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Past issues of the SW Missouri Local Government Briefings can be found at: smcog.missouristate.edu

To subscribe or submit an item for the Briefings, please contact: JasonRay@missouristate.edu.
For information, call Jason Ray at 417-836-6977.

Announcements...

DOJ – Opioid Abuse Prevention Grants

U.S. Department of Justice is seeking applications to plan and implement responses to the growing opioid epidemic. The grants seek to address opioid abuse within 6 categories, ranging from data and technology solutions to Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs. Localities in Missouri that organize together and apply as a region are viewed more favorably than counties and cities applying separately. SMCOG is hoping to facilitate regional cooperation regarding opioid abuse prevention, if you are interested in joining the discussion please get in touch. **The deadline to apply is April 25.** View the entire grant announcement here: www.bja.gov/funding/CARA17.pdf

USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program

U.S. Department of Agriculture is accepting applications to the Regional Conservation Partnership Program. The program offers funding to local public-private partnerships working to improve water quality, drought relief, soil, wildlife habitat, and agriculture. **The deadline to apply is April 21.** View information about this program [here](#).

FEMA – Emergency Management Courses

FEMA is accepting applications for the Integrated Emergency Management Courses (IEMC) programs. IEMCs offer lecture and exercise-based training for response to disasters or emergencies. The courses simulate varying situations impacting emergency operations center personnel and local leadership. Classes are held at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland however, training may also be offered in the applicant's community. **IEMC applications are due February 15.** For information on the IEMC program, [click here](#).

Conferences and Events...

SMCOG Meetings

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), March 15, 9:00 AM, Library Station, 2325 N. Kansas, Springfield, MO
For more information, contact MeganClark@missouristate.edu

SMCOG Board Meeting, March 22, 9:00 AM, Library Station, 2325 N. Kansas, Springfield, MO
Please RSVP to JaneHood@missouristate.edu.

Missouri Municipal League Annual Legislative Conference, February 14-15

MML's 47th Annual Legislative Conference will be held February 14-15 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. Join your fellow local government leaders from across the state to discuss the top legislative issues affecting your organization, network with officials, and visit with state legislators. [Register](#) by February 7.

Census Transportation Planning Products Training, February 23-24

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) is hoping a CTPP training aimed at data users at MPOs, RPCs, State agencies, and for practitioners who will be using, or who are involved in analyses that use the Census data. It is appropriate for consultants and students as well. This free training will be held in Jefferson City, MO. For more information contact [Alex Rottenberry](#) or register [online](#).

How to Start a Business in Missouri Seminar, March 2

The Small Business & Technology Development Center hosts regular training seminars to support business innovation. A FREE seminar with information about starting a business in the State of Missouri will be held on March 2, from 4-6p. This session is titled "How To Start a Business in Missouri." For more information about this seminar and to register, click [here](#). View the complete list of trainings and seminars [here](#).

Missouri Community Forestry Council State Conference, March 7-9

The Missouri Community Forestry Council annual State Conference will be held in Springfield, MO at the Oasis Convention Center near I-44 and Glenstone Avenue. Join the Southwest MCFC group as they present 'Living on the Edge of the Community Forest'. Early bird [registration](#) ends January 31: early bird registrants receive an MCFC messenger bag.

Community Cyber Security + EOC's Role in Community Cyber Security, September 6-7

The Missouri State Emergency Management Agency in conjunction with Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), and the Springfield/Greene County Office of Emergency Management has scheduled the AWR136 Essentials of Community Cyber Security and the MGT384 The EOC's Role In Community Cyber Security classes for September 6-7, 2017 in Springfield. The Essentials of Community Cyber Security class will be held on September 6 from 8:00 am-12:00 pm and The EOC's Role in Community Cyber Security class will be held on September 6 from 1:00 pm-5:00 pm and will finish on September 7 from 8:00 am-5:00 pm. You can register [online](#). Individuals who have issues or questions with registration can contact Jack Raetz at 573-526-9016.

Participants should attend both courses to receive maximum benefits (the AWR136 is a prerequisite to attending the MGT384). There is no cost to attend the training. Eligible individuals can receive meal and lodging reimbursement, however, we cannot reimburse private industry personnel for travel expenses or lodging. Individuals must attend both classes in order to receive lodging and meal reimbursement.

News...

IRS – Rural Tax Filers Maybe Eligible for Overlooked Tax Credit

The Internal Revenue Service is urging rural tax filers to explore the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). This credit is available for working people who earn \$53,505 or less in 2016, and meet other requirements. Many tax filers do not take advantage of this refund, particularly in rural areas. To receive the credit, a tax return must be filed even if taxes are not owed or filing is not required. Taxpayers may file using a [qualified tax professional](#), using free [community tax help sites](#), or doing it themselves with [IRS Free File](#). Information on EITC can be found [here](#).

Rural Health Info Hub Offers Free Assistance

The Rural Health Information Hub (RHlhub), formerly the Rural Assistance Center, provides resources, information, and opportunities to support healthcare and population health in rural communities. Their website – [ruralhealthinfo.org](#) – offers an online library of rural health resources, coverage of rural issues, state guides, toolkits, rural program models, and more.

Online Resources...

FHWA: Small Town + Rural Design Guide for Walking + Biking

USDOT's Federal Highway Administration released a guide to assist small towns and rural communities in developing walking and biking infrastructure. The guide uses existing national design guidelines, but applies them to rural settings and highlights rural/small towns who have built such infrastructure. A web version of some of the guide is available here [RuralDesignGuide.com](#) and the full guide can be found [here](#).

Jobs...

Director of Finance, City of Republic, \$62,500 - \$80,000/yr.: <https://goo.gl/JiAKiC>

Planning and Development Director, City of Ozark, \$60,000 - \$70,000/yr. apply by Feb 24: <https://goo.gl/tY4kex>

Planning Administrator, Taney County, Salary DOQ: <https://goo.gl/48JIXC>

Regional Planner, Lake of the Ozarks Council of Local Governments, Salary DOQ: <http://goo.gl/lK1zuB>

Assistant Professor, Planning/Human Geography, Missouri State University, <https://goo.gl/x5f3iV>

Recreation Specialist II, City of Branson, \$16.00/hr.: <https://goo.gl/koTrkT>

Assistant Police Chief, City of Branson, \$65,721 - \$98,620/yr.: <https://goo.gl/C7cm3k>

Police Officer, City of Springfield, \$16.57 - \$28.35/hr.: <https://goo.gl/QGZKU3>

Police Officer, City of Ozark: <https://goo.gl/sHnyUH>

911 Communications Officer, City of Monett, \$27,348 - \$30,904/yr.: <https://goo.gl/bOQ9X9>

Police Dispatcher, City of Aurora: <http://goo.gl/4RF1uu>

MO Dept. of Conservation: Various positions available: <https://goo.gl/PnuHRN>

Grants...

FEMA – SAFER Grant

FEMA is accepting applications for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program. SAFER grants fund training for frontline firefighters through two categories: a) hiring of firefighters and b) recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters. The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act allocates \$345 million for the grant. For information on the SAFER Grant Program, [click here](#). **SAFER applications are due February 10 at 5p E.T.**

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Grant rounds for the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) opened Jan. 9, 2017. LWCF grants are available to cities, counties and school districts to be used for outdoor recreational projects. RTP grants fund trail-related projects and are available to local and state governments, school districts, for-profit and non-profit organizations, and businesses. For more information about either of these programs, please visit <https://goo.gl/hrOclK> **Deadline: February 17, 2017.**

EPA Job Training + Workforce Development Grant Opportunity

The EPA is soliciting proposals from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to deliver Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) programs that recruit, train, and place local, unemployed and under-employed residents with the skills needed to secure full-time employment in the environmental field. Successful applicants will be awarded grant funds of up to \$200,000 for the development and implementation of environmental job training programs.

Informational Webinars: Two informational webinars have been held. Their content is exactly the same and they can be streamed here: <https://goo.gl/ZOEmgK>

Learn about EPA proposal guidelines, tips, FAQs, and apply online: <https://goo.gl/A2Q6pN> **Deadline: February 24, 2017.**

USDA – Rural Utilities Service Broadband Loan and Grant

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has opened applications to the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program and Community Connect Grant Program. The Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program provides funding for construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment to expand services of broadband speeds in eligible rural areas. Application submission windows will be March 1 to March 31 and September 1 to September 30. For information on the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program, [click here](#).

The Community Connect Grant Program funds broadband expansion in areas that are not currently being considered by private providers. For information on the Community Connect Grant Program, [click here](#). **Applications due March 13.**

Community WINS Grant

The [U.S. Conference of Mayors](#) (USCM) and [Wells Fargo](#) have opened applications to the Community WINS Grant Program. The program funds initiatives in three categories: neighborhood stabilization, economic development, and job creation. USCM member cities may submit up to three eligible nonprofit programs for consideration in the review process. For more information, click [here](#). **Applications are due March 17.**

USDA – Strengthen Local/Regional Food Businesses

U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Ag. Marketing Service (AMS) announced the availability of \$27 million in grants to fund innovative projects designed to strengthen market opportunities for local and regional food producers and businesses. There are three different applications within this grant announcement. The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP), the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP), and the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP). A webinar will be hosted to introduce the application process on February 8 at 2:30p. **Deadline to apply is March 27.**

On-Site Wastewater Grant/Loan Program

SMCOG, in partnership with the Missouri Association of Councils of Governments (MACOG), and MoDNR is pleased to offer a grant/loan program for failing on-site wastewater systems (septic systems). The purpose of the Missouri On-site Wastewater Improvement Grant-Loan program is to provide financing for homeowners seeking to make improvements to, or replace their on-site wastewater treatment system, which will improve Missouri’s water quality.

Program eligibility requirements can be found online: <https://goo.gl/62qtHG>

Contact JaneHood@missouristate.edu for more information.

Quote...

“We must stop talking about the American dream and start listening to the dreams of Americans.” – Reubin Askew, Former Governor of Florida.
