

Economic Development*

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Institute of Government for

County Officials

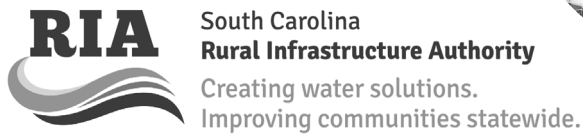
Level II

October 18, 2023

Building Infrastructure Capacity

SC Association of
Counties

October 18, 2023



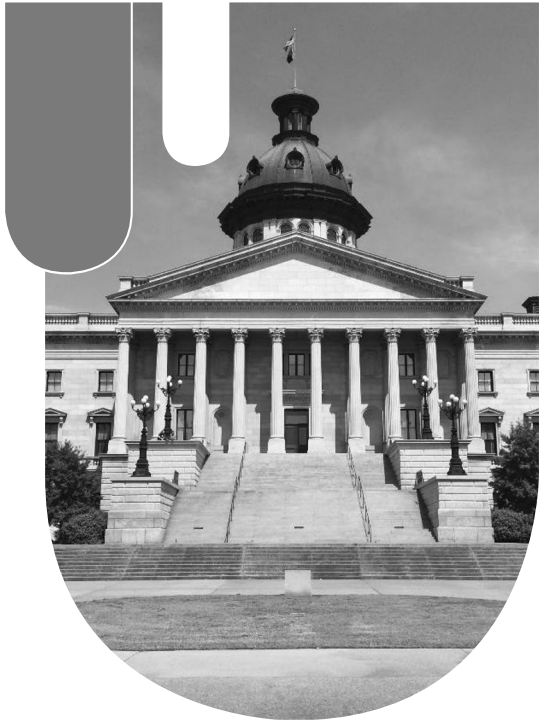
Agenda

- RIA Overview
- Infrastructure Needs
- SCIIP Funding Update
- State Grants
- Other Funding Sources



Bonnie Ammons, Executive Director





About RIA

Mission

To provide resources for strategic investments that will strengthen and modernize critical community infrastructure.

Vision

All South Carolina communities have the infrastructure necessary to protect public health and the environment as well as lay the groundwork for economic success.

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RIA South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority

Infrastructure is a Smart Investment

- Protects public health and the environment
- Improves the quality of life
- Lays the groundwork for economic development
- Enhances community sustainability



Estimating 5-year Capital Investment Needs

EPA Needs Surveys

\$1.9B

*Based on 20-year estimates
adjusted to 2021 dollars*

RIA Survey of Systems

\$1.8B

for 20% of utilities

SC Infrastructure Investment Program 2022-2023

309

Applications Received

\$2B

SCIIP Funds Requested

219

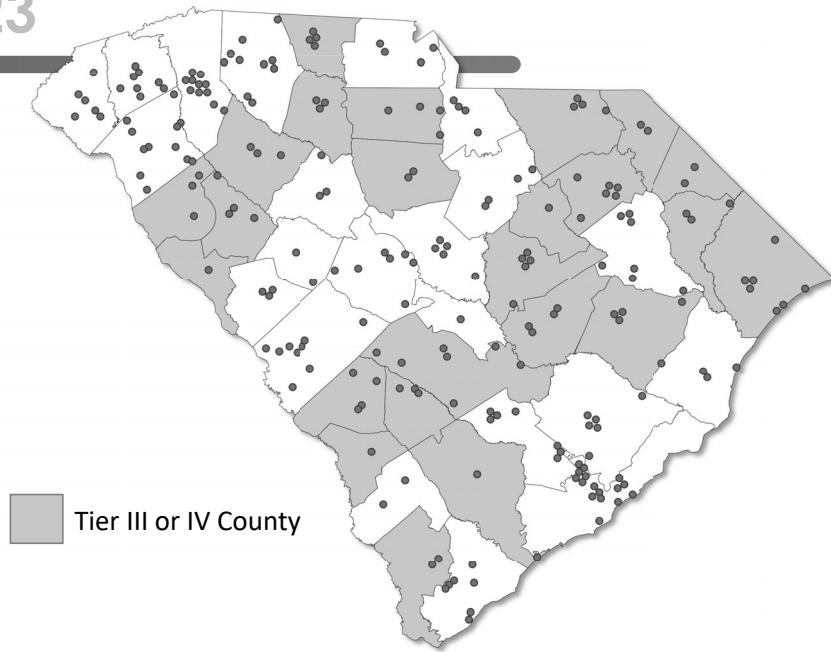
Grants Awarded

\$1.469B

SCIIP Funds
Awarded

100%
of funds have
been awarded

SCIIP Awards 2022-2023



RIA State Programs

- Grants
- Loans
- Technical Assistance



RIA Assistance...

- Identify resources to meet needs
- Deliver access to affordable financing solutions
- Bridge funding gaps
- Leverage local funds
- Provide timely and responsive assistance
- Address long term viability solutions



State Grant Funding Available

Basic Infrastructure

\$26,000,000

Economic Infrastructure

\$7,700,000

Planning

\$4,500,000

**Total Available:
\$38,200,000**

Who Is Eligible?

- Local Governments*
- Special Purpose & Public Service Districts
- Public Works Commissions



* A local government may also apply on behalf of a not-for-profit water/sewer company operating within their jurisdiction.

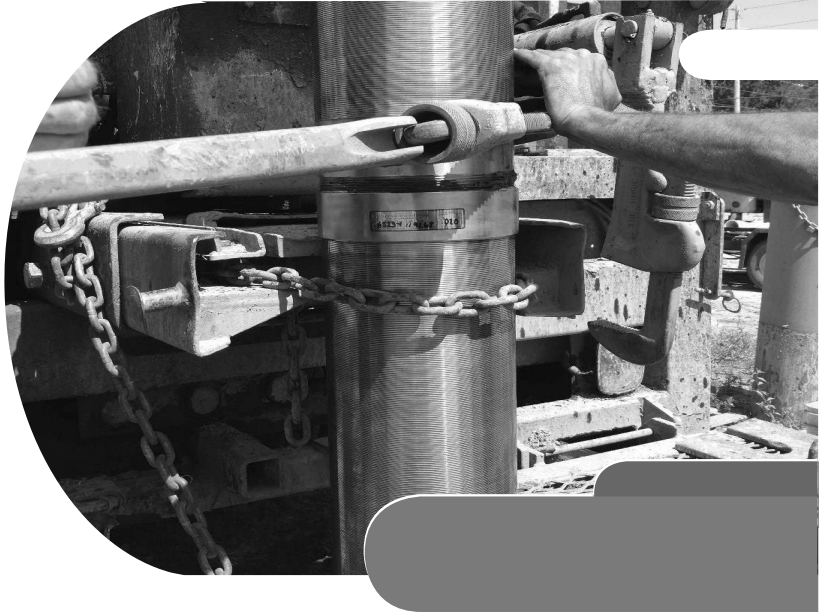
Basic and Economic Infrastructure



Basic & Economic Infrastructure

Types of Activities

- Wells
- Water & sewer lines
- Pump stations
- Water treatment plants
- Wastewater treatment plants
- Stormwater drainage



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Basic & Economic Infrastructure

Grant Request:

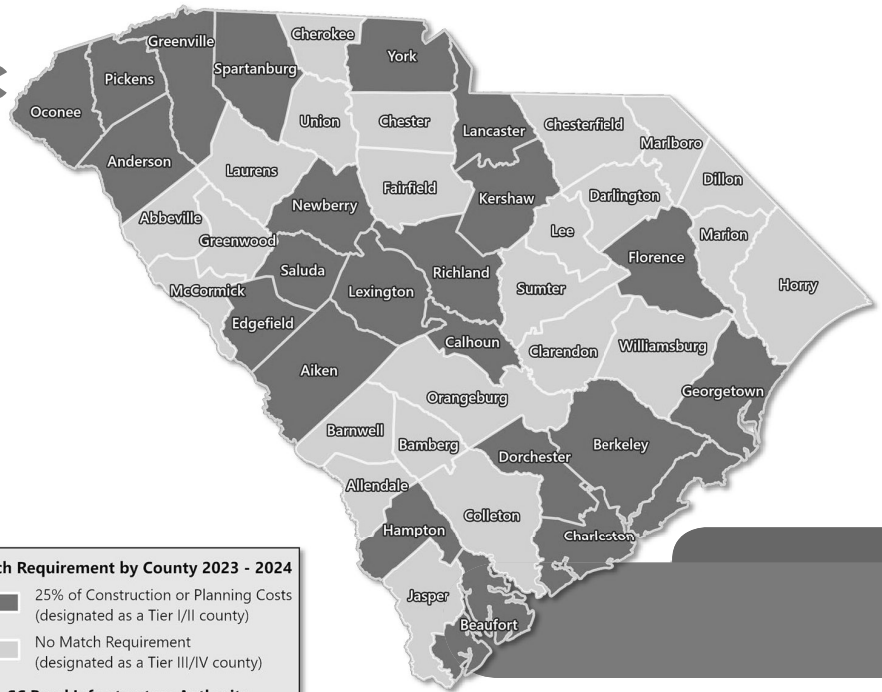
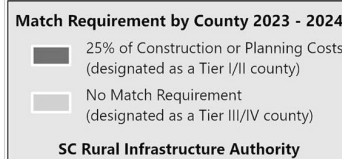
Up to **\$1,000,000**

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Basic & Economic Infrastructure

Match Requirements

All applicants pay for non-construction costs



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Basic Infrastructure

Priorities

- 1 Regional solutions
- 2 Consent Orders; Unsatisfactory ratings; Emergencies
- 3 Needs Improvement ratings; Frequent violations
- 4 Aging facilities; End of useful life

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CASE IN POINT:

Pelham Sewer Rehab (Phase I)

Grantee
Metro Connects

Grant Award
\$500,000

Total Project Cost
\$2,453,282



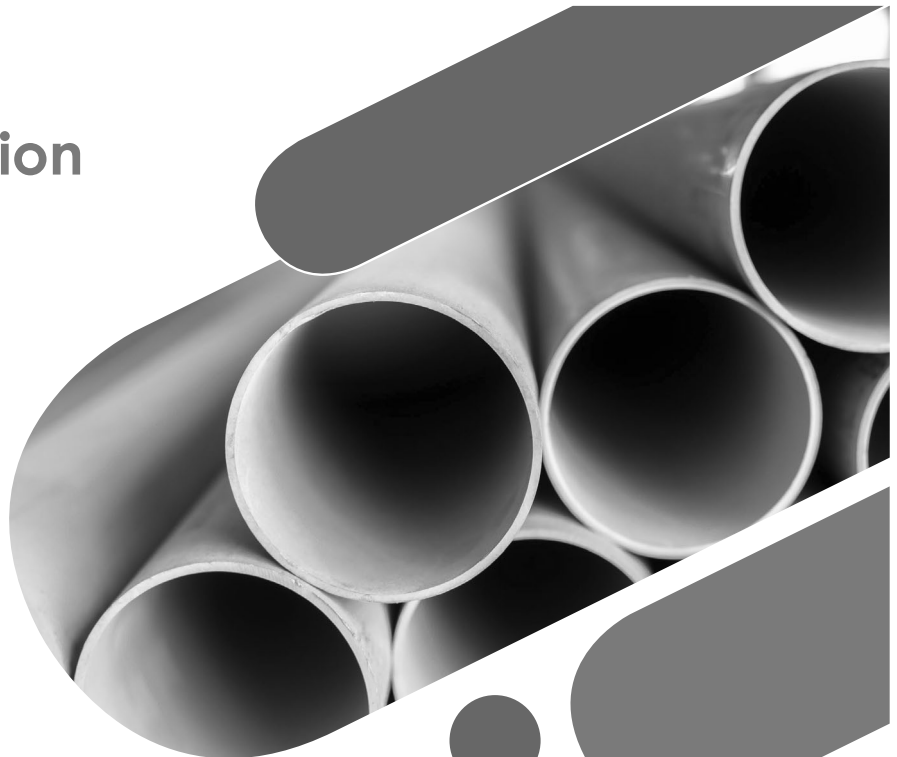
CASE IN POINT:

Water Interconnection

Grantee
Aiken County – Breezy Hill
Water & Sewer Company

Grant Award
\$500,000

Total Project Cost
\$741,699



CASE IN POINT: Drainage Project – Basin 1

Grantee
City of Beaufort

Grant Award
\$500,000

Total Project Cost
\$5,664,860



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Rural Infrastructure Authority

Economic Infrastructure



RIA South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority

Economic Infrastructure

Priorities

1

Jobs

2

System capacity

3

Product development

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CASE IN POINT: Sewer Upgrades to Support New Industry

Jobs Project

Grantee

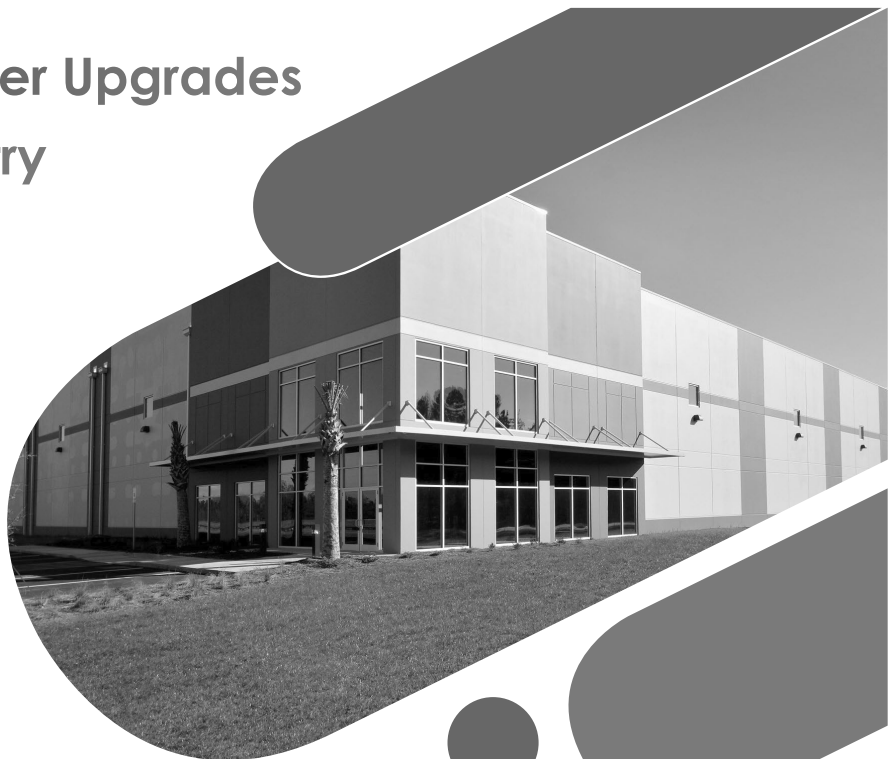
Dillon County

Grant Award

\$300,000

Total Project Cost

\$328,908



CASE IN POINT:

Sewer System Improvements

Capacity Project

Grantee
Town of Cheraw

Grant Award
\$500,000

Total Project Cost
\$5,977,708



CASE IN POINT:

Peach Road Water Main

Product Development Project

Grantee
Fairfield County

Grant Award
\$500,000

Total Project Cost
\$697,375



Infrastructure Planning



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Infrastructure Planning Grants

Purpose	Support water, sewer and stormwater systems in planning for long-term viability
Grant Amount	Up to \$250,000
Match	25% for Tier I and II counties only
Grant Period	18 months

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Infrastructure Planning Grants

Examples of Eligible Activities

- Regional feasibility studies
- Rate studies
- Asset management plans
- Financial planning
- Capital improvement planning
- GIS mapping
- Smoke testing & televising lines
- Lead service line assessments
- Treatability studies or pilot testing
- CMOM assessment

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CASE IN POINT:

Regional Feasibility Planning Study

Grantee

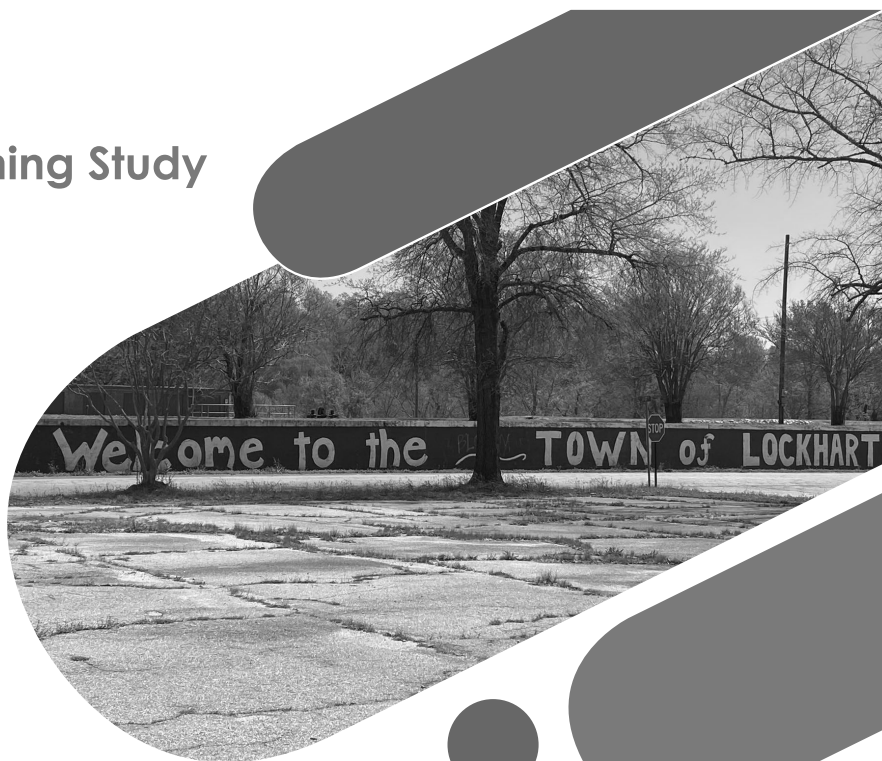
City of Union

Additional Participants

Towns of Lockhart & Carlisle

Grant Amount

\$100,000



OTHER FUNDING SOURCES



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State Revolving Funds

Co-administered by DHEC & RIA



Programs

- Clean Water
- Drinking Water

An Affordable Financing Tool

- Below-market interest rates
- Fixed-rate financing
- 100% financing of eligible costs
- Up to 30-year term
- Low closing costs

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Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (BIL)

- Funds available through the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) Program administered jointly by RIA and DHEC
- Water, Wastewater and stormwater projects
- Emerging contaminants
- Lead in water service lines
- Disadvantaged communities targeted for principal forgiveness

Community Development Block Grant Program

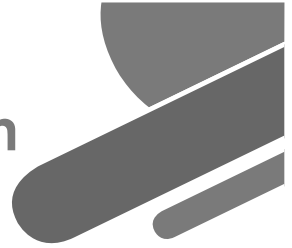


South Carolina
Department of Commerce
Just right for business.

Community
Development
Block Grant

- SC Department of Commerce
- Infrastructure, Public Facilities
- Primary Benefit to Low and Moderate Income persons
- Grants up to \$1,000,000
- 10% match

Appalachian Regional Commission/ Southeast Crescent Regional Commission



- SC Department of Commerce
- Eligibility: All counties qualify for one of the regional commission funding opportunities
- Infrastructure, Workforce, Economic Opportunities, Natural/Cultural Assets, Leadership and Community Capacity



USDA - Rural Development



Committed to the future of rural communities.

- Rural Utilities- Water and Environmental Programs
- Public Facilities Program
- Housing Program
- Grants, Loans and Loan Guarantees
- Rural areas and towns of 10,000 residents or less



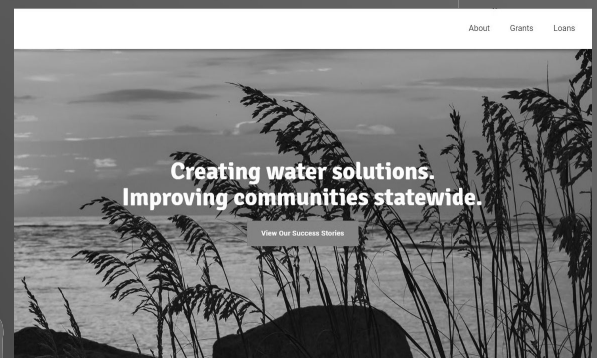
US Economic Development Administration



- US Department of Commerce
- Public Works Grants
- Targeted to distressed communities
- Projects that support economic competitiveness and private sector job creation and investment

Oconee	Water	Sewer
Salem, Town of	\$ 46.66	
Seneca, City of	\$ 19.45	\$ 35.83
Walhalla, City	\$ 26.43	\$ 23.00
West Union, Town	\$ 37.80	\$ 40.00

www.ria.sc.gov



Website Resources:
include interactive map
on the agency's
website, allowing
visitors to view water
and sewer rates for all
systems within a single
county.

Stay Connected



South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority
Creating water solutions.
Improving communities statewide.

RIA Review

January 5, 2021

To sign up for the RIA's e-newsletter,
email info@ria.sc.gov
(Subject: RIA Review)

Happy New Year!

What's Happening Now:

- Register for **FREE** Grant and Loan Application Webinars
- Grant Application Deadline is Approaching
- DHEC Issues Call for Projects
- Check Out Latest Version of Project Management Procedures for Grants



Any idea of the location?
Check the bottom for the answer.



South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority

In Closing...



Infrastructure Matters

*Building block for
community and
economic
development*



Financing Available

*RIA offers grants
and loans
statewide*



Customer Service

*RIA staff are here to
help with technical
assistance*



South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority

RIA Grant Program Staff

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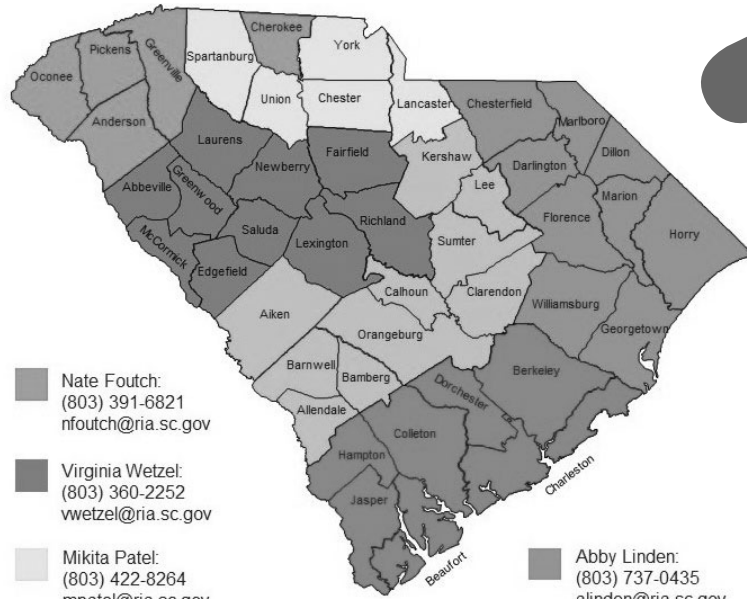
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RIA South Carolina
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THANK YOU

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Improving communities statewide.

