

Infrastructure Wins In The FY 2025 State Budget

The 2024 General Assembly legislative session gaveled to a close on June 14th. Working with Governor McKee, the General Assembly adopted an FY 2025 state budget with several important wins for infrastructure investment:

- ✓ \$3 million for the Municipal Infrastructure Grant Program to support our cities and towns as they invest in infrastructure projects.
- ✓ \$10 million for Municipal Resilience Program Financial Assistance to support our cities and towns as they invest in resilient infrastructure solutions. *(Part of the Green Bond on the November 2024 ballot)*
- ✓ \$4 million for municipal infrastructure to support the development of affordable housing. *(Part of the Housing Bond on the November 2024 ballot)*



Renewable Ready Program Signed Into Law

Governor McKee recently signed into law legislation sponsored by Sen. Alana DiMario and Rep. June Speakman that will create the Rhode Island Renewable Ready program.

Renewable Ready establishes a new state program funded by federal funds within RI Infrastructure Bank that will help offset the costs to prepare sites for renewable energy development, focusing on sites that are owned by the state and municipalities. Eligible locations include rooftops of large buildings, properties adjacent to major roads, and brownfields sites.

We look forward to working with our program partners at the Office of Energy

Resources and the Department of Environmental Management to implement Renewable Ready, and to help our state government, city, and town partners identify renewable energy project opportunities.



Now Accepting Applications For Municipal Resilience Program Financial Assistance

Governor McKee and RI Infrastructure Bank are committed to accelerating investments in resilience projects that prepare our cities and towns for the impacts of climate change. Our 2024 Municipal Resilience Program Financial Assistance RFP is now open. [Applications](#) are due by July 26th at noon.

Request for Proposals (RFP)
Dated: May 28, 2024

RESILIENT RHODY: MUNICIPAL RESILIENCE PROGRAM (MRP)

**Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (Bank) Is Soliciting Proposals for
2024 MRP Action Grants**

1. Opportunity Summary

- A. PROPOSALS SOUGHT FOR:** Financial assistance for municipalities who have received designation as a Resilient Rhody MRP municipality to implement priority adaptation actions identified through the MRP planning process.
- B. OVERVIEW:** The Municipal Resilience Program Action Grants support Resilient Rhody, Rhode Island's first comprehensive climate resilience action strategy, by providing direct funding to MRP cities and towns to implement key projects identified through the Community Resilience Building (CRB) workshops and Annual Resilience Updates.
- C. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:** MRP Action Grants are open to municipalities who have successfully completed their CRB processes and finalized their Summary of Findings report. See Section 2C for additional details on eligible applicants. Applications from regional partnerships of multiple municipalities are eligible, provided that all applicants are MRP designated municipalities.
- D. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:** Funding is to advance priority climate adaptation projects identified by the municipality to address climate change impacts resulting from extreme weather, sea level rise, inland and coastal flooding, severe heat, wildfire, drought, and other climate impacts. Projects that propose nature-based solutions or strategies that rely on green infrastructure and the enhancement of natural systems to improve community resilience are encouraged.
- E. APPLICATION DEADLINE:** No later than 12PM, Friday, July 26, 2024. See Section 3 for application submission requirements. Selections are expected to be announced in September 2024. Potential applicants who have questions or would like to request a meeting, may contact Anthony Hebert at ahebert@riib.org. Potential applicants may also contact Kimberly Koriath at Kimberly.koriath@dem.ri.gov to schedule an Annual Resilience Update with RIDEM.
- F. FUNDING AVAILABILITY:** The Bank may, at its discretion, award up to \$5,000,000 in MRP grants pursuant to this RFP. (See further funding availability in Section 2). **Applicants may request up to \$750,000** in project grant funding through MRP in this funding round. Each

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Infrastructure Bank In The News

[New Inclusive Development Models Help Ensure Equitable Infrastructure Investments, Pew](#)

The Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank provides crucial technical assistance, low-interest loans, and pre-funding for localities to identify needs and develop project plans for grant applications. It also partners with municipalities and community organizations to formulate strategic processes and offers accelerated lending programs for communities and nonprofits seeking grants. For example, officials in Central Falls, Rhode Island, employed the state's infrastructure bank to secure financing for a project that will significantly reduce occurrences of combined sewer overflow events that can contaminate area rivers by capturing and storing surges in infiltration chambers under remediated and improved athletic fields for use by city residents. The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank provides similar support for local water, transportation, and resilience projects.

[Dexter Street Plaza getting a \\$150,000 facelift, Valley Breeze](#)

Mayor Maria Rivera, in her budget address this spring, described a plan to renovate the terraced plaza at 741 Dexter St. to make it a hub for gathering, including space for food trucks as an attraction to the broader public. It will also see new controls for stormwater runoff.

In January, Gov. Dan McKee and the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank announced that Central Falls would receive \$147,795 for the Dexter Street Stormwater Resiliency Project, part of \$12 million in Action Grants toward projects to help communities increase their resilience in the face of climate change impacts.

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