

Feingold announces stimulus funds will go to more than 90 local housing authorities

More than 90 Wisconsin housing authorities have received over \$26 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), also known as the economic stimulus, to improve and modernize public housing facilities, Wisconsin federal Senator Russ Feingold announced Wednesday.

The money is to help local housing authorities in communities across Wisconsin modernize public housing facilities and create demand for construction jobs. Projects that are ready to begin will receive priority in order to start construction quickly, Feingold announced, with energy efficiency efforts given priority to "lower the long term costs of public housing."

Contractors may contact housing authorities list in the grant announcement to find out what the process is for involvement in the projects. Follow this link or see Internet address at the end of this article.

The federal Housing and Urban Development Department's Capital Fund Program provides annual funding to public housing authorities to develop, finance, or modernize the public housing in their communities. This funding can also be used to make large-scale improvements such as building new or green roofs and for the replacement of plumbing and electrical systems to increase energy efficiency.

Feingold said he has been a strong supporter of improving public housing and is the author of the Affordable Housing Expansion and Public Safety Act to help increase affordable housing opportunities for low income Americans.

More information on the specifics of the local grants is online, <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/ph/capfund/grants/arra/wi.cfm>.