

Small Communities Receive Water Quality Assistance

The Iowa Finance Authority Board has awarded grants to 71 communities, for a combined total of \$35 million, to enhance their water infrastructure. The funds are from the Water Quality Financial Assistance Program, and communities with populations of less than 10,000 were eligible to apply.

The program is a part of the I-JOBS initiative. There were a total of 216 applications totaling \$350 million in requests. Projects moving forward were from communities that scored the best on readiness to proceed, affordability, and environmental benefit. The projects proceeding will create a safe, quality water supply for their residents.

Cities awarded funding include Belmond, Brandon, Brighton, Castalia, Centerville, Charles City, Cincinnati, Cresco, Dakota City, Dows, Elgin, Fairfield, Farmington, Fredericksburg, Gilbertville, Guttenberg, Janesville, La Porte City, Lamont, Lansing, Ledyard, Lone Rock, Luther, Oelwein, Osceola, Prairie City, Reasnor, St. Ansgar, St. Lucas, Washington, and Waucoma.

Through the I-JOBS program, \$55 million was provided for the Water Quality Financial Assistance Program, which the Iowa Finance Authority administers. Of that total, \$35 million is reserved for communities with populations less than 10,000 for drinking water and wastewater projects. The remaining \$20 million is reserved for communities with populations greater than 10,000. Those funds were committed to Clinton, Sioux City, and Davenport last year.