

Bits & Pieces

Kansas communities to share nearly \$5 million in water and sewer grants

Seventeen Kansas communities will share a total of \$4,980,392 in federal water and sewer grants, the Kansas Dept. of Commerce announced.

The funding comes from the national Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and will be matched by \$19,152,245 in local funds. The seventeen communities designated to receive CDBG funds comprise more than 18,000 Kansans, 11,521 of whom have low or moderate incomes.

"We are pleased to announce the awarding of these funds to some very deserving Kansas communities," said Commerce Secretary Howard Fricke. "These grants allow Commerce to assist the small and rural communities that are so important to the livelihood of our state."

The CDBG program provides federal funds to local governments for the development of viable communities by addressing their housing, public facilities, and economic development needs. To be awarded funds, local government units must meet at least one of three program objectives: benefit low and moderate-income persons, prevent or eliminate slums and blight, or resolve an urgent need where local resources are not available to do so.

CDBG funds are one of the Department's primary tools in supporting the state's small, predominantly rural communities. The Department has distributed more than \$151 million in federal CDBG funds since 1998, with revolving funds bringing the total to more than \$181 million.

"The Department remains committed to the state's small, rural communities," Fricke said. "We recognize the challenges these communities will face in the years ahead, and we are prepared to help our cities and towns meet those challenges."

For more information, contact the Community Development Div. of the Kansas Dept. of Commerce at: (785) 296-3004, comdev@kansascommerce.com, TTY (Hearing Impaired) at (785) 296-3487, or visit www.kansascommerce.com.

The recipients of grants and the amounts of their awards are as follows:

- **City of Belpre (Water, \$198,000)**

This project will provide improvements to the city water system, including co-location of two wells to a single well house and installation of an ion-exchange system. USDA – Rural Development will provide \$238,800 in financing.

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- **City of Delia (Sewer, \$232,150)**

The city will use the grant for construction of a new treatment cell. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will contribute \$232,150.
- **City of Dodge City (Sewer, \$175,650)**

The proposed project involves a lift station, sewer main, and force main to connect two mobile home parks to city sewer. The city will contribute \$175,650 in cash, in-kind services, and bonds.
- **City of Geneseo (Sewer, \$336,650)**

This project will consist of a new lift station and treatment facility. USDA – Rural Development will provide \$336,650 in matching funds.
- **City of Great Bend (Sewer, \$242,000)**

The grant will fund replacement of sewer lines in the north central part of Great Bend. The city will contribute \$311,337.
- **City of Harveyville (Water, \$400,000)**

The proposed project will construct 47,250 LF of pipe to connect to the regionalized source of water from the City of Burlingame. USDA – Rural Development will contribute \$450,980.
- **City of Kincaid (Sewer, \$54,742)**

The proposed project is to replace lift stations No. 1 and No. 2 and repair pond side slopes. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will contribute \$54,743.
- **City of Lane (Water, \$190,000)**

Lane will build a water treatment plant, with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment contributing \$190,000.
- **City of Larned (Sewer, \$400,000)**

The project consists of the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility to include a submersible lift station. The city will match the grant with \$6,729,400 in bonds.
- **City of Lorraine (Water, \$133,700)**

This grant will fund the reconstruction of the water tower and construct a new water well. The city will issue bonds of \$130,000 for this project.
- **City of Neodesha (Sewer, \$400,000)**

The proposed project will resolve infiltration and inflow problems within prioritized areas. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will contribute \$623,581 to the project.
- **City of Osawatomie (Sewer, \$400,000)**

The city will use the grant to upgrade 27,250 LF of deteriorated clay sewer lines and construct a new sewer lift station. USDA – Rural Development will provide financing of \$5,049,035.
- **City of Pretty Prairie (Sewer, \$400,000)**

This project will build a new three-cell discharging wastewater detention facility to replace the mechanical plant. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will contribute \$721,403 to the project.
- **City of Smith Center (Sewer, \$400,000)**

The city will use the grant to construct a new three cell discharging wastewater lagoon facility to replace the mechanical plant. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will provide \$2,841,016 in matching funds.
- **City of Uniontown (Sewer, \$277,000)**

The proposed project is to construct a third lagoon cell, rebuild existing dikes and TV inspection of sewer lines. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will contribute \$277,000.
- **City of Valley Falls (Water, \$340,500)**

This project includes alterations of the water treatment plant and existing river intake. The city will contribute \$340,500.
- **City of White City (Water, \$400,000)**

The city will use the grant to construct a new well, upgrade transmission lines, and develop a common chlorination building. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will contribute \$450,000 to this project.

Six Western states awarded new Water 2025 Grants

Six Western states have been awarded the first grants under a new Water 2025 program developed specifically for innovative state projects that reduce the likelihood of conflict over scarce water supplies in the region.

Idaho, Kansas, Texas, Arizona, Montana and New Mexico will receive about \$1 million in grants that will help fund projects to recharge groundwater, install flow-measurement and leak-detection equipment on canals and pipelines, and develop Web-based tools and databases to manage water resources more efficiently.

“We launched the Water 2025 State Challenge Grants Program this year in response to the needs of Western state governments,” Interior Secretary Norton said in announcing the awards August 2, 2005. “All of these projects make more efficient use of existing water supplies through cooperative partnerships with the Bureau of Reclamation.”

The state program focuses on achieving the goals identified in Secretary Norton's Water 2025 initiative to avoid crises and conflict in the West, particularly

the development and use of water markets, structural modifications that will conserve water and improve water management, and the use of analytical tools that help states better administer or more efficiently manage water rights, comply with interstate compacts, or otherwise stretch scarce water supplies. The grants were awarded under a 50-50 cost-share

Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer, using unappropriated natural surface-water flows from the Upper Snake River Basin. The Board will construct a pipeline from the W-Canal to two recharge basins. The recharge project would receive about 10,000 acre-feet of water per year. The total cost of the project is \$519,126 with a Water 2025 contribution of \$250,000.

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agreement. Priority was given to projects with practical applications that can be completed within 24 months of the date of the award.

Though similar to the Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program, the new Challenge Grant Program for Western States limits eligible applicants to state government water- management agencies and authorities in the western United States, as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902. The regular Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program is open to local government, municipal and private irrigation districts and water associations and tribal water authorities. Additional information about the Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program for Western States is at www.doi.gov/water2025.

A summary of the projects follows:

Idaho: The Idaho Water Resources Board will develop a groundwater-recharge project for the

Kansas: The Kansas Department of Agriculture will install flow-measurement equipment on 100 diversions in the Republican River basin. The real-time monitoring of the diversions will enhance water management and water marketing opportunities between senior and junior water rights holders. Irrigators in the basin have had to curtail diversions in five of the six previous years. The total project will cost \$495,698 with a Water 2025 contribution of \$230,720.

Texas: The Texas Water Development Board will purchase 10 acoustical leak detection units and make them available to public water-supply systems and analyze statewide public water-system loss audits in preparation of setting regulations. The project will identify leaks in water systems for future water-saving projects. The total project will cost \$321,527 with a Water 2025 contribution of \$158,250.

Arizona: The Arizona Department of Water Resources will develop a Web-based reporting tool to collect water-use data from community water systems in rural Arizona; develop a database of supply-and-demand information; make data available via the Web; review system efficiency; and develop goals or benchmarks for water conservation in rural communities. The project will facilitate regional planning, promote conservation and enhance monitoring. The total project will cost \$438,700 with a Water 2025 contribution of \$190,000.

Montana: The state of Montana will install flow-measurement equipment on 13 diversions in the Milk River Project; develop a computer flow-simulation model for the Milk-St. Mary Rivers System; upgrade four streamflow gages on tributaries of the Milk River; and install an agrimet station and use satellite imagery to verify consumptive uses in Canada. The total project will cost \$188,999 with a Water 2025 contribution of \$81,286.

New Mexico: The state of New Mexico will rehabilitate a USGS streamflow gage on the Pecos River to provide more accurate high streamflow measurements. The gage will help better measure water under high flow conditions. Accurate measurement of water delivered to Texas under the Pecos River Compact is critical to the state. The total project will cost \$146,660 with a Water 2025 contribution of \$59,480.