

Michigan Department of Community Health Complete Streets Policy Request for Applications 2010

Overview and Purpose

This Complete Streets Policy Request for Applications is issued by the Cardiovascular Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Section (CVHNPA) in the Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Control at the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH). The purpose of this grant opportunity is to fund local health departments and one of their communities that are ready to work on passing a local Complete Streets ordinance. This is to support Michigan in having safer and connected communities in Michigan, increase access to daily physical activity for transportation and recreation, and increase the physical activity levels in Michigan to reduce chronic disease and obesity in communities.

The CVHNPA Section will provide funding for up to five local health departments to work with a community within their jurisdiction that are interested in implementing a complete streets ordinance in a city, township, or village. Funding will be provided to five health departments in 2010 and an additional five in 2011.

The funding for this project is from a grant awarded to the CVHNPA Section at the Michigan Department of Community Health from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention American Recovery & Reinvest Act (ARRA) funding.

Background:

Complete Streets is a national movement to have our communities and streets designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and bus riders of all ages and abilities are able to safely move along and across a complete street.

The built environment, the physical features and design of our community, play a significant role in shaping our health. The built environment includes physical features like the availability of sidewalks, bike lanes, raised medians, and traffic calming measures and treatments, all which directly impact our health. Communities are needed that encourage people to be more physically active and provide opportunities for increased physical activity. The Complete Streets initiative is designed to get Michigan residents of all ages moving. This also includes improving the policies and environments to increase the number of youth safely walking and biking to school. The 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for American's recommend that children have 60 minutes of physical activity daily and adults have 150 minutes weekly. Complete Streets policies are a way to assist communities to have safe, accessible, and connected facilities.

In Michigan, a number of communities have passed complete streets policies to support safe and connected communities. There is also a state level movement to pass complete streets state legislation by December 2011 with support from over 200 organizations.

Additional resources for Complete Streets include:

- Michigan Complete Streets: www.michigancompletestreets.org
- Healthy Kids, Healthy Michigan Coalition: www.americanheart.org/healthykidshealthymichigan
- National Complete Streets Coalition: www.completestreets.org

Eligibility Criteria:

All Michigan local health departments are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity. A priority will be placed on health departments who have been affiliated with Building Healthy Communities, Safe Routes to School and/or working in a low-income community with despaired populations.

Grant Funding Requirements:

Local health departments will serve as the Complete Streets leader and/or facilitator within their jurisdiction. As a Complete Streets grantee, the health department staff and community will:

1. **Utilize a community health coalition** (or related group) to obtain local governments, businesses, key transportation partners, and local residents to pass the Complete Streets ordinance.
2. **Designate a local health department staff and possibly one partner** who will be responsible for leading the community through the ordinance adoption process.
3. **Develop a plan** to pass a local Complete Streets ordinance listing key steps necessary for your community environment, key partners to include, community forms, and draft legislation. Target date for completion of the plan is May 15, 2010.
4. **Host, coordinate and attend a Complete Streets Training** in your community. This training can be facilitated with the assistance of your local experts, Michigan Association of Planning, and/or Michigan Department of Community.
5. **Pass a local Complete Streets ordinance** by the local governing body by January 31, 2011.
6. **Attend conference calls.** Local health department staff will be required to attend regularly scheduled grant calls.
7. **Submit short monthly progress reports.**
8. **Complete all required processes and forms** outlined in MDCH's CPBC. The funding will be allocated to the health department and standard financial reports and documentation will be required.

Funding:

Applicants can apply for funds up to \$12,000 per community. Local health departments and their communities will be notified by Friday, March 19. The funding will begin approximately April 1, 2010 for 12 months. Applicants are expected to include the following for their proposed budget:

- Amount of allocated staff time and organization for each staff person proposed to be funded;
- Supplies, materials and services for media, meetings and resources;
- Additional contract services;
- Any other deemed necessary expenses.

Selection Criteria:

- Implementation of Building Healthy Communities and Safe Routes to School programs.
- Evidence and history of working with communities and/or schools on implementing ordinance and environmental changes (PEC).
- Evidence the governing community body is supportive of adopting a Complete Streets ordinance.
- Attendance at previous complete streets, pedestrian safety, bicycle facility, walkability audit, smart growth, land use, and/or public health policy and environmental change trainings.
- Letter of support from governing body **and** one key partner: 1) indicating their desire and commitment to support a Complete Streets movement and ordinance adoption 2) indicating why their community should receive this Complete Streets grant.

How to Apply:

Submit the proposal via email to Lisa Grost by March 9, 2010 at 12 p.m. Confirmation of receipt will be emailed to applicant by March 10, 2010. It is our goal to notify applicants by March 19, 2010 on the outcome of their proposal. Please review your grant application carefully as incomplete application submissions will not be considered. The following items must be included in your proposal:

1. A local health department application form;
2. Detailed budget proposal, including funding requested for April 1, 2010 – September 30, 2010 and October 1, 2010 – March 31, 2010.
3. Letter of support from the local governing body of the community; and
4. Letter of support from one key partner in your community.
5. **For questions regarding this application, please contact:** Lisa Grost, grostl@michigan.gov, 517.355.9781 or Jim Harrington, harringtonj3@michigan.gov, 989.619.4202.