

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Possible Funding Opportunities Available for Pima Association of Governments Projects

Grant/Program: Rural Community Facilities Program Grants

Authorizing Agency: The United States Department of Agriculture

Authorizing Agency Contact Person: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Community Facilities Program – (202) 720-4323; Arizona's Rural Development Office, Debra Stewart, Phone: (602) 280-8746, E-Mail debra.stewart@az.usda.gov.

Available Funding: \$130 Million

Distribution or Appointment of Funds: Competitive.

Grant/Program Description: Under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, the Department of Agriculture's Rural Community Facilities Program authorizes loans and grants to build, enlarge or improve community facilities that provide essential services for rural residents. Community facilities are those providing or supporting overall community development such as child care facilities, food recovery, and distribution centers; assisted-living facilities; group homes, mental health clinics, and shelters; and education facilities. Projects may include community, social, cultural, transportation and industrial park facilities, fire and rescue services, access ways and utility extensions.

Possible Qualifying PAG Projects:

- Barnett Linear Channel
- Arroyo Chico Flood Control, Phase 3
- CAVSARP Booster Expansion
- Twin Peaks Water Line/Bluebonnet Waterline
- Camino de Manana Waterline
- Regional Public Safety Communications System and Emergency Operations Center

Eligibility Requirements: Grants are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, and special-purpose districts, as well as non-profit corporations and tribal governments. Applicants must have the legal authority necessary for construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed facility and also be unable to obtain needed funds from commercial sources at reasonable rates and terms.

The project must be a community project in a rural area or town of up to 20,000 in population. Grants are authorized on a graduated scale. Applicants located in small communities with low populations and low incomes will receive a higher percentage of grant funds.

Grant/Loan Priorities: Projects that will receive priority are those that:

- **Serve small communities** - Highest priority for projects in a community with a population of 5,000 or less.
- **Serve low-income communities** - Highest priority going to projects serving communities with median household incomes below the higher of the poverty line or 60% of the State non-metropolitan median household income.
- **Provide healthcare, public safety, or public and community services**

Application Instructions: Detailed information and applications available through Arizona's Rural Development Office.

Application Deadline: Unknown.

Websites Available:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Site -

http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/brief_cp_grant.htm

Arizona's Rural Development Office - <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/az/>