



before



after

From Nuisance to Dream Home

In an effort to clean up their community, the City of Clinton has aggressively acquired deteriorated, vacant homes and had most of them demolished over the years. After working with ECIA, the City was awarded the CDBG Opportunities and Threats pilot project in May of 2018 to instead transform these dilapidated structures into useful homes for low-to-moderate income homebuyers at or below 80% of the county median income. The City and ECIA have identified 5 houses to be rehabilitated into decent and safe homes while also tackling the state-wide housing shortage. The East Central Development Corporation (ECDC), ECIA's non-profit arm, administers the grant and facilitates the rehab. The program has proven successful with the first home rehabbed and sold at 916 South 5th Street. The proceeds of the sale are then reinvested back into the program for future projects.



Two more homes are currently being rehabbed and will later be sold. The 2nd home is a 2-story with 1050 SF living space per story, 2 baths, 6 bedrooms, new interior and exterior finishes in the \$95,000 to \$99,000 price range. All homebuyers receive \$5,000 in down payment assistance from the CDBG Opportunities and Threats pilot project. Please call Craig Elskamp at 563-690-5760, for more information on this grant program.



We need your vote!

The Bear River Cottages in Maquoketa has qualified as a finalist for the State Farm Neighborhood Assist grant of \$25,000! If awarded, this money will go towards amenities to beautify the newly constructed neighborhood. We need YOUR HELP to do this! Please vote for the Bear River Cottages using this link: www.NeighborhoodAssist.com/entry/2033860

Voting can be done up to 10 times per day per user! Voting starts September 23rd.



RTA 8 Receives AIM Grant

The Region 8 Regional Transit Authority has been awarded \$120,000 in Federal funding to modernize demand-response transportation services in Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson counties. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded 25 projects nationally, and RTA's award involves implementing its Regional Coordination Program.

Based on feedback from the RTA Transit Action Group, the ultimate goals for the Program include: Improve coordination among agency partners when scheduling trips for clients, thus reducing wait times; Show (potentially improve) availability of RTA services to all riders to aid in trip and appointment scheduling; And provide better communication in real time with riders and caregivers. All technology improvements will result in an improved rider experience, helping RTA to retain current riders and attract new riders. The Coordination Program will enable RTA to streamline its services, allowing RTA to operate more efficiently and be more cost-effective.

For more information, please contact Tricia Wagner at Twagner@ecia.org or call 563-690-5761.



COVID-19 Expense Reimbursement

On August 4, Governor Reynolds announced the distribution of \$125 million of federal CARES Act dollars to local governments for reimbursement of expenses related to COVID-19.

To receive a reimbursement, a city must pass a resolution and submit it, along with supporting documentation, through the State's web-based portal.

- For costs incurred between August 1 and September 30, 2020, a claim must be submitted by October 1.

FEMA Public Assistance Requests

Expenses that are eligible for reimbursement through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) program need to be submitted through that program first. Local governments should work with the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) to submit an application to the PA Program. FEMA guidance indicates the following items would qualify:

- Personal protective equipment and sanitizing products.
- Necessary medical supplies and equipment.
- Temporary emergency staffing and overtime costs for staff that are substantially dedicated to the mitigation or response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

There is a 75% Federal / 25% local cost-share associated with the FEMA PA Projects. The State has reserved \$25 million to cover the local cost-share. Each city has a maximum reimbursement amount based on the 2019 population estimates. Download the list of each city's cap here: <https://tinyurl.com/y673a833>.

For guidance on which expenses might be covered, visit the State's guidance site at: <https://tinyurl.com/y4ky9sms>, which includes U.S. Treasury and State guidance on covered expenses.

Fourth USDA Grant for Free Trainings

For a fourth consecutive year, ECIA will receive \$180,000 over three years through the USDA Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) Program. This funding will be used for ECIA to establish a Rural Community Regeneration Training Institute that provides training and technical assistance to rural government leaders and economic development organizations in the areas of improving quality of life, supporting a rural workforce, economic recovery and resiliency, and technology and innovation.

For more information please contact Holly McPherson, Manager of Special Programs at hmcpherson@ecia.org or call 563.690.5738.



ECIA Receives CARES Act Funds

ECIA Business Growth was awarded \$2.2 million in CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant to capitalize its Revolving Loan Fund.

This funding will allow businesses affected by COVID to maintain and/or create new jobs through purchasing new equipment, inventory, building acquisition, and building construction.

Interest rates are as low as 0.5% and terms are from 5 to 20 years. For more information contact Matt Specht at 563.690.5721 or mspecht@ecia.org.



Planning a Project?

The EDA has awarded ECIA planning and technical assistance funds to assist with recovery assistance in our region. We are looking for projects and can provide reduced cost planning and programming for our communities with through this grant over the next 24 months.

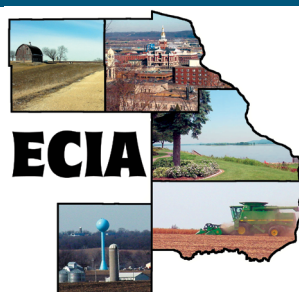


If you have a project in mind that ECIA could assist with, Please contact Kelley Deutmeyer at 563.690.5700 or kdeutmeyer@ecia.org.

Maquoketa Receives EDA Grant

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) announced the award of \$2,288,800 of EDA disaster funds to the City of Maquoketa to make critical stormwater infrastructure improvements. The \$2,861,000 project will help with recovery efforts from the 2019 floods and promote resiliency in the City by replacing existing leaking flood gates, reworking several storm sewers, installing permanent stormwater pumps, and providing protection and a back-up generator for a sanitary sewer lift station.

The proposed project will provide the needed resiliency that is necessary for a concurrent flood and storm event. Once completed, the project will help to mitigate the effects of future flooding events, promote resiliency, and strengthen the regional economy.



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