



Special Report

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updated December 22, 2009

Available Online: dpc.senate.gov

The Recovery Act: Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Wisconsin

Earlier this year, the Democratic Congress worked with President Obama to enact the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (the *Recovery Act*) in an effort to rescue, rebuild, and strengthen our struggling national economy. Eight years of failed fiscal policies and misguided economic priorities had left our national economy on the brink of disaster, and now – only nine months later – our economy is on the brink of recovery. The *Recovery Act* and the efforts of American businesses and workers, like those in Wisconsin, made this progress possible.

Despite this encouraging news, Democrats know that many Wisconsinites are still struggling, and unemployment – a lagging economic indicator – remains far too high. In response, Democrats are working to create and save millions of jobs with *Recovery Act* dollars and tax relief. Already, with more than half of the dollars yet to be spent, the recovery package has provided for more than one million jobs and the rate of job loss has slowed significantly. As we look toward the future, Democrats believe that the *Recovery Act*, combined with the American work ethic and ingenuity, will continue to make a difference for families in Wisconsin and will deliver on its promise to rebuild our economy and get Wisconsinites back to work.

The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference

Last week, the White House announced that certain recipients of *Recovery Act* funds have reported the creation of 640,329 direct jobs. About 325,000 of these jobs are in education and over 80,000 are in construction. These numbers, however, represent only about 16 percent of expenditures through September 30 and do not reflect the majority of *Recovery Act* funding to date, which has gone directly to individuals and states, including:

- Tax relief for businesses and working families;
- Small business loans, which are exempt from reporting;
- The first-time homebuyer tax credit;
- Direct federal aid, including \$250 direct stimulus checks, enhanced unemployment benefits, increased food stamp benefits for vulnerable families; and
- State fiscal relief, which prevented job cuts at the state and local government level.

Moreover, the reported data does not capture indirect or induced jobs created when prime contractors hire suppliers or other companies to complete projects or when newly employed workers spend their pay checks. It is estimated that, if included, indirect jobs would add

another 50 percent or more to the direct jobs numbers and induced jobs would add an additional 36 percent. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#); CBPP, [10/28/09](#)]

Taken as a whole, the reported data confirms earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* would create or save over one million jobs by now, even though less than half of the *Recovery Act* funds have been put to work. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#)] According to Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projections, that number may be as high as 1.6 million jobs. [CBO, [11/09](#)]

Moreover, without the *Recovery Act*, economists believe that the economy and the unemployment rate would be much worse.

- According to CBO projections, “an additional 600,000 to 1.6 million people were employed in the United States, and real (inflation-adjusted) gross domestic product (GDP) was 1.2 percent to 3.2 percent higher, than would have been the case in the absence of ARRA.” [CBO, [11/09](#)]
- The Commerce Department reported that the nation’s gross domestic product grew by 2.2 percent in the third quarter of 2009, the first expansion in more than a year. Economists are projecting 4 percent growth in the fourth quarter. [Commerce Department, [12/22/09](#); testimony of Dr. Martin Baily before the Senate Democratic Policy Committee, [12/16/09](#)]
- According to economist Mark Zandi, “The research of Moody’s Economy.com suggests that a million fewer jobs would exist today, while the unemployment rate would already have risen well into double digits.” [Testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, [10/29/09](#)]

The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Wisconsin

In Wisconsin, this partial reporting indicates that 10,073 jobs have been created or saved by funding 1,166 awards worth \$2,411,740,471, of which \$733,726,315 has already been received. [Recovery, Accountability, and Transparency Board, accessed [11/2/09](#)]

Similar to the national number, this validates the White House’s earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* is responsible for saving or creating 22,100 jobs so far for Wisconsinites (accounting for indirect and induced jobs). [Council of Economic Advisors, [9/2009](#)] **Wisconsin is on track to benefit from a total of 70,000 *Recovery Act* jobs.** [The White House, [2/2009](#)]

These numbers alone cannot adequately convey the human impact of the jobs that are supported by the *Recovery Act* – the real-life stories of local companies that can hire new employees, workers who are no longer faced with uncertainty, and families that no longer need to struggle to pay their bills. The following is a sampling of some of the local *Recovery Act* success stories in Wisconsin:

Rhineland Mill will use *Recovery Act* funds to improve energy efficiency and retain jobs. “The Wausau Paper Rhineland Mill will get over \$1.9 million in federal grant money to improve energy efficiency and keep jobs. The money [came] from the Department of Energy grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Wausau Paper Spokesperson Perry Gruber says the money will go into the number seven paper machine at the Rhineland mill. He says the money will help improve recovery efficiency by over 50%... He adds the Mosinee Plant also received \$700,000 in grant money. Governor Jim Doyle

announced yesterday nine Wisconsin companies received \$14.5 million in federal grants. [[WJFW](#), 12/11/09]

Recovery Act funds will boost Kohler Company's energy efficiency, replace steam-powered hot water systems in two buildings with natural-gas-fired equipment.

“Gov. Jim Doyle announced Thursday that Kohler Co. will receive more than \$1.7 million in economic stimulus funds to help the manufacturer implement new energy-efficient production processes. Doyle, who made the announcement during a morning stop at the Appley Theatre near the company's headquarters, said Kohler is one of nine Wisconsin companies that together will receive more than \$14.5 million in federal stimulus grants aimed at cutting energy costs and creating and retaining jobs... Peter Pavelic, energy staff engineer at Kohler, said the money will be used to remove and upgrade more than 800 light fixtures in the company's foundry building. The company will also replace steam-powered hot water systems in two buildings with natural-gas-fired equipment. A third project will replace a steam-powered clay dryer in the kitchen and bath division with a new system that uses waste heat from kilns. Kohler, which is among the state's largest private employers, provides hospitality services and manufactures a range of kitchen, bath and home products, along with engines and power generation systems. Kohler officials hope that the three projects will help cut the company's energy usage by 4 percent.” [[Sheboygan Press](#), 12/11/09]

Recovery Act funds will go towards the cleanup of blighted properties: “this funding will not only revitalize brownfields, but will also create and retain jobs, protect public health and the environment.” “Nearly \$400,000 in federal stimulus funds have been awarded to help pay for the cleanup of blighted properties in La Crosse and Prairie du Chien, Gov. Jim Doyle said Tuesday. A \$200,000 grant for the La Crosse property also will be supplemented with a \$165,000 Blight Elimination and Brownfield Redevelopment grant from the Wisconsin Department of Commerce, Doyle said. The La Crosse funds are being awarded to the La Crosse Industrial Park Corp. for demolition and cleanup activities at the former Trane Co.'s plant site on the city's near north side. The city of Prairie du Chien is receiving a \$189,300 loan for cleaning up contamination at an industrial site as part of the city's downtown Gateway Redevelopment project. The \$200,000 La Crosse grant and the Prairie du Chien loan are part of \$2 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources competed for and received for brownfields work. “This funding will not only revitalize brownfields, but will also create and retain jobs, protect public health and the environment, and leverage private investment,” Doyle said in a press release. “These awards would not have been possible without funding provided by the federal Recovery Act.” [[The Business Journal of Milwaukee](#), 12/8/09]

Wisconsin will use Recovery Act funds to improve its electrical grids by helping Waukesha Electric Systems to develop a smaller and more efficient substation transformer. “Federal energy officials have handed Wisconsin \$10 million to improve electrical grids. The money is part of \$620 million in stimulus money that will support 32 grid improvement projects across the country. Projects include large-scale energy storage, monitoring devices and other technological upgrades that will serve as models for the rest of the nation. U.S. Department of Energy officials say Wisconsin's share of the stimulus money will go toward a \$21 million effort by Waukesha Electric Systems to develop a smaller, more efficient utility substation transformer.” [[Chicago Tribune](#), 11/24/09]

Laid-off worker Aaron Schilling found a job thanks to the Recovery Act; his “commute to work is 90 minutes each way in a 1998 Chevrolet Cavalier with 187,000 miles on it. But he doesn't mind the drive. The work is hard and honest.” “It's a single job amid the thousands that were supposed to be either saved or created by the

federal stimulus program. But to Aaron Schilling, the job is not a statistic - it's a lifeline. Schilling is a heavy-equipment operator, part of the crew working on a road-widening project along I-94 near the Wisconsin-Illinois border... He's 31, married, a father of two who lives in Milton, outside Janesville, which is still reeling from the closure of a General Motors plant... That job ended last year. Schilling knew it was going to be a long winter, waiting for the spring thaw and the return of road work. He just didn't know how tough it would be... 'It was so bad, we were able to get food stamps,' says Schilling's wife, Tracy. 'We were wondering whether to sell our house. We didn't know if we were going to go completely broke.' Tracy Schilling cares for the couple's children, Casey, 5, and Hunter, 3. Hunter has Isodicentric 15, a chromosome abnormality. When her husband lost his health insurance, she quickly enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, the state's insurance plan for low-income families. 'We have cut so many things out of our lives,' Tracy Schilling says, recounting how the couple endured financial hard times... She says the family was sustained by faith.. In mid-June, Aaron Schilling was called back to work. When his wife heard the news, she wept... His commute to work is 90 minutes each way in a 1998 Chevrolet Cavalier with 187,000 miles on it. But he doesn't mind the drive. The work is hard and honest. He's a member of Local 139 of Operating Engineers. He earns \$30.97 as a journeyman operator." [*Journal Sentinel*, 11/27/09]

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Milwaukee will use *Recovery Act* funds to pay for energy efficiency improvements in municipal buildings and for retrofit projects that will update older lighting systems. "The city of Milwaukee will receive \$5,839,100 in stimulus funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Energy to pay for energy efficiency improvements in Milwaukee municipal buildings. The city also will use the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funding for retrofit projects that will update older lighting systems, U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore (D-Milwaukee) said in announcing the funds Monday. In addition, the city will seek more opportunities to make energy efficiency improvements in municipal buildings. A residential retrofit program will provide a revolving loan fund for homeowners to complete energy retrofits, and a similar program will offer the same type of revolving loan fund to businesses... A portion of the funds will be used to purchase high-efficiency street lights within Milwaukee's 3rd Ward. Hybrid vehicles will be purchased for field work that is conducted with these other programs... Other grant funds will be used to hire and maintain personnel essential to the projects, including a project manager, program manager, engineers and other positions necessary for implementation and monitoring all aspects of the energy efficiency projects. General construction and laborers will be contracted with funds provided by the grant." [*Milwaukee Business Journal*, 11/16/09]

***Recovery Act* funding will help upgrade water systems in several Wisconsin communities.** "Several area communities are getting upgrades to their water systems thanks to a variety of federal funds. Congressman Dave Obey says that an Interior Appropriations Bill that was passed last month includes millions of dollars for sewage treatment systems in Athens, Stetsonville and Abbotsford. The Wausau Democrat says that the money not only gives

residents higher quality water treatment, it also gives an economic boost. ‘The advantage of these projects is two-fold,’ Obey said in a telephone interview. ‘First of all, it helps to provide jobs in the construction. And secondly, it certainly improves the ability of communities to develop their economies. Example: in Athens they had a new industrial park they want to expand. This will help them to do that and help them to attract industry.’ Obey says Athens, Stetsonville and Abbotsford each received \$1 Million. Park Falls also received \$550,000. 15 other communities also received money through a variety of sources including the EPA and the American Re-investment and Recovery Act to upgrade their water systems.” [WAOW, 11/9/09]

CleanTech Partners of Madison is set to receive Recovery Act funds for energy efficiency projects. “CleanTech Partners of Madison will receive up to \$14.5 million in funding from the federal stimulus package to fund energy efficiency projects at Wisconsin paper mills and factories... The agency said this program from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act targets the factory sector because manufacturing uses more than 30% of U.S. energy and is responsible for nearly 30% of U.S. emissions of carbon dioxide, the leading greenhouse gas. CleanTech Partners is slated to implement 25 projects that will install energy efficient equipment in nine facilities across the state, DOE said. Companies targeted for energy efficiency projects include pulp and paper mills, printing, corn milling, plumbing and small engine manufacturing, the agency said. Together these 25 projects are projected to save an estimated 1.21 trillion BTUs annually, increasing overall energy efficiency by 45%.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 11/3/09]

6,320 education jobs have been created or retained with Recovery Act funding. “Stimulus funds have created or retained 6,320 jobs in Wisconsin since February this year and 398,200 jobs nationwide, according to a report released Monday by the U.S. Department of Education. The report also said Wisconsin has received more than \$561 million out of the approximately \$1.034 billion in stimulus funds available to states since February. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said in a conference call Monday the report shows the impact of the stimulus package on American education so far, not an indication of what is to come in the future... ‘What we’re trying to do is stave off an education catastrophe here,’ Duncan said. ‘I think it would’ve been an absolute national disaster had these funds not been available.’” [The Badger Herald, 11/2/09]

Milwaukee will use Recovery Act funds to expand its Milwaukee Shines initiative and to establish a Solar Hot Water Business Council. “Milwaukee will receive \$650,000 and Madison will receive \$370,000 from the federal stimulus package to advance their programs to develop solar energy. The \$1 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the two cities comes as \$3.3 million in recovery act funding has been allocated for a Midwest regional solar training initiative. The city will use the grant to expand its Milwaukee Shines initiative and establish a Solar Hot Water Business Council, with an eye toward linking its own solar initiative with the work of the Milwaukee 7 Water Council. Milwaukee Shines’ goal is to increase the number of solar installers and install more than 100 solar-electric and 50 solar thermal systems by 2012. ‘We are going to be able to use less energy, at a time that that’s very, very important,’ said Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett during a news conference with Gov. Jim Doyle at the Milwaukee Public Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. The central library is incorporating solar into a green roof that is now under construction. The aim of the council is to educate and enable local water technology manufacturers to shift into the growing solar industry, leading to the creation of a solar manufacturing cluster in the region.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 10/27/09]

Three state utilities granted Recovery Act funding for smart grid projects, including a fiber-optic communications network for high-speed communications

across in Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. “Three Wisconsin utilities will share \$21.5 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Pewaukee-based American Transmission Co. received the most funding, totaling more than \$12.7 million, for two different projects. The company's projects consist of a fiber-optic communications network for high-speed communications across the ATC transmission system in Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Madison Gas & Electric Co. won \$5.5 million to install a network of 1,750 smart meters as well as a network of 12 public charging stations and 25 in-home vehicle charging management systems for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and electric vehicles. Also in Madison, Wisconsin Power & Light Co. was awarded \$3.2 million for a program that would expand on the automated meters that it is installing across Wisconsin. DOE said WP&L will implement a ‘power factor management system to minimize overload on distribution lines, transformers and feeder segments,’ in a project that would reduce wasted electricity on its distribution system, or local network of small power lines... All three local utilities would match the federal investment, bringing the total Wisconsin investment to \$43.05 million.” [[Journal Sentinel](#), 10/27/09]

Recovery Act will fund 36 housing developments that have been stalled over the past year in Wisconsin, creating 2,252 apartments. “Around \$100 million in federal stimulus cash will help finance Wisconsin apartment developments, including \$18.8 million for Milwaukee-area projects, Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority Executive Director Antonio Riley announced today. The funding, in the form of loans and grants, was approved by the authority for 36 developments that have been stalled over the past year... Projects have stalled because developers have run into trouble selling the credits to raise cash over the past year. Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the authority will use \$30 million to fill gaps where private funding falls short, an authority statement said... The projects will create 2,252 apartments and over 2,076 construction and construction-related jobs, according to the authority.” [[Journal Sentinel](#), 10/22/09]

The Recovery Act has saved or created 8,284 jobs in Wisconsin. “The state of Wisconsin is reporting to the federal government that it used nearly \$680 million in stimulus funds to save or create 8,284 full-time jobs in Wisconsin, Gov. Jim Doyle said Tuesday... ‘The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is providing Wisconsin communities great opportunities to create jobs and make lasting improvements, and we want to assure Wisconsin citizens that the funds are spent wisely’... The jobs saved or created with stimulus dollars include 6,100 essential public service jobs, such as teachers, police officers and firefighters. Thousands of Wisconsin youths have gained summer work experience and Americorps has been active at 139 locations across the state.” [[Business Journal of Milwaukee](#), 10/13/09]

Wisconsin's state energy program funding gets a boost from Recovery Act funding. “The U.S. Department of Energy has delivered an additional \$27 million to the state of Wisconsin, marking the remainder of the State Energy Program funding allocated to the state under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Wisconsin has now received a total of \$55 million through the State Energy Program to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects across the state, while creating jobs and reducing carbon pollution, the U.S. Department of Energy said Tuesday. ‘States are the engines of our economy and the laboratories of innovation,’ said Secretary of Energy Steven Chu. ‘This funding will allow states to put in place innovative energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that will create jobs in communities across the country while reducing carbon pollution and helping to shift how America uses energy.’ The Department of Energy previously had awarded the first 50 percent of Wisconsin's State Energy Program (SEP) funding. The remaining 50 percent was delivered to the state after aggressive oversight, reporting and accountability measures were put in place.” [[Milwaukee Business Journal](#), 10/13/09]

Fond Du Lac Area Transit will order four replacement buses thanks to \$1.24 million in *Recovery Act* funding. “Fond du Lac Area Transit has ordered four replacement buses that will be funded with federal stimulus dollars. Lynn Gilles, transit manager, said \$1.24 million was received through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ‘We are getting a heavy-duty bus and upgrading from what we have currently (medium-grade buses),’ Gilles said. ‘We are going from a 10-year replacement to 12 years. It is a really good value and they are well-built machines.’” [[FDL Reporter](#), 10/8/09]

The Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue will use \$1.2 million in *Recovery Act* money to build new station. “Menasha Mayor Don Merkes was thrilled to learn Friday of a \$1.2 million grant from federal stimulus funds to build a new fire station for more equitable response times throughout the community...’ Replacement of the deteriorating Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue Station 36 at 901 Airport Road has been on hold for about three years as the city tried to cope with financial constraints and debt issues, mostly from the steam utility debacle. As one of 104 fire station grants totaling \$169 million announced Friday by the Federal Emergency Management Administration, the city needs only to contribute \$135,000 to get the grant...FEMA has \$41 million remaining for other fire station projects, including applications from Kaukauna and Little Chute. ‘What a way to depart,’ said Neenah-Menasha Fire Chief Len Vander Wyst, who got the news on his last day as he becomes Appleton’s fire chief Monday. ‘It’s great news.’” [[Post Crescent](#), 10/3/09]

***Recovery Act* funding will help weatherize homes, saving up to 40 percent of energy costs for residents.** “Denise Lutz, director of the housing authority, estimates the agency will be able to provide energy-saving makeovers to 500 homes through the federal stimulus package. A typical project, which can cost anywhere from \$500 to \$10,000 can save the homeowner anywhere from 25 percent to 40 percent of their energy costs. ‘It’ll help people to save a lot of money on their heating bills,’ said U.S. Rep. Dave Obey, D-Wausau, who was touring the district Monday to see what impact the federal stimulus package is having on northern Wisconsin. ‘It’ll save us a lot of money that we’re shoveling abroad to oil-producing countries and it helps to improve labor conditions.’” [[Superior Telegram](#), 9/28/09]

Milwaukee County will use *Recovery Act* funds for construction at General Mitchell International Airport. “U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood announced on Thursday the funding award through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The legislation included \$1.1 billion to provide discretionary grants to qualified airports... Under the runway safety area plan, a 640-foot long tunnel is being constructed on East College Avenue so that the runway safety area can span over the road without conflicting with traffic.” [[Milwaukee Business Journal](#), 9/24/09]

New *Recovery Act* funding will make Wisconsin transportation more energy-efficient and create green jobs. “[T]he state will receive \$2 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to go toward the reduction of common, contract and private freight companies’ diesel emissions...In addition to this new funding, Jennifer Bacon, spokesperson for Madison Metro, said a previous stimulus grant will allow Madison Metro to purchase 17 hybrid buses such as those seen around the University of Wisconsin campus... While Jim Bender, spokesperson for Rep. Jeff Fitzgerald, said job preservation and creation will most likely be an indirect result of a broader focus on environmentally-friendly technology, he said he believes in the possible economic benefits of these stimulus funds. “These grants could actually turn into things that make the trucks work more efficiently, save on fuel costs and help some of these over-the-road truckers and trucking companies remain competitive.” [[The Badger-Herald](#), 9/22/09]

Wisconsin will use *Recovery Act* funds to create green jobs. “Wisconsin will receive more than \$11.7 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support energy efficiency and conservation activities, *U.S. Department of Energy* Secretary Steven Chu said Monday. The funds will be issued to local governments not eligible for direct DOE funding through the Department of Energy’s Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program.” Secretary Chu: “This funding will allow states across the country to make major investments in energy solutions that will strengthen America’s economy and create jobs at the local level. It will also promote some of the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have - energy efficiency and conservation - which can be deployed immediately. Local communities can now make strategic investments to help meet the nation's long-term clean energy and climate goals.” [[The Business Journal of Milwaukee](#), 9/14/09]

Wisconsin schools receive a big *Recovery Act* boost. “\$20 million is being sent to Chippewa County under the federal government’s economic stimulus spending. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has designated about \$20.7 million to various projects within the county. More than half that money (\$10.4 million) goes to school districts, according to the Wisconsin Office of Recovery and Reinvestment... Education will receive the most funding... The Chippewa Falls School District is receiving the largest amount of the county’s education funding with \$4.99 million.” [[Chippewa Valley Newspapers](#), 9/13/09]

***Recovery Act* will help fund the construction of a public housing development complex for low-income seniors.** “Governor Jim Doyle today joined Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) Executive Director Antonio Riley, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and community leaders for a ground breaking ceremony for Olga Village, a 37-unit housing development for low-income seniors on Milwaukee’s south side. The Governor announced a combination of tax credits and funding totaling over \$8 million will be provided for the development.... ‘The Recovery Act is helping us to create jobs and build vital infrastructure to meet the needs of people in Wisconsin and the state is proud to be part of this great effort.’ Olga Village is slated for completion in 2010 with a \$8 million construction cost funded by a combination of \$2.2 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds...” [[Real Estate Rama](#), 09/09/09]

Wisconsin is committed to use *Recovery Act* funds to grow local energy industries and reduce dependency on fossil fuels. “Wisconsin will receive \$16 million in clean energy funding as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Gov. Jim Doyle announced Wednesday. Wisconsin was awarded the maximum \$15 million federal grant in support of an aggressive state effort to improve overall energy efficiency and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.” Governor Doyle: “Wisconsin has the resources and skills to lead the nation in clean energy, and this major investment will make significant progress toward my goal of getting 25 percent of our electricity and 25 percent of our transportation fuels from renewable sources by 2025... We have worked very hard on a plan to advance clean energy in Wisconsin and it has a number of very important goals: to create new jobs, reduce our reliance on fossil fuels by diversifying our fuel supply, save money and clean our air and water.” [[The Daily Cardinal](#), 09/10/09]

Janesville Is Set To Receive Stimulus Funds To Resurface Two Streets. “Janesville will receive an additional \$1 million in federal stimulus dollars to repair streets, bringing the city's total stimulus money to more than \$4 million. Milton will receive \$500,000, which will be used to rehabilitate High Street between Janesville Street and John Paul Road. The Wisconsin Joint Committee on Finance approved funding for additional transportation projects to be funded through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, according to a city news release. Low construction bids during the two previous rounds of work statewide made an additional \$56 million available. Gov. Jim Doyle distributed the funding to economically distressed

counties, including Rock County, according to the release. Other projects receiving funding are in Rock Township and Milton. Janesville will spend the money on two road projects in 2010: Reconditioning Ruger Avenue between Interstate 90/39 and North Wright Road, \$620,000. The work will be performed at the same time as the replacement of the Spring Brook Bridge. Resurfacing Randall Avenue from St. Lawrence to Tyler Street, including a small portion of Tyler Street from Randall Avenue to South Fremont Street, \$415,000.” [*The Janesville Gazette*, 9/5/09]

Rhineland Fire Department will use *Recovery Act* Grant to construct addition on fire station. The city of Rhineland is also receiving \$460,000 for the Rhineland Fire Department's planned \$910,000 fire station addition for ambulance services. The project is one of 15 community projects receiving ARRA-funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from a \$17,600,706 package the state has received to support economic and community development around the state. The infrastructure projects are expected to create jobs for Rhineland area construction and plumbing workers. ‘I'm happy to be here in Rhineland to announce major investments in the water system that will create local jobs and benefit local water infrastructure needs,’ Doyle said. ‘I'm also pleased to announce that with the help of the Recovery Act, the Rhineland fire station will be constructing a new addition that will allow them to provide ambulance services to people in need in this community. These important projects, made possible through the Recovery Act, will help revitalize the local economy and benefit future generations.’” [*The Lakeland Times*, 9/1/09]

City of Rhineland will use *Recovery act* funds to build energy efficient wastewater treatment plant. “Gov. Jim Doyle and his Cabinet entourage announced a number of major investments with far-reaching impacts for the regional economy... Joined by Department of Commerce secretary Richard ‘Dick’ Leinenkugel, Doyle made an Aug. 19 stop at the Rhineland Fire Department, where he announced \$33 million in federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) economic stimulus funds to improve the city's infrastructure. The city of Rhineland will receive around \$27.5 million for a new state-of-the-art water treatment plant and about \$5.4 million for a new force main. Half of the \$32,912,624 in funding comes from ARRA economic stimulus funds, with the other half provided by the state.” [*The Lakeland Times*, 9/1/09]

Minocqua Schools will receive *Recovery Act* funds to support educational services and special education. “Two school districts in the Northwoods are starting off the school year with a boost from the American Recovery and Reinvestment act. Congressman Steve Kagen recently announced that Minocqua Schools will get \$215,952 in funding. Woodruff Schools will get \$179,778 and Northland Pines will get \$471,968. The money will support educational services, special education, and programs to keep children on track in academics.” [*WJFW TV-12*, 9/1/09]

Cassville will use *Recovery Act* funds to replace ferry that connects Iowa and Wisconsin. “A Wisconsin legislative committee on Thursday approved nearly \$2 million in funding for Cassville's ferry, part of more than \$100 million in federal stimulus money headed to the Badger state. The Legislature's budget committee unanimously approved more than \$104 million in stimulus spending. Part of the funding includes \$1.8 million to replace the 43-year-old car ferry between Cassville and Guttenberg, Iowa. The economic recovery funds will help replace the current ferry, which is more than 40 years old, with a new vessel as well as ensure continued passenger and vehicle service between Wisconsin and Iowa over the Mississippi River. Annually, about 23,000 passengers depend on the ferry to avoid a 64-mile road detour.” [*Associated Press*, 8/28/09]

Recovery Act money used for construction projects at Dane County Regional Airport; projects creating 200 jobs. “Construction projects continue at the Dane County Regional Airport. Twenty-two million dollars in stimulus, state and local grants is paying for the work, and creating 200 jobs. The projects include expanding ramp areas, reconstructing taxiways and upgrading environmental protections from de-icing contaminants. Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk said the improvements show the county's commitment to the airport. ‘It all helps, because the airline industry sees how committed we are to our airport, the fabulous improvements we've made over the last decade, and we're going to keep at it,’ said Falk. ‘By us showing our investments here locally, it helps them invest in our airport.’” [*WISC-TV News* (WI), 8/26/09]

The Milwaukee County Transit system will Receive Recovery Act funds to pay for new buses, spare parts, and a new computer system. “Milwaukee County Transit System will receive \$25.6 million in stimulus funds to pay for new buses, spare parts and a new computer system. U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced Tuesday that the Milwaukee County bus system and the city of Wausau will receive \$27.4 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds for transit improvements. Milwaukee County Transit will acquire 45, 40-foot buses, a vehicle and passenger information system and new computer hardware with the \$25.6 million. Wausau will spend \$1.8 million to purchase five new 35-foot buses.” [*The Business Journal of Milwaukee*, 8/25/09]

Native American tribes will use Recovery Act funds to hire two employees at American Indians Against Abuse, combat domestic violence. “Wisconsin’s 11 native American Indian tribes will share \$1.3 million of stimulus money from the U.S. Department of Justice that’s earmarked for law enforcement issues related to violence against women and domestic abuse. More than half of the funds will be distributed to the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. Nationally, Department of Justice officials set aside \$6.7 million in Recovery Act funds to seven tribal governments and 10 tribal coalitions in eight states by the Office on Violence Against Women... The U.S. Department of Justice is awarding \$900,000 to the Menominee Tribe to hire one sexual assault counselor, two shelter aides, and one sexual assault/domestic violence prosecutor... The Department of Justice is awarding \$350,300 to the American Indians Against Abuse Inc. to conduct tribally based women’s training for survivors, provide funding for a full-time bookkeeper position and a contract auditor position. AIAA serves 11 tribes geographically encompassing the entire state, including the Bad River, Red Cliff, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac de Flambeau, Sokaogon and St. Croix Chippewa, Ho-Chunk Nation, Menominee Nation, Oneida Nation, Forest County Potawatomi and Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican Nations.” [*The Business Journal Serving Greater Milwaukee*, 8/24/09]

The Waukesha Symphony Orchestra received a Recovery Act-funded NEA grant to preserve jobs. “The Waukesha Symphony Orchestra is one of 631 arts agencies to receive a major grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, signed into law on February 17, 2009. The funding is to support the preservation of jobs that are threatened by declines in philanthropic and other support during the current economic downturn. Of 113 musical organizations to receive this funding nationally, the Waukesha Symphony Orchestra was selected to receive a \$50,000 award.” [*Examiner.com*, 8/23/09]

Recovery Act funds were awarded to several public transit systems in southeastern Wisconsin. “Public transit systems in the city of Waukesha and Ozaukee and Washington counties have received a total of \$2.87 million in federal stimulus funds to improve transportation, part of the \$27.4 million in funds awarded in Wisconsin for such work, the U.S. Transportation Department said Thursday. Waukesha Metro Transit was awarded \$1.5 million

to be used for eight vans, fare boxes, a parking lot, a bus washer and other transit enhancements. Washington County Transit Services was awarded \$779,603 to purchase six 30-foot minibuses, three lower floor minivans and three taxi sedans. Ozaukee County Transit received \$591,323 to purchase five vans, six station wagons, bus shelters, paratransit vehicles, equipment and computer hardware and software. Additionally, Racine received \$2.5 million to purchase seven buses, fare-box system upgrades, and software, according to a federal DOT news release. The state received the largest portion of the funds. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation/Bureau of Transit was awarded \$11.3 million for the purchase of 44 buses, 41 vans, 17 sedans/station wagons, fare collection equipment, security surveillance equipment, bus shelters, a vehicle locator system, support vehicles and computer hardware and software.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 8/20/09]

Rhineland received Recovery Act funds for a new wastewater treatment center and an addition at the Rhineland fire department. “Funds will be used to build new wastewater treatment facility and fire department addition. Governor Jim Doyle was in Rhineland Wednesday afternoon presenting checks totaling over \$33 million to the city... He presented two checks, one for construction of the new wastewater treatment facility and force main and the other for the addition at the Rhineland Fire Department. ‘I am happy to be here in Rhineland to announce major investments in the water system that will create local jobs and benefit local water infrastructure needs,’ Governor Doyle said. ‘I’m also pleased to announce that with the help of the Recovery Act, the Rhineland fire station will be constructing a new addition that will allow them to provide ambulance services to people in need in this community. These important projects made possible through the Recovery Act will help revitalize the local economy and benefit future generations.’ The wastewater check, for \$32,912,640, represents \$16.4 million in grant money through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, with the rest coming in the form of a low interest loan from the state.” [The Daily News, 8/19/09]

Recovery Act funds provide health care to 35,000 people in Wisconsin and support 119 jobs across the state. “Federal stimulus dollars have covered health care costs for more than 35,000 people in Wisconsin, according to new research by the National Association of Community Health Centers... Elyn McKenzie, spokesperson for the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, of Milwaukee, said stimulus funds paid for a new doctor and medical team at the organization, which has led directly to more patients receiving care. ‘That funding will support approximately 2,000 new patients over the two years,’ McKenzie said in a statement. Nearly \$500,000 in stimulus money is fueling a program to hire new personnel. A separate \$1.2 million stimulus grant provided expanded office space and other upgrades at the clinic. Stimulus health care dollars have also resulted in 119 jobs across Wisconsin.” [Business Journal of Milwaukee, 8/17/09]

Beaver Dam receives Recovery Act money for two road repair projects. “A pair of Beaver Dam roads will receive much-needed facelifts courtesy of the federal government... The work will be completed by MSA Professional Services under a contract approved by the city council Monday night. The first project is an asphalt overlay of Madison Street between Rowell and Curie streets for \$195,000. The second is a complete reconstruction of North University Avenue between Gould and Parallel streets at a cost of \$678,000.” [Daily Citizen (Beaver Dam, WI), 8/18/09]

Community Action, which has reduced hours due to budget shortage, will use Recovery Act Grant to boost participation in job training programs. “The economic recession has created a whole new group of potential clients for organizations such as Community Action. Many people have been laid off... Those people will be the focus of a

program Community Action plans to start with a \$487,000 stimulus grant. ‘We’ve been talking about the need for mobile advocacy, to do more to reach out to those populations,’ said Marc Perry, director of planning and development for Community Action of Rock and Walworth Counties... The program will move case managers from community to community, teaching residents about available assistance and signing them up for services, Perry said... Community Action of Rock and Walworth Counties has received nearly \$3 million in stimulus funds this year, including its latest grant of \$487,000.” [*The Janesville Gazette*, 8/16/09]

Recovery Act funding to General Mitchell International Airport will enable several construction and improvement endeavors. “Milwaukee County has received \$3.1 million in stimulus funds to help pay for ongoing construction and improvement work at General Mitchell International Airport. U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood announced the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allocation Thursday. The grant will fund the second phase construction of Runway 01L/9R safety area improvements.” Transportation Secretary LaHood: “The Recovery Act was put in place quickly to rescue the economy from the worst recession since the Great Depression and rebuild it for a stronger future. Rebuilding the nation’s infrastructure is a key part of that prescription for strength. It creates jobs today and builds a better, more sustainable economy moving forward.” [*Business Journal of Milwaukee*, 8/13/09]

Stevens Point will spend Recovery Act money on initiative to keep homeless students in school. “School districts across the state are seeing the real face of the economic recession as more and more students become homeless. But thanks to some stimulus money, district leaders are able to help students through tough times. Stevens Point is one of 14 new school districts in the state to receive homeless funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and school leaders say it's money they need. When you drive through the community of Stevens Point, you don't think of homeless children, but it's something Bob Quam says he sees all too often at the Hope Center.” [*WAOW – ABC*, 8/13/09]

Governor Doyle will award Recovery Act funds to businesses to train people in green industries. “One local business got some green Wednesday for going green. Governor Doyle is giving out \$600,000 under his emerging industries skills partnership initiative for businesses in green industries. The money is going to be used to train employees in three key green industries. Biotechnology, renewable energy, and advanced manufacturing businesses in west central Wisconsin will all benefit from this new grant. A \$100,000 check was given to the West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board. ‘What we are planning to do with those dollars are to work with companies such as Specialty Palett and Crates, Western Wisconsin Energy, which is the ethanol plant located in Boyceville and other biotech companies in this region, and work with them to identify what are some of their training needs of their current employees, and how can we help to advance them,’ says Merry Lienau of the workforce development board. The department of workforce development secretary was on hand also to give out the green to these green industries. ‘I’m really thrilled, on behalf of Governor Doyle to be in Dunn County to make sure that our businesses working in these areas have the skilled workers that they need to help Wisconsin thrive, and be healthy long into the future,’ says Secretary Roberta Gassman.” [*WQOW – ABC*, 8/12/09]

Neenah and Kaukauna school districts obtained Recovery Act -backed no-interest loans in order to install communications equipment and improve buildings. “The Neenah and Kaukauna school districts each have secured a \$500,000 no-interest loan for construction projects through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Neenah will use its \$500,000 in no-interest bonds to help pay for the installation of a \$1.2 million districtwide fiber-optic communications network... Gov. Jim Doyle and the state Department of Public Instruction recently announced the allocation of \$98.6 million in loans through the Qualified

School Construction Bond program. Unlike a typical bond, where the issuer pays the buyer interest on the investment, the stimulus bonds provide federal tax credits to buyers, relieving school districts of interest payments. ‘These bonds will help money flow through our economy, supporting jobs, while helping Wisconsin schools repair, improve and build new facilities where needed,’ Doyle said.” [[Appleton Post Crescent](#), 8/13/09]

Stevens Point School District will receive *Recovery Act* dollars to reinforce special education program. “The Stevens Point School District will be receiving about \$1.7 million for their Special Education program from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. About half of the money will be used to cover some of the program's current cost, while the rest will be used for faculty training, technology, and other opportunities that the district's special needs students might not otherwise have. Greg Nyen, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education says, ‘I believe that it's a wonderful opportunity for our special education students and I'm very excited that we're receiving the money.’ He hopes that the grant is part of an increased government focus on helping special needs students.” [[WSAW – ABC](#), 8/12/09]

***Recovery Act* dollars will help Brown county agencies and organizations address homelessness.** “Brown County will receive \$621,044 in federal money to help it deal with homelessness. The funds, announced this week by the Brown County Homeless and Housing Coalition, include \$345,764 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money... [S]ome area school districts are among several in the state receiving Recovery Act funds and other federal funds for school programs directed toward homeless children. The state is receiving \$904,290 in Recovery Act funds to supplement the \$688,200 it already was to receive through the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program.” [[Green Bay Press Gazette](#), 8/12/09]

Brown County has received *Recovery Act* funds for a variety of programs including weatherization, food assistance, and water projects. “About \$78 million of federal stimulus money has been allocated to Brown County, its municipalities and agencies. That doesn't include all of the federal money that will benefit county residents, such as tax credits on income taxes and those for first-time homebuyers as well as the cash-for-clunkers program. The Northeastern Wisconsin Community Action Program, in Oconto, for example, serves Brown, Oconto and five other counties. The agency will receive \$3.1 million in stimulus money to help low-income families weatherize their homes in the winter months, nearly \$930,000 for a community services block grant that could cover a variety of programs and services and \$33,165 to administer an emergency food assistance program for the poor. The Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District will receive federal stimulus money for its \$42.9 million project involving its recent consolidation with the De Pere wastewater treatment plant. Green Bay Metro, which provides bus service to several area communities, will receive \$2.9 million of stimulus money for four clean diesel buses, a new smart-card system to make bus fares easier to manage for regular riders, a security system and improvements in maintenance, radio and support equipment.” [[Green Bay Press Gazette](#), 8/11/09]

Governor Doyle unveiled *Recovery Act* grant distribution system to aid the Wisconsin homeless. “Governor Jim Doyle and State Superintendent Tony Evers announced \$1.6 million in competitive grants to Wisconsin schools to support families and students who are homeless. Over half of this funding comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). ‘When people in Wisconsin struggle with basic needs, their neighbors step forward to help them,’ said Doyle. ‘We must make sure that children of families in tough times get solid schooling, because their education will benefit every Wisconsin family and community now and in the future.’ ‘Over the last five years, the number of homeless students in Wisconsin has increased 74 percent,’ Evers noted. ‘For economic and moral reasons, we need to help. Every child must graduate ready for further education and the workforce. These grants will support

school activities to help students who are experiencing the challenges of homelessness.’ [[WKBT – CBS](#), 8/10/09]

Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center gained *Recovery Act* award for advancement of plant cell wall imaging research, a biofuel variant. “The Department of Energy (DOE) Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center (GLBRC) has received \$8.099 million in new funding from the U.S. Department of Energy through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to provide crucial support for plant cell wall imaging and sustainability research. The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (BER) of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Science has allocated \$4.099 million in Recovery Act funds for GLBRC plant cell wall imaging technology and DOE’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) is providing \$4 million in funding to enhance and accelerate GLBRC sustainability research.” [[Press Release – Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center](#), 8/10/09]

***Recovery Act* will fund expansion of unemployment benefits for over 1,200 workers displaced by manufacturing layoffs.** “Gov. Jim Doyle announced Thursday that more than \$3.4 million in additional assistance for more than 1,200 dislocated workers formerly employed by 11 Bay Area manufacturers, including Sheboygan area companies Kohler, JL French and Pentair Filtration. The National Emergency Grant includes more than \$1.6 million in funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. ‘This is good news for working families hit hard by the national recession,’ Doyle said in a press release. ‘This grant will help these displaced workers improve their skills. With new skills, they will be job-ready in the months ahead as our national economy begins to recover. I am committed to doing everything in my power to assist these workers, their families and communities.’ The more than 1,200 workers were affected by multiple layoffs at JL French, Sheboygan; Genmar Yacht Group (Carver Boats), Pulaski; Koenig and Vits, Manitowoc; Marinette Marine, Marinette; Kohler, Sheboygan; Pentair Filtration, Sheboygan; Manitowoc Company, Manitowoc; Federal Mogul, Manitowoc; Karl Schmidt Unisia, Marinette; KCS International (Cruisers), Oconto and Winsert, Marinette.” [[Sheboygan Press](#), 8/9/09]

Wrightstown received *Recovery Act* funds to reconstruct street and replace drainage ditches. “The town’s plans to develop its commercial business district are moving ahead of schedule thanks to its receipt of \$678,000 in federal stimulus funding. The grant will advance plans to reconstruct streets, replace drainage ditches with curb and gutter, and extend a trail connecting the heart of town to existing trail systems. Town Administrator Dave Tebo said he was pleased the town’s proposal to beautify the heart-of-town area won federal funding. The project was one of only two in Outagamie County to receive federal Transportation Enhancement Program funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and the only one featuring recreation trail development.” [[Wrightstown Post Gazette](#), 8/7/09]

***Recovery Act*-funded dam projects in Appleton and Milwaukee are expected to create 127 jobs.** “Nearly \$3 million in economic stimulus money will pay for repair of a revetment in Sturgeon Bay. Edward E. Gillen Co. of Milwaukee received a \$2.9 million contract funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to repair the south revetment in the bay... According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the projects are expected to create 127 jobs.” [[Green Bay Press Gazette](#), 8/6/09]

***Recovery Act* bonds will enable Manitowoc and Reedsville to contract major construction and remodeling on schools without having to pay interest.** “The Manitowoc and Reedsville school districts were among 53 public school districts to receive interest-free bonds to finance major new construction, renovation and rehabilitation projects, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction announced Wednesday. The federal loans are

authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Qualified School Construction Bond program to relieve school districts from making interest payments. Manitowoc was awarded \$2.01 million. The Reedsville district was awarded \$3.576 million." [*Herald Times Reporter*, 8/6/09]

Kenosha applied *Recovery Act* resources to rehabilitating foreclosed homes so as to reintegrate them into the housing market. "The city of Kenosha is in search of foreclosed homes to repair or rebuild, thanks to the help of \$1.7 million in funding. The City Council approved a contract between the city and the state's Department of Commerce for a neighborhood stabilization program. The state could award up to \$1.73 million to the city as part of this program, which is intended to address the growing number of foreclosed properties as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through the federal government. These funds are required to be used to purchase homes in foreclosure or that have been abandoned and rehabilitate or rebuild those properties." [*Kenosha News*, 8/5/09]

Recovery Act funds allocated to 18 arts organizations across Wisconsin through NEA. "Eighteen arts organizations in Wisconsin have received a share of \$318,500 in stimulus grants designed to preserve arts jobs in the state. Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle said the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds will be used to support arts programs throughout the state by funding artistic directors, gallery curators, volunteer coordinators, artists and directors of education. The grants preserve a total of 28 positions." Governor Doyle: "The nonprofit arts and culture industry is important to Wisconsin's economic vitality and the quality of life of our communities. There are so many high quality arts organizations in our state and this funding will help alleviate funding shortfalls during this economic downturn so they can continue to provide the programs and services Wisconsin residents value." [*Business Journal of Milwaukee*, 8/4/09]

Recovery Act funds will be used to rehabilitate a runway at Wittman Regional Airport. "Gov. Jim Doyle has announced an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act award to make needed improvements at Wittman Regional Airport. The \$2,354,000 project will reconstruct Runway 18/36. According to Terry Ripp, an airport engineering specialist with the state Department of Transportation, the project will replace severely cracked and aged concrete that was constructed in 1967. The first phase of the project is scheduled to begin this month and should be completed by November." [*Wrightstown Post-Gazette*, 8/1/09]

Eau Claire and Appleton acquired *Recovery Act* dollars for improvement of transit systems; Appleton will purchase three hybrid buses. "The cities of Eau Claire and Appleton will receive \$3.5 million in federal funds to improve their transit systems. Eau Claire will get \$2 million to buy diesel-fuel vehicles and five replacement buses. Appleton's \$1.5 million is earmarked for items including three hybrid electrical buses, passenger shelters and route signs. The grants are provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood says the funds are intended in part to rebuild the nation's infrastructure and also to create immediate jobs." [*Associated Press*, 7/25/09]

Recovery Act grant funds pedestrian-bike bridge; expected to create 34 jobs. "Five months after Congress and the President approve the 787 billion dollar Recovery and Reinvestment Act, stimulus dollars are headed to Madison. The city breaks ground Monday on the first project to use stimulus funds. Madison's first stimulus dollars will go toward a pedestrian-bike bridge in the busy four-lane intersection over Aberg Avenue on the city's east side. It will connect the Starkweather Creek bike path on each side, and should look much like the bridge connecting the same path on East Washington Street... Economically, the mayor says it'll add 34 new jobs locally." [WKOW – ABC/26/09]

Public transportation in Appleton will see improvements thanks to Recovery Act allotment. “The city of Appleton has received \$1.5 million in federal stimulus dollars for public transportation upgrades, with one project, the replacement of the Valley Transit building's roof, already under way. Walsdorf Roofing is handling the roof replacement, which is supported by grant funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. A handful of additional Valley Transit improvements are running on a later timeline, set to start closer to year's end. ‘We were very, very pleased that we were able to get that amount of funding,’ Valley Transit community relations specialist Nikki Voelzke said Friday. ‘I think that this administration recognizes the benefit to communities and the environment with a healthy public transportation system.’” [[Appleton Post-Crescent](#), 7/25/09]

55 young people have been hired statewide to help prevent the spread of invasive aquatic species. “Calumet County is preventing the spread of invasive aquatic species — and providing young people job training and a little pocket money at the same time — with the help of federal economic recovery grants. The county has hired two 18-year-old watercraft inspectors to educate boaters about invasive species as part of the Wisconsin Clean Boats, Clean Waters program. The aim is to stop the spread of invaders such as zebra mussels, which multiply so rapidly they can clog water intake valves and docks and squeeze out native species of aquatic life. The teens are among 55 young workers hired statewide. The program was exclusively volunteer until now... Joe Madison, 18, of Brillion, said he's enjoying the opportunity to work outdoors while benefiting Wisconsin's lakes. It isn't easy to find work in the current economy, much less work that's giving him a jumpstart on his future.” [[Post-Crescent](#), 7/24/09]

A Recovery Act-funded grant to the Aurora Sinai Medical Center will strengthen services to sexual assault victims. “A grant is helping to provide more support for Milwaukee sexual assault victims. The Aurora Sinai Medical Center received almost \$81,000 in funding from the Wisconsin Department of Justice. The money is part of the stimulus funds provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act... The center will use the grant to help provide 24-hour availability for sex assault victims along with a 10-week support group for male victims.” [[WISN – ABC](#), 7/22/09]

Five young people in Northwest Wisconsin will spend the summer in Recovery Act-funded jobs working to address the problem of invasive water species. “In a region covered with lakes large and small, it's impossible to miss the signs posted near every body of water: Don't transport aquatic hitchhikers. Helping boaters understand the methods to avoid these hazardous water-borne hitchhikers is Jared McQuade's summer job. McQuade is one of five young people hired in Northwest Wisconsin to address the problem of invasive water species. Assigned to various boat landings across the 10-county region, and paid by American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funding, these summer youth workers have two primary duties. They inform and educate boaters about invasive species, and they perform simple inspections of the boats.” [[Superior Telegram](#), 7/22/09]

88 Wisconsin groups obtained Recovery Act funding to prevent homelessness. “Nearly \$6.4 million of federal stimulus funds has been granted to 88 Wisconsin groups for emergency shelter services, transitional housing and homelessness prevention, Gov. Jim Doyle said Tuesday. In a statement, Doyle said the funds, which were part of \$27 million set aside for homelessness in Wisconsin as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, would go toward providing services to those who are homeless, as well as to prevent others from becoming homeless.” Governor Doyle: “During these tough economic times, it is especially vital that we come together to help one another and make this state a great place to live for all.” [[Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#), 7/21/09]

Recovery Act funds will finance the repaving of a 7-mile segment of Highway 73. “Gov. Jim Doyle signed a \$1.3 million contract to improve a seven-mile stretch of Highway 73 from Highway 13 in the town of Wood to the Clark County line. State officials advanced the project using funds the state garnered through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, according to a news release from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. American Asphalt of Mosinee will serve as the main contractor for the project; crews will repave the highway with new asphalt. Construction is slated to begin Thursday and is expected to be completed in early September.” [[Wisconsin Rapids Tribune](#), 7/17/09]

Recovery Act funds will allow Wisconsin to reallocate state funds, hire and train workers to weatherize over 18,400 homes. “Secretary Steven Chu today announced that the Department of Energy is providing \$56.6 million under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to expand weatherization assistance programs in Wisconsin. These funds, along with additional funds to be disbursed after the state meets certain Recovery Act milestones, will help to weatherize more than 18,400 homes, cutting energy costs for low-income families that need it, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and creating green jobs across the state.” [[Superior Telegram](#), 7/14/09]

Wisconsin Department of Justice dispensed Recovery Act grant to Sheboygan for strengthening crime victim services. “[T]he Wisconsin Department of Justice has awarded \$40,470 in Victims of Crime Act funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County.” State Attorney General Van Hollen: “With this funding, Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County will provide ongoing case management in crisis support and counseling as well as continued after-care support to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in Sheboygan County.” [[Sheboygan Press](#), 7/15/09]

Recovery Act grant allocated to Nekoosa for construction of senior community center. “In mid-June, the city of Nekoosa was awarded a significant amount of stimulus money in the form of a Community Development Block Grant that will help to finance the building of the Nekoosa Area Senior/Community Center.” Governor Doyle: “These Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds will create opportunities for hardworking families and strengthen infrastructure throughout Wisconsin. These infrastructure and business development projects will help us to create good jobs and grow the economy of our state.” [[Wisconsin Rapids Tribune](#), 7/15/09]

Wisconsin saw \$50.1 million in SBA loans for month of June as small businesses increasingly take advantage of new Recovery Act provisions. “Commercial loans in Wisconsin backed by the U.S. Small Business Administration rose again in June, besting both the month-ago and year-over-year totals. Lenders issued \$50.1 million in financing last month, compared with \$38.0 million in May and \$40.3 million in June 2008. SBA-guaranteed lending in Wisconsin has now risen for four straight months after hitting a current-recession low of \$13.9 million in February. The number of loans - 221 last month - also was up. There were 172 loans in May and 155 in June 2008. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which took effect in February, has helped spur lending by increasing government guarantees on loans... The increase in the amount of an SBA loan the government will guarantee, and the suspension of some fees, helped prompt River Valley Bank to step up its SBA lending, Steve Anderson, CEO and president of the bank, said Tuesday. ‘It’s made these programs a little more flexible and a little more competitive,’ he said.” [[Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel](#), 7/14/09]

Recovery Act dollars will constitute half of funds applied to Darlington water system upgrade. “Governor Jim Doyle today announced \$447,000 in funding for the City of Darlington to upgrade its water system. Half of the funding will come through the State

Drinking Water Loan Program, while the other half comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act... The Recovery Act funding for Darlington is part of \$37 million the state is receiving for its drinking water loan program, doubling the state's annual average... The types of jobs that will be created include workers to do construction and plumbing.” [[WKOW – ABC](#), 7/14/09]

Recovery Act awards allocated for homelessness prevention in southeastern Wisconsin. “Three southeastern Wisconsin municipalities will receive nearly \$8.2 million in federal stimulus funds to help combat homelessness. The City of Milwaukee is in line to receive more than \$6.9 million of the funds, distributed as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act; Milwaukee County will get \$712,755 and West Allis is slated to receive \$574,434. U.S. Rep. Gwen Moore (D-Milwaukee), who announced the awards, said they are to be used for homelessness prevention and to find housing for families who fall into homelessness. The aid available includes rental assistance, security deposits, utility payments, moving-cost assistance and hotel vouchers.” [[Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#), 7/11/09]

Two Wisconsin railroad companies obtained stimulus money for reduction of diesel emissions on 40 engines. “Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Co. and the Canadian Pacific Railroad will share in \$571,107 in stimulus funds for the installation of devices to reduce diesel emissions for 40 locomotives. The Wisconsin project will reduce emissions from switch locomotives at rail yards and address the energy efficiency of rail fleets by installing automatic start/stop devices to control idling. Idle reduction devices will reduce fuel consumption and emissions by 50 to 70 percent, Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle said Thursday in announcing the funding. Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Co. will install the devices on 34 switch locomotives and Canadian Pacific Railroad will install them on six locomotives.” [[Business Journal of Milwaukee](#), 7/9/09]

Roughly \$1.5 million from Recovery Act distributed to Cumberland municipal authorities for augmentation of water system. “Federal stimulus dollars will be hard at work soon in the City of Cumberland. Cumberland Municipal Utilities has been awarded nearly \$1.5 million in federal stimulus grant money for water system improvements... Chuck Christensen, general manager of Cumberland Municipal Utilities, said the biggest benefits to the city will be larger water storage for businesses, industries, and fire protection and better water pressure throughout the system. ‘It’s going to help the community a lot,’ he said about the stimulus money. ‘It’s great for Cumberland.’ The grant money will mean less of an impact on utility costs for users.” [[Press Release – Cumberland Municipal Utilities](#), 7/7/09]

Over \$3 million in Recovery Act funds disbursed to Chippewa Falls communities for water cleaning projects. “The days of white sweaters turning out dirtier after being washed are nearing an end in Chippewa Falls. And Stanley is going to get a big helping hand in paying for a water and sewer project. Chippewa Falls is getting \$1.95 million and Stanley \$1.1 million as part of \$7 million in federal stimulus money given to communities in Chippewa and Clark counties... The money comes in the form of state sponsored bonding with below market rates and grants from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, otherwise known as the stimulus bill.” [[Chippewa Herald](#), 7/7/09]

Recovery Act -funded grants will be distributed to trucking companies for emissions-cutting upgrades. “Trucking companies with offices in Wisconsin can apply for up to \$100,000 each in grants for emissions-cutting equipment upgrades. The Wisconsin American Recovery and Reinvestment Clean Diesel Grant Program announced in June that it will accept applications for equipment purchases until Aug. 3. The program will pay for 100 percent of the cost of exhaust retrofit controls, 50 percent of the cost of idle-reduction devices,

100 percent of engine emission upgrades, 75 percent of engine repowers, and 25 percent of the cost of 'equipment replacements' on 1998 model year or older equipment." [[Land Line Magazine](#), 7/7/09]

\$435,000 in Recovery Act funding provided for construction of 1.8-mile Janesville Bike Trail. "The City of Janesville will receive \$435,000 from the Department of Transportation to build 1.8 miles of paved bicycle/pedestrian trail. The new trail, the Rotamer Connector, will begin at the intersection of Wright Road and Highway 14. The trail will continue west along the north side of Highway 14 and extend north along the rear property line of Best Buy, Pine Tree Plaza, and Wal-Mart... The money comes through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, signed into law by President Barack Obama on Feb. 17." [[Janesville Gazette](#), 7/6/09]

\$43 million in Recovery Act funds disbursed for highway projects in Madison area; Wisconsin consistently seeing unusually low bids, extending effects of stimulus grants. "Zignego Co. was the big winner in the latest round of federal stimulus bidding as the Waukesha contractor grabbed a \$43 million contract for highway work near Madison. The contract is part of the \$105.4 million from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act divvied up by the state in late June. Since early spring, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has awarded transportation-related contracts valued at more than \$692 million to put road and bridge builders back to work... The money is available from the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that Congress passed and President Barack Obama signed in January. 'For the third month in a row, we've received lower than expected bids, which is good news for taxpayers because it provides an opportunity to fund additional projects with stimulus funds,' Gov. Jim Doyle said in a prepared statement." [[Business Journal of Milwaukee](#), 7/3/09]

Over \$69,000 from Recovery Act awarded to 11 health and social service agencies in Green Bay region. "Eleven area health and social service agencies will receive more than \$69,000 of federal stimulus money, the United Way of Brown County announced this week. The grants will give some recently unemployed residents additional food, shelter or financial assistance, the organization said." [[Green Bay Press-Gazette](#), 7/2/09]

\$35.6 million from Recovery Act garnered for Wisconsin affordable housing projects. "Wisconsin will receive \$35.6 million to jump start affordable housing projects that have been in limbo during the recession... The \$35.6 million comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is earmarked for HUD's new Tax Credit Assistance Program. The credit will help fund affordable housing projects that were in development but unable to attract funding as a result of tight credit markets. HUD estimates that 1,000 affordable housing projects across the country, totaling about 150,000 units, could not move forward and are waiting for funding." Secretary Donovan: "The funding being announced today is an important step in achieving the goal of putting the American people back to work while providing quality, affordable housing options for low-income families at a time when those options are needed more than ever." [[Business Journal of Milwaukee](#), 7/1/09]

The four community health centers in Milwaukee, which collectively provide care for more than 70,000 people a year, will receive more than \$3.5 million in Recovery Act grants. "The money can be used for construction projects, equipment and computer systems for electronic health records. The grants are part of \$11.5 million awarded to community health centers in Wisconsin. Community health centers, typically located in low-income urban neighborhoods or rural areas, provide care primarily to people enrolled in Medicaid programs such as BadgerCare Plus and to people without health insurance; they pay on a sliding fee scale tied to their income. The centers also have become an increasingly important

source of dental and behavioral health care in Milwaukee and throughout the state.” [*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, 6/30/09]

A Recovery Act grant will help the Bruce School District improve its lunch program. “The life expectancy of a stove or oven is about 20 years, so it's safe to say the Bruce School District is in need of a replacement. It has an oven that's 83 years old. Stimulus money will help Bruce replace it. A grant for that school district is among dozens going out to help schools across the state improve their lunch programs. The Augusta School District will receive \$10,000 in stimulus funding. Two schools in Eau Claire: Lakeshore and Longfellow will split about \$4,000 and more than \$20,000 will go to Fairchild Elementary in the Osseo-Fairchild School District.” [*WQOW TV*, 6/30/09]

Recovery Act -provided SBA loan backing is an avenue to small business prosperity. “Wisconsin small businesses suffering from the downward economy got some good news on Thursday. Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton was in Superior on Thursday urging Northern Wisconsin small business owners to take advantage of new tools to help ease the credit crunch. Through President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, temporary changes in small business loan programs can help owners access the capital they need to stay open, or to grow. LG Lawton: “Small businesses provide, really, the structural framework, both from this regional economy and for our state's economy. And when they prosper, we all do.” [*KQDS – FOX*, 6/25/09]

Wisconsin will receive another \$15 million in Recovery Act funds to help dislocated workers. “The state is getting another \$15 million in federal stimulus money to help dislocated workers. The money is to provide career training and re-employment services for people who lose jobs because of outsourcing and foreign competition. The state Department of Workforce Development is to administer the services being made available through local Job Centers.” [*Associated Press*, 6/11/09]

The Oneida Tribe will use Recovery Act funds for housing, elderly care, and training for gaming employees. Chairman: “The benefits of the funding awards will have a significant impact on our local economy. We have more than 3,000 employees who will benefit in some manner or other.” [*Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 6/11/09]

Recovery Act federal tax credit causes interest in geothermal upgrades to burgeon. The tax credit, which increased from 10 percent to 30 percent, “has promoted some definite interest with geothermal.” The initial cost of the system — often more expensive than conventional heating and cooling systems — can be mitigated by the 30 percent tax credit. The result: an almost immediate savings in energy costs.” [*Greenbay Press-Gazette*, 6/8/09]

Recovery Act will pay for landowners to put land up for easement. Project will reduce crop insurance payments, create jobs to restore floodplains. [*Fond du Lac Reporter*, 6/4/09]

Recovery Act-funded projects have allowed Wisconsin road and bridge construction firms to hire new employees or save existing jobs. Controller of Zignego Co: “If the stimulus package wasn't there, we'd have a lot of guys sitting in 2009 because there's no other big jobs on the books.” [*The Business Journal of Milwaukee*, 6/5/09]

Fon Du Lac School District is the beneficiary of \$2.4 million from the Recovery Act, providing opportunities for low-income students that would not exist otherwise. Acting Superintendent: “With this money, we will be able to touch all children in the district, one way or another, either through building capacity or staff development for teachers to improve their instructional techniques.” [*Fon du Lac Reporter*, 6/1/09]

Recovery Act funds will be used to improve six miles of Wisconsin highway 64l. Most of the work will be done this summer with project completion expected by early October 2009.” [[New Richmond News](#), 5/28/09]

Recovery Act transportation bids came in 11 percent lower than expected with a savings of over \$10 million. [[Daily Kenoshan](#), /527/09]

La Crosse will use Recovery Act funds to build trails and restore habitats along the Kickapoo River. [States News Service, 5/26/09]

The Salem School District will use Recovery Act funding to save two teaching positions. [[Kenosha News](#), 5/20/09]

Two Wisconsin airports received Recovery Act funds to rehabilitate a taxiway and a runway. The Federal Aviation Administration awarded \$1.25 million to Rhinelander-Oneida County Airport to rehabilitate a taxiway, and \$1.17 million to Austin Straubel International Airport in Green Bay to rehabilitate a runway. [[The Business Journal of Milwaukee](#), 5/19/09]

Recovery Act will pay for museum restoration in Pittsville. [[Wisconsin Rapids Tribune](#), 5/19/09]

After economy forced Menasha to put off hiring new police officer, the city applied for Recovery Act-funded cops grant. [[The Post-Crescent](#), 5/17/09]

Alderman details Recovery Act funds for Stevens Point to upgrade buses with green technology. Efforts by staff “make Stevens Point a better place to live.” [[Stevens Point Journal](#), 5/15/09]

Recovery Act funds have been allotted for 32 highway and bridge projects that are expected to be finished by the end of the year. [[WQOW](#), 5/12/09]

Recovery Act funds will increase the amount of money available for homeless youth and education grants. [[Wisconsin Public Radio](#), 5/13/09]

Municipal water construction projects in Wisconsin will get a \$143 million boost from Recovery Act funds. [[Chicago Tribune](#), 5/13/09]

Baraboo, Milwaukee, and Wauwatosa will receive Recovery Act funds to clean sites that are contaminated with hazardous chemicals. “Brownfields are abandoned sites that might be contaminated with hazardous chemicals or pollutants ... In addition, the state Department of Natural Resources will get \$1 million to assess hazardous substances and petroleum contamination.” [[Green Bay Press-Gazette](#), 5/10/09]