN rail line to connect the Cities of Birmingham and Troy. Since the land was dedicated for the project there is no land acquisition. In addition the City of Troy Planning Commission and City of Birmingham Planning Board are initiating a Joint Planning Commission to plan and create joint development regulations for the Transit Center Area.

Cost: \$6,200,000

Schedule: Fall 2009

Jobs Created: 45

Project Benefits: Amtrak train service, SMART bus service, Black Sedan service, taxi service and a connection to both the Troy Oakland Airport will be provided. The regional mass transit efforts of others have also included this Transit Center as a hub of activity for connections from the proposed



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Woodward Avenue Light Rail system and the proposed return of commuter rail to the tracks running next to the Transit Center.

Project: Major and Industrial Road Rehabilitation

Project Description: Rehabilitate major and industrial roads in poor condition by replacing deteriorated concrete pavement, crack filling and milling and overlaying severely deteriorated pavements with asphalt.

Cost: \$6,000,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 85

Project Benefits: Reduces future road maintenance costs due to maintenance delay and rapid road deterioration. Reduces vehicle maintenance costs and fuel consumption. Improves aesthetics and promotes new business within existing industrial areas.

Project: Storm Water Detention Pond Retrofits

Project Description: Modification of residential storm water detention ponds to improve water quality and reduce downstream stream bank erosion.

Cost: \$5,500,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 78

Project Benefits: Modifications slow the basin discharge rate to reduce flooding, promote uptake of excess nutrients and pollutants and add native plantings to promote sustainability of the pond's ecosystem.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Wattles Road Reconstruction and Widening, East and West of Rochester

Project Description: Project widens and reconstructs Wattles Road from a two (2) lanes to a new four (4) lane concrete boulevard. Included with the project are drainage improvements, traffic signal improvements and water main replacement. Eight (8) foot wide sidewalks along both sides of the newly constructed boulevard along with American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant facilities are included as part of the project to provide for non-motorized modes of transportation. This project is included in the approved Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in 2010, but is proposed to be advance constructed in 2009 with a \$12,000,000 road improvement project on Rochester Road.

Cost: \$3,000,000

Schedule: Fall 2009

Jobs Created: 43

Project Benefits: This project improves the performance of the intersection of Wattles Road and Rochester Road. Traffic volumes at this intersection are approximately 150,000 vehicles per day (vpd). Reduced congestion improves air quality, reduces fuel consumption and facilitates the flow of people and goods.

Project: Big Beaver and I-75 Interchange Enhancement

Project Description: Addition of sustainable landscaping, detention basins and walkway improvements within the Big Beaver/I-75 interchange.

Cost: \$3,000,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 42

Project Benefits: Creates a forested portal from the key I-75 access point to the city's central business and technology corridor. Improvements decrease under bridge noise, enhance day and night time under bridge lighting, improve aesthetics, enhance pedestrian security and mobility within the Big Beaver business corridor.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Emerald Lakes Storm Water System Improvements

Project Description: The Emerald Lakes Retention Ponds are a series of storm water wet ponds that have no pretreatment for storm water pollutants, including sediment, leaf litter and direct drainage impacts. The City will install several storm water treatment BMPs that would address pollutants in the retention ponds. The project would also include a directed educational campaign to all residents in the neighborhood, both riparian and those not living on the waterfront.

Cost: \$2,000,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 28

Project Benefits: This installation of BMPs will improve water quality in local waterways by reducing the impacts of polluted runoff in residential retention ponds. In addition, it educates the residents about the importance of their actions on local waterways. The project will improve habitat for wildlife, including fisheries and waterfowl.

Project: Aquatic Center Pond Dredging, Ecological Improvements and Culvert Replacements

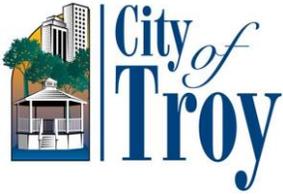
Project Description: Dredge ~5,000 cubic yards of sediment from an in-line retention pond, stabilize streambanks both upstream and downstream, and expand stormwater storage to prevent flooding and erosion for downstream properties. Several acres of wildlife habitat will be created with wetlands, and prairie landscapes being utilized as a part of the ecological improvements to the area. In addition to the ecological improvements, the culverts downstream of the pond will be removed and replaced with box culverts.

Cost: \$1,600,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 23

Project Benefits: This project will provide storm water retention to prevent downstream impacts, including flooding and erosion. In addition, it will significantly increase the aquatic habitat, provide streamside recreational opportunities and improve the Civic Center aesthetics.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Lane Drain Flood Control

Project Description: Lane Drain open channel and storm sewer improvements along Livernois, Big Beaver to Civic Center Drive. Peak storm water flows are diverted to new storm sewers for flood control while dry weather flows continue through the open channel drain.

Cost: \$1,500,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 22

Project Benefits: Peak storm water flow is diverted to the proposed enclosed drain, thereby eliminating flooding downstream in residential areas. The improvements reduce flow within the Lane Drain to levels that are at or below the capacity of the existing open channel drain. This will also help to alleviate stream bank and soil erosion issues along the open channel.

Project: Big Beaver and Rochester Park and Intersection Improvements

Project Description: Park development within the Big Beaver business corridor consisting of sustainable landscaping, walkways and seating, detention basin, intersection cross walks and American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant facilities at all corners of the boulevard intersection to provide for non-motorized modes of transportation.

Cost: \$1,500,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 21

Project Benefits: Improves pedestrian safety at all intersection crosswalks, creates park like setting, improves water quality and aesthetics, and promotes pedestrian security and mobility within the Big Beaver business corridor.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Ferry Drain Habitat Restoration

Project Description: Design and construct streambank stabilization and habitat restoration projects for the Ferry-Renshaw Drain. This will include the restoration of the fisheries habitat, streamside habitat and dredging of accumulated sediment in the stream channel. Riparian area improvements include the installation of buffers, trees for increasing shade in the stream channel and lunger structures for habitat creation.

Cost: \$1,200,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 17

Project Benefits: The project will increase the green infrastructure along one (1) mile of contiguous stream channel. It addresses negative stream impacts, including streambank stabilization, improves the diminished habitat and fisheries, and provides stream cover. The overall health of the local waterways will improve, by decreasing runoff pollution and decreasing in-stream sediment deposition.

Project: Lovington Flood Control

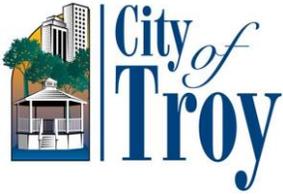
Project Description: Storm sewer improvements along Lovington, Minnesota to Dequindre. The project consists of approximately 2,400 feet of forty-eight (48) inch diameter storm sewer along Lovington. This section of the city is a low and moderate income area located largely within the floodplain. This project is the last phase of a large, multi-year drainage improvement project for this area.

Cost: \$1,000,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 15

Project Benefits: The improvements reduce flooding concerns in this residential area. The enclosed drain will also provide for a reduction in the floodplain limits in this area saving low income residents from paying for flood insurance.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Sanitary Sewer Extensions

Project Description: Extend sanitary sewers to residential areas of the city currently not served by sewers.

Cost: \$1,000,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 14

Project Benefits: Eliminates failing septic systems. Reduces pollution from runoff and improves water quality in rivers and streams.

Project: Section 14 Flood Control – Storm Sewer Improvements along Bradley, Glaser, Lamb and Rockfield

Project Description: Improvements are part of a flood control project within a 62 acre localized drainage district in an existing residential area adjacent to Troy Athens High School. During rain events, localized flooding in this area is prevalent. The project will alleviate the flooding through construction of a new storm sewer system consisting of eight (8) inch to twenty-four (24) inch storm sewers.

Cost: \$1,000,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 15

Project Benefits: The improvements reduce flooding concerns in this residential area as well as adjacent to the high school. The new enclosed drains will carry peak flows to the Vogt Drain, an existing nine (9) foot diameter Oakland County drain.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: McCulloch Drain Flood Control

Project Description: Storm sewer improvements along Troywood, Rochester to the west end. These improvements are part of a large flood control project within the 3,000 acre McCulloch Drainage District. Several portions of the improvements have been completed to date, with a proposed 2.5 million cubic foot (MCF) storage facility proposed in the future. The project on Troywood consists of approximately 2,600 feet of thirty-six (36) inch diameter storm sewer within the center of the road.

Cost: \$750,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 11

Project Benefits: The improvements reduce flows within the McCulloch Drainage District to alleviate flooding concerns in the commercial and residential areas within the district. Implementation of the entire project greatly reduces flows, flooding and erosion within the overall district.

Project: City Hall Rainwater Collection System

Project Description: Retrofit the existing storm water drainage system from City Hall and surrounding buildings to a central collection system. This cistern will be a collection point for rainwater to be used as irrigation for the Civic Center Grounds.

Cost: \$500,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 7

Project Benefits: By collecting and harvesting the rainwater at the City Hall site, the City will be reducing storm water runoff, and reusing the resource for an additional benefit to the landscape. The City would also reduce the reliance on the DWSD water system, thereby reducing the City's water costs.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Old Stone School Restoration

Project Description: Complete necessary repairs and restoration on a municipally- owned, locally- designated, historic resource. The Old Stone School (1860) requires structural repairs to roofs, windows, plumbing, electrical wiring, HVAC, ADA compliant restrooms and entries and exterior and interior painting and parking to make available for public use.

Cost: \$500,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 50

Project Benefits: This distinctive, historic structure is located at a gateway to the City of Troy at the intersection of Adams Road and South Blvd where the boundaries of Troy, Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills, and Bloomfield Twp. intersect. The structure and location provide excellent opportunities for Troy to partner with Paint Creek Center for the Arts and other public and non-profit organizations to provide excellent community services to enhance the arts and culture for our communities.

Project: Storm Water Detention Pond Retrofits

Project Description: Modification of residential storm water detention ponds to improve water quality and reduce downstream stream bank erosion.

Cost: \$300,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 5

Project Benefits: Modifications slow the basin discharge rate to reduce flooding, promote uptake of excess nutrients and pollutants and add native plantings to promote sustainability of the pond's ecosystem.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Residential Rain Barrel Program

Project Description: To mitigate the increased storm water runoff from pervious surfaces in residential areas (rooftops, sidewalks, driveways), The City of Troy will provide rain barrels for residential use at a decreased costs to all City homeowners. The City will purchase a large quantity of rain barrels, and then disperse them at cost to interested residents. This program will also include a focused educational campaign addressing the importance of storm water runoff and residential impacts.

Cost: \$210,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 3

Project Benefits: This program will promote sustainable residential storm water practices. Benefits will include decreasing the amount of runoff into the City's storm system and protecting the local water resources from increased runoff impacts. Overall, the reuse of collected rainwater will reduce residential use of DWSD resources.

Project: Stephenson Highway Storm Water Retrofit Project

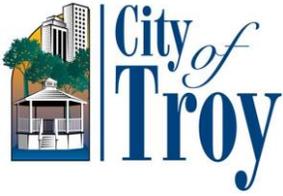
Project Description: Install curb cuts in Stephenson Highway curbs to allow for storm water runoff to enter the medians. Medians will be planted with a wet prairie wildflower mix to enhance the native landscape. Signage and educational materials will be included in this project.

Cost: \$80,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 1

Project Benefits: These improvements will reduce road runoff, reduce maintenance costs, enhance the ecology of the area, and provide habitat for wildlife.



Projects for Submittal Federal Stimulus Package

Project: Rain Gardens in City-Owned Parking Lots

Project Description: Installing rain gardens within existing City Hall Parking Lots will function as a demonstration project to visitors to City Hall about the importance of runoff reduction. The City will install a rain garden in the Aquatic Center Parking Lot. Included in this project will be an educational component, including signage and materials.

Cost: \$70,000

Schedule: Summer 2009

Jobs Created: 1

Project Benefits: By demonstrating the importance of reducing road runoff, the City of Troy will enhance the ecology of the area, providing habitat for wildlife and increase runoff infiltration. In addition, the demonstration project will be a public statement of how important water quality improvement is to the City of Troy.

December 4, 2008

Proposal Ties Economic Stimulus to Energy Plan

By **JOHN M. BRODER**

WASHINGTON — President-elect Barack Obama and leaders in Congress are fashioning a plan to pour billions of dollars into a jobs program to jolt the economy and lay the groundwork for a more energy-efficient one.

The details and cost of the so-called green-jobs program are still unclear, but a senior Obama aide, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss a work in progress, said it would probably include the weatherizing of hundreds of thousands of homes, the installation of “smart meters” to monitor and reduce home energy use, and billions of dollars in grants to state and local governments for mass transit and infrastructure projects.

The green component of the much larger stimulus plan would cost at least \$15 billion a year, and perhaps considerably more, depending on how the projects were defined, aides working on the package said.

During the campaign, Mr. Obama supported a measure to address global warming by capping carbon emissions while allowing companies to buy and trade pollution permits. He said he would devote \$150 billion of the revenue from the sale of those permits over 10 years to energy efficiency and alternative energy projects to wean the nation from fuels that are the main causes of the heating the atmosphere.

But the Obama adviser who discussed the green energy project said Mr. Obama would not await passage of a global warming bill before embarking on the new energy and infrastructure spending. House and Senate supporters of a climate bill said they would continue working on legislative language but did not expect quick action on a cap-and-trade law because of the economic emergency.

That means that the green-jobs program would not be financed with pollution credits bought by power generators and other carbon emitters, but instead would be added to the budget deficit.

Congressional officials working with the Obama administration said the stimulus program was also likely to involve tax breaks or direct government subsidies for a variety of clean energy projects, including solar arrays, wind farms, advanced biofuels and technology to capture carbon dioxide emissions from coal-burning power plants.

The programs will be a part of a larger economic stimulus package whose outlines are faint but which is expected to cost \$400 billion to \$500 billion. Mr. Obama has said that his goal is to create or save 2.5 million jobs in the next two years. He has assigned to his economic and environmental advisers the task of devising a proposal that is expected to combine a shot of new federal money into existing federal and state programs and the possible creation of agencies modeled on New Deal public works programs.

“We’ll put people back to work rebuilding our crumbling roads and bridges, modernizing schools that are failing our children, and building wind farms and solar panels, fuel-efficient cars and the alternative energy technologies that can free us from our dependence on foreign oil and keep our economy competitive in the years ahead,” Mr. Obama said in a radio address last month, echoing a campaign promise with a new sense of urgency.

The political climate seems favorable to an economic stimulus plan, but large sums of new money touch off lobbying frenzies and energy projects spur debate between conservationists and those who want to more fully exploit domestic sources of oil, natural gas and coal.

Some experts said the record of government’s intervention in energy markets and new technologies was not promising, citing as a spectacular example the Carter-era Synthetic Fuels Corporation, which spent more than \$3 billion without producing any commercially usable amount of coal-based liquid fuel.

Ethanol and other non-oil-based fuels have also not proved their commercial value, in some cases yielding less energy than was needed to produce them, or, in ethanol’s case, diverting land to corn and driving up food prices.

The plan could also face resistance from fiscal hawks. In 2004, Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, almost single-handedly blocked a \$100 billion energy package, saying the billions of dollars in subsidies for ethanol and other alternative fuels were little more than a special-interest boondoggle. The bill was revived a year later at half the cost, and much of the money in it has not been spent.

“Now they’re talking about some large amount of money — what, \$100 billion? — and spending it on windmills, job training, whatever,” said David Kreutzer, who studies energy economics and climate change at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative research group. “But where do you get the \$100 billion in the first place? Are you going to take \$100 billion from some other part of the economy, are you going to tax some people to pay for it? Are you just going to print it or borrow it? The money has to come from somewhere.”

The Obama team and Congressional leaders say they want a plan ready shortly after Congress reconvenes in January.

Mr. Obama has said that, after stabilizing the economy and the markets, putting the nation on the path to a more energy-efficient future is his top priority. The House speaker, Nancy Pelosi of California, said this week that rebuilding infrastructure and creating green jobs was “the first order of business that we will have” when Congress reconvenes in January. Several hearings are planned even before Mr. Obama takes office on Jan. 20.

State officials say a lack of financing has stalled billions of dollars in projects. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger of California told Mr. Obama this week that the states were ready to break ground with \$136 billion in infrastructure projects that could provide new jobs within two years.

The American Public Transportation Association, which represents local mass transit authorities, said there were \$8 billion in “ready-to-go” projects that could preserve or create thousands of jobs and provide more energy-efficient transportation.

Beverly A. Scott, the chief executive of Atlanta's transit agency and head of the national association, told Congress in October that the projects included diesel-electric hybrid buses for Chicago; a new bus maintenance shop for Eugene, Ore.; and a set of crossover tracks to allow San Francisco's rapid transit trains to turn around more quickly and carry more riders.

The Obama aide said the residential smart meters were a relatively small project that would not create a large number of jobs, but the aide said they would be an essential building block for the electric grid of the future. The new grid — a multiyear, multibillion-dollar project — would more efficiently move electricity from its source to its destination and would reward those who saved power or used it during off-peak hours.

Senator [Jeff Bingaman](#), Democrat of New Mexico, who heads the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, said he was sympathetic to Mr. Obama's desire to pump up the economy and reduce energy usage. But Mr. Bingaman said he was wary of big government spending programs without sufficient oversight or expertise.

"Just buying smart meters for everybody doesn't really move the ball very far," said Mr. Bingaman, who will hold a hearing next week to gather ideas for energy-related stimulus spending. "Realistically speaking, getting money properly spent in a short period of time requires some degree of competence in the government agency doing it. The best plan is to start with existing programs that work, like weatherization, and build on those."

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December 22, 2008

Louise E. Schilling, Mayor
City of Troy
500 W. Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084-5285

RECEIVED

DEC 23 2008

CITY OF TROY
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Dear Mayor Schilling:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of SEMCOG's efforts to assure that the federal economic stimulus package provides maximum benefits to our member communities. We also seek additional information you think would be helpful after reviewing this letter.

SEMCOG's advocates in Washington, D.C. are tracking development of the stimulus package. While there are still numerous unknowns about details of the package, certain themes are emerging. Most importantly, there is growing widespread support for swift passage of a stimulus package.

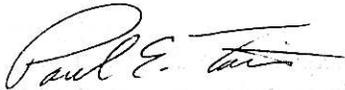
Most likely, funding would be distributed through existing programs, as there is no time for new programs to be created and achieve the goal of quickly stimulating the economy. There is also a high likelihood that much of the funding would be distributed to states on a formula basis. While numerous agencies and organizations are preparing lists of projects, it is unlikely that federal legislation will contain earmarks for specific projects. Initial discussions focused on projects that could be under construction in 90 days. SEMCOG and other organizations have indicated a more realistic timeline for local governments is 180 days.

For transportation projects, SEMCOG has shared the Transportation Improvement Program with funding agencies. This program has been approved by members and we are confident this represents the bulk of transportation projects ready to move in the next three to six months. If you are aware of other projects that should be considered, they must be submitted to SEMCOG.

For water and sewer projects, the projects ready to be implemented are considered by many to be those submitted to MDEQ as part of the low-interest revolving loan programs. We have repeatedly stated that a low interest loan program will not facilitate implementation of water and sewer projects. The stimulus package must provide for 100 percent grants to have the desired effect of moving projects forward.

I want to assure you that SEMCOG is working on your behalf to assure that the stimulus package works for Southeast Michigan. We have already been in contact with the offices of our two Senators and our members of Congress. We have, for example, advocated that the formula for distribution of stimulus funds include fiscal distress...obviously favoring our state. After action is taken at the federal level, we will be working closely with appropriate agencies in Michigan to assure that funding flows to support local government programs as swiftly and seamlessly as possible. Please contact Karen Wieber (313/324-3345 or wieber@semco.org).

Sincerely,



Paul Tait, CAE
Executive Director
SEMCOG