



Department of Commerce and Economic Opportu

Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor / Jack Lavin, Director

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Governor Announces 2003 Community Development Assistance Program Planning Assistance Grants

CHICAGO - Governor Rod R. Blagojevich today announced that 34 Illinois communities are receiving 2003 Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) Planning Assistance grants totaling \$775,000. The grants are funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and are given to units of local government for water and sewer planning projects. The projects, which are chosen following a competitive application review, are designed to address threats to public health and safety and which will benefit at least 51 percent low-to-moderate income persons.

"Without these grants many of these communities would not have the resources to begin the process of improving the quality of their drinking water or resolve unsanitary sewer problems," said Governor Blagojevich. "It is incumbent on the state to assist these communities in addressing these issues and improve the quality of life for their residents."

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) administers the CDAP program through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The money is available to assist Illinois communities meet their greatest economic and community development needs.

"Planning for needed improvements is key not only to addressing health and safety issues for residents but is also necessary in order to improve the economic development potential of these communities," said DCEO Director Jack Lavin. "Businesses rely on water and sewer infrastructure in order to meet their demands for growth and success."

One of this year's grantees is the Village of Brighton, located in Macoupin and Jersey Counties, which is receiving \$22,700 for an analysis of the public sewer collection system on the north side of town. The area targeted for the planning study, known as Georgene Acres, has been plagued with sanitary sewer back-ups. An income survey of the planning area determined that approximately 88% of the residents are low-to-moderate income.

Despite routine maintenance being performed on the lift station that serves this area, the problems appear to be worsening. The Village lacks the resources to conduct the drainage study on its own, but with the CDAP Planning Assistance grant officials will be able to develop a corrective action plan to alleviate the flooding and sewer back-ups.

A list of all grant recipients is attached.



2003 CDAP Planning Assistance.pdf

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