



MISSOURI SENATE

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Senator Rob Mayer Calls Attention to Possible Short Time Span for Cities, Counties and Non-Profits to Apply for Federal Stimulus Funds *Senator Encourages Communities to Coordinate Efforts to Avoid Missed Opportunities*

JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Rob Mayer, R-Dexter, is calling on cities, counties and other organizations that may be eligible for federal stimulus dollars to be aware that some applications for federal stimulus funding become available on very short notice and may require special applications or paperwork for consideration of funds.

“It’s critical for our state and local agencies and community leaders to be aware of these short deadlines so they don’t miss a funding opportunity that may be available to them,” Sen. Mayer said. “Also, these groups will want to closely look at any terms or definitions associated with any grant, such as what ‘shovel-ready’ really means for a construction project because it generally requires a project to be undertaken in a matter of months,” Sen. Mayer said.

While recently perusing a government Web site that provides information on federal stimulus funding, Sen. Mayer’s office staff discovered an application opportunity in the area of arts funding opened on March 2 and closed on March 13.

Senator Mayer encourages local leaders to be aware that there are a variety of ways the stimulus funds will flow to state and local governments and encourages them to coordinate local activities while pursuing these one-time grants.

Federal stimulus fund grants are available in a number of areas, including clean water and other environmental efforts, social services, health services, energy efficiency, education, nutrition, broadband communication, and USDA grants for agriculture. Senator Mayer recommends entities seeking grant funds utilize the following Web sites for federal stimulus funding information: grants.gov, recovery.gov, and cfda.gov. The latter is for the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, which resumes its Web site operation on March 31.

Senator Mayer encourages grant seekers to use only official government Web sites for securing grants.

“Already, there are some scam artists out there ‘offering’ government money, so please be wary of possible fraudulent Web sites that make promises of federal money and ask for underwriting fees,” Sen. Mayer said.

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