STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

Drinking Water Section

DWS Circular Letter #2021-07

TO: Community and Non-Profit Non-Community Public Water Systems

Municipal Chief Elected Officials

Local Directors of Health

Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief Jail Mathieu 21
Environmental Health & Division of the Property of FROM:

Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch

DATE: February 3, 2021

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Potential Federal Infrastructure RE:

Stimulus Bill - CALL FOR PROJECTS for State Fiscal Year 2022

The Department of Public Health's Drinking Water Section (DWS) is announcing its call for eligible drinking water projects for potential funding through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) during State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2022. The DPH also anticipates that a new federal infrastructure stimulus bill may be passed in the coming months that could include additional loan and grant funding for drinking water infrastructure projects. The DPH does not know at this time if or how much additional infrastructure funding may become available, but we do anticipate that it may include a significant grant component that will be attractive and beneficial to Connecticut's eligible public water systems. The DPH also anticipates that any stimulus bill will emphasize getting the federal investment into the economy quickly by funding construction projects that are ready to proceed. For this reason, the DPH would encourage eligible community and non-profit non-community public water systems to bear this in mind when preparing applications for funding from a potential infrastructure stimulus bill. It is likely that priority for any economic stimulus funding will be given to the highest-ranking projects, as determined by the DWSRF Priority Ranking System, that can quickly move to construction. We have made a slight modification to the **DWSRF** Eligibility Application for applicants to indicate whether they are submitting applications for DWSRF funding, potential federal infrastructure stimulus bill funding or both. The DPH is **not** planning to conduct another Call for Projects during SFY 2021 or 2022 if any federal infrastructure stimulus funding is made available to Connecticut; however, we will certainly announce its availability to applicants who respond to this Call for Projects as well as those applicants that are already in the DWSRF pipeline.





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The Call for Projects notice is available on our <u>DWSRF website</u> with a deadline of **March 31**, **2021** to submit <u>Eligibility Applications</u> for funding consideration for the SFY 2022 DWSRF Project Priority List (PPL). The PPL details the projects that DPH is expecting to commit the available DWSRF funds during SFY 2022. Applications received after that deadline will be assigned appropriate priority points according to the DWSF <u>Priority Ranking System</u> and periodically (expected to be done quarterly) added to the DPH's Comprehensive Project List. If you have an eligible drinking water construction project that will be ready to proceed during the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 you are strongly encouraged to submit your application as early as possible but no later than March 31, 2021.

Eligibility Applications for projects which only want to be considered for potential stimulus funding must also be received by the **March 31, 2021** deadline. These applications will be reviewed and assigned ranking points but will not be formally ranked. If and when this potential stimulus funding has been made available, they will then be formally ranked, and a PPL developed according to the requirements of the funding. Additional information may need to be requested of these projects depending on any additional requirements that may be included in the legislation.

If you have any questions or wish to learn more about the DWSRF Program, please do not hesitate to contact Cameron Walden at cameron.walden@ct.gov.

c: Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, Deputy Commissioner