



Fact Sheet

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The Recovery Act: A Report on the Path to Progress in Delaware Creating and Saving Jobs, Boosting Household Resources, Providing Assistance for the Vulnerable in Delaware

On February 13, 2009, the Senate approved the final version of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and sent the legislation to President Obama to be signed into law (P.L. 111-5). The *Recovery Act* is an extraordinary response by Democrats to an inherited economic crisis unlike any since the Great Depression. The legislation represents an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create and save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can not only recover but prosper once again.

Nationwide, we have already seen companies rehiring laid-off workers, construction and renovation of facilities, and the re-starting of environmental remediation activities. And, just a few months into the two-year *Recovery Act* programs:

- **We have minimized and avoided reductions in essential services in Delaware** by providing aid to help stabilize state and local budgets, protected critical safety-net programs, and saved teaching and law enforcement jobs.
- **Plans for job-creating infrastructure projects in Delaware are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$49.9 million for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration) (as of June 2, 2009). These *Recovery Act* projects deliver jobs and make important investments in the safety of our transportation systems. [DOT Allocation Report, 6/2/2009].
- **Families and communities in Delaware that have been hard-hit by the recession** can access increased unemployment benefits, assistance with health insurance premiums for those who have become unemployed, and food aid. And 300,000 households in Delaware – approximately 95 percent of all families and individuals – have already begun seeing an increase in their take-home pay through the landmark Making Work Pay tax credit. The typical family will have about \$800 extra cash delivered to them in their paychecks over the next year. [The White House, 4/2/2009]

Here is a sampling of projects in Delaware that have been covered by local media and press releases in the past several weeks, demonstrating the real-life impacts that the *Recovery Act* has already made for Delawareans, only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- ***Recovery Act* funds will pay for Dover to upgrade street lights with energy-efficient LEDs along Division Street.** Senator Carper: “When we come out of it, we’ll have a new segment to our economy, and that’s green jobs.” [*The News Journal*, 6/6/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* will pay for solar power in Dover with a 50-panel, 10-kilowatt photovoltaic solar energy system atop the city-owned electric power plant off Walker Road in north Dover.** The new system is expected to save about \$750 a year in electric costs; the value of alternative energy sources goes beyond cost savings. Somebody had to make, deliver and install the solar panels. [*The News Journal*, 6/6/2009]