

I-JOBS Program Projected to Employ 23,000 People

Governor Culver announced that 7,000 to 9,000 Iowans were on I-JOBS project payrolls in the month of June as a result of the I-JOBS initiative. Projections show up to 23,000 people will work on I-JOBS projects in 2010 and 2011.

The I-JOBS initiative is designed to modernize our state's infrastructure, continue our flood recovery and prevention efforts, and create and retain jobs. Over two years, the Legislature made an \$875 million investment in Iowa without raising taxes. The funding for I-JOBS comes from state gaming revenues.

The I-JOBS projects reach all 99 counties in the state. A key component of the program is the leveraging, in which the program's funds are enhanced by funds contributed through other funds, including federal, city, county and the private sector.

To date, the Governor's office reports a full \$550.6 million has been awarded through the I-JOBS fund, and an additional \$610.6 million in local, federal, and private sector funding has been leveraged. Another \$324.4 million of I-JOBS funds will be awarded in the coming year.

As of December 2009, 315 I-JOBS projects had been completed. The vast majority of the remaining 1,285 I-JOBS projects will be under way or completed in 2010.

With I-JOBS, we're investing in our roads and improving our highways and bridges. We're improving water quality and helping communities, businesses, and families that were affected by the flood get back on their feet. We are also working to prevent future disasters.

I-JOBS is also improving our quality of life through community attractions and tourism, lake restorations, and revitalizing our state parks. And we're keeping our promise to the men and women who serve our country by expanding and renovating the Iowa Veterans' Home.