

## Development Infrastructure

The Development Infrastructure grant program helps communities fund development related infrastructure projects that support economic development and future growth.

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**Eligible Applicants:** Cities, townships or tribal units of government located within the agency's service area. Multi-organization collaboration is welcome.

**Funding:** The Infrastructure grant programs are funded up to \$8,500,000 for FY2020. The agency requires a 1:1 match per project. Projects must begin within six months and completed within 12 months of the award.

### Evaluation Criteria (100 points)

- **Job creation. (25 points)**
  - # of permanent full-time jobs created.
  - # of permanent full-time jobs retained.
  - # of temporary full-time jobs created.
  - # of temporary full-time jobs retained.
  - Describe how you will measure the jobs created or retained.
- **Economic impact. (30 points)**
  - Enables new development.
  - Attracts new investment.
  - Broadens the local tax base.
- **Leverage. (20 points)**
  - Total project investment.
- **Project readiness and timeliness. (5 points)**
  - Applicant and partner funding is secured.
- **Community benefit and partnerships. (15 points)**
  - Multiple partner funders – provide a list of federal, state or local grants, loans or other financing applications (other than Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation) submitted to finance this project.
  - Describe who benefits and how many people are served by the project.
  - If the project aligns with the community's comprehensive plan that portion of the plan should be highlighted and uploaded.
  - Community has not received development infrastructure program funding in the past two fiscal years, to include the current fiscal year.

- **Project serves an underserved community/population. (5 points)**
  - Minority.
  - Geography.
  - Economic status.

## **Application Process and Review**

Applications are accepted July 1 through July 29, 2019. All eligible applications received during this time period are reviewed and scored according to the evaluation criteria. Grants are awarded to the most competitive applications. Applications submitted after July 29, 2019 through the end of the agency's fiscal year (June 30, 2020) may be awarded on a rolling basis subject to meeting minimum scoring criteria and subject to the availability of remaining program funds.

All applications are reviewed by a team and evaluated and scored on an individual basis. Grant program administrators do not score applications for their respective program.

Project recommendations are presented to the agency's board.

Project funding is subject to the Commissioner's final approval. Project must meet objectives, priorities and policies established by the Commissioner.

Notify grant program administrator of any changes to application after final submittal.

## **Application Checklist**

- Project narrative:**
  - Narrative must address evaluation criteria.
  - Job creation: wages and benefits, whether the jobs created are full-time, part-time, temporary or permanent.
- Developer business plan (if applicable).**
- Letter of intent from lending institution (if applicable).**
- Resolution authorizing applicant to apply for and accept funds.**
- Certified engineering cost estimates and plans.**
- Exhibits, reports or studies to support the application.**
- Document of compliance with the Minnesota Historical Society procedures for treatment of historical sites (if applicable).**
- For housing developments, a market study is required.**
- Other documentation to support the application.**

## **Additional Information**

- Applicant is required to attend board meeting for project approval.
- The agency reserves the right to require signage/logo acknowledging financial assistance from the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation. Details are outlined in the grant agreement.
- Awarded projects must meet the Minnesota Prevailing Wage Statutes and the agency's board policy as stated in the grant agreement.

- Project information is subject to Minnesota Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statute Chapter 13.
- Upon receiving a grant award, if the grant award is over \$175,000, it must be publicly bid. The contractor is required to be licensed and insured.
- Architectural and engineering fees in excess of 10% of the total project costs are ineligible for reimbursement.
- A progress report is required if the grant period exceeds 12 months.
- A site visit may be conducted by an authorized representative of the agency.
- A final report is required before final payment including job creation/retention and matching funds.