

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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Executive Director’s Report – August 2023

CD Year 50 Pre-Applications - Beginning August 7, 2023, through September 15, 2023, Allegheny County Economic Development (ACED) will be soliciting pre-applications for construction related projects for its 2024-25 (Year 50 cycle) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Per ACED guidelines, if your municipality is a member of a Council of Governments (COG), all applications should be submitted through said COG. Every QVCOG member community is eligible to apply for CDBG funding for “non-income based” projects exceeding \$20,000 in cost such as ADA accessibility improvement projects and blight remediation. Additionally, member communities may submit pre-applications for general recreation, road reconstruction, and sewer and water projects with the completion of a concentrated household income survey. All are encouraged to consider potential projects with their municipal engineers & staff. The QVCOG is happy to facilitate meetings with municipalities to discuss the pre-application process. Pre-applications will be due to the QVCOG by end of business on Monday, September 11th.

Local Share Account (LSA) Application Details Announced - The statewide Local Share Account (LSA) Program application window will be open from September 1, 2023, through November 30, 2023, for grants up to \$1 million. Please note, there is no local match required. Interested parties may access the updated guidelines by visiting qvcog.org. Eligible applicants include Counties, Municipalities, Municipal Authorities, Economic Development Agencies, Redevelopment Authorities, Land Banks, and **Councils of Governments (COGs)**. Eligible projects must be owned and maintained by an eligible applicant or a nonprofit organization and include a Project in the Public Interest (i.e. a projects that improve the quality of life in the impacted community). Eligible uses of funds may be used for:

- Acquisition, Construction, & Demolition;
- Infrastructure;
- Purchase of vehicles, machinery and/or equipment;
- Planning, consulting and design costs related to planning projects; and
- Engineering, design and inspection, to include permitting fees, for construction projects not to exceed 10% of the total grant award.

Please note, member communities can utilize the QVCOG for the submission of an application and the overall facilitation of the grant, etc. This may be a particularly effective route for multi-municipal applications or projects.

Sewickley Water Authority Admitted as an Associate Member – At its July 19, 2023 meeting the QVCOG Board of Delegates unanimously approved the Sewickley Water Authority’s application to the organization as an Associate Member. Per the QVCOG’s Bylaws, any institution is eligible to apply for Associate Membership including without limitation: firms; corporations; non-profit organizations; and political subdivisions, including authorities; school districts; police departments; and fire departments. As an Associate Member the Sewickley Water Authority may participate in the following QVCOG activities through a single individual representative: Board of Delegates meetings (as a non-voting member); committees (i.e. Managers and Secretaries); and Community forums. Any organization interested in joining the QVCOG as an Associate Member is encouraged to contact Executive Director Conners via email (pconners@qvcog.org).