

# MECO Visions Newsletter

## PROJECT FINANCING:

The Missouri Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program has been a vital link to the completion of utility and infrastructure improvement projects for over three decades. **MECO** offers exceptional expertise and experience in working with this important financing program for local community projects.

2016 will see changes in application deadlines for some CDBG categories including projects to improve **streets, storm water facilities, and bridges**.

Application deadlines for **Community Facilities** (community/senior centers, etc.), and **Demolition** categories, and **Proposals** for the **General Infrastructure** category were previously staggered through the spring and early summer months (April/May/June). The Department is proposing a rule change for 2016 that would immediately move the application deadlines for these specific categories to **March** to improve program efficiency and expenditure of funds. The **Water and Wastewater** category will remain “open cycle” as will the Microenterprise and Emergency categories.

The **General Infrastructure** component can be used to address local community infrastructure needs not addressed by other funding categories, such as streets and roadways, bridges, and storm water facilities.

Project readiness will be a critical rating criteria as projects financed with CDBG funds will face strict timelines for expenditure of funds and completion.

Do you have infrastructure improvement needs? Are you facing regulatory compliance mandates and wondering how to finance them? It's not too late to start the planning process and thinking about CDBG applications for your water, wastewater, streets and storm water, and bridge projects. CDBG funds can be used as critical match to leverage other state and federal programs (MDNR SRF, USDA-RD, MoDOT, etc.), providing project affordability.

Our experts are here to guide you through the process, establishing a project scope, and determining the most appropriate and affordable financing strategy for your local project. Give us a call today. Don't be left behind!

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