

CORONA ECONOMIC STIMULUS UPDATE

On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was signed into law with the goal of boosting the national economy and creating jobs by modernizing our infrastructure, improving energy efficiency, expanding educational opportunities and providing tax relief through \$787 billion in funding.

The City of Corona has been actively pursuing funding since the start of the ARRA and has received the following Federal funds.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT (EECBG).

This program is dedicated to helping our nation become more energy efficient by supporting local efforts to implement energy conservation projects. Corona's formula share is **\$1,454,200**. Two priority City projects were included in the EECBG application to receive and share the \$1,454,200 in funds. The projects are:

1) Solar Power for Water Reclamation Facility #1	\$727,100
2) Street Light Induction Retrofits.	<u>\$727,100</u>
	\$1,454,200

- **Solar Power for Water Reclamation Facility #1**

The City of Corona Department of Water and Power (DWP) is investing \$1 million into advancing the energy efficiency of Water Reclamation Facility #1 by constructing a complete solar power system to the existing plant grid to help reduce the energy load burden of the facility. The EECBG funds will allow the City of Corona to expand the grid capability of the current project by increasing the number of solar panels.

- **Street Light Induction Retrofits**

The City of Corona Department of Public Works maintains 12,265 street and safety lights city-wide. The City of Corona will utilize \$727,100 of the City's EECBG to replace approximately 16%, or 1,920, of the existing standard High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lamps with Induction Lighting (IL) technology. Priority will be given to high wattage consuming lights which will realize the maximum electrical reduction to the system. The proposed key improvements in street and safety light systems will help the City of Corona realize significant financial and environmental savings.

EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE (JAG) ARRA GRANT:

An application for **\$156,741** has been submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice. JAG funds may be used for law enforcement training, personnel, overtime, equipment supplies, contractual support or information systems for criminal justice programs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG-R)

The City of Corona has been awarded a total of **\$323,639** in additional Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-R) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of the American Recovery and Reinvest Act (Recovery Act).

Proposed Activity:

The CDBG-R funding will be a grant to Vantage International, a manufacturer and distributor of electric vehicles on a national and international basis. This activity will create a minimum of 10 new jobs in the City of Corona by Vantage International. These jobs will be made available to low-income persons and will be permanent, full-time positions. Vantage International manufactures electric vehicles which are in the process of being certified as “street legal” and are marketed to large enterprises that have the need for transportation vehicles that travel short distances with many stops. The market for these vehicles is businesses that deliver products locally, universities and colleges with large campuses (ideal for security and maintenance personnel). Vantage is currently expanding its business and has secured a number of contracts and has the potential of securing at least two large contracts with Boeing and U.S. Postal Service. The City is working with Vantage to secure larger facilities and to expand its manufacturing capability. The CDBG-R funds will be used to off-set the costs of hiring and training the persons selected to work with this company. The Vantage International Job Creation activity meets the following objectives under the Recovery Act:

- Preserving and creating jobs and promoting economic recovery;
- Investing in transportation, environmental protection, or other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits; and
- Fostering energy independence.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5307 TRANSIT CAPITAL FORMULA GRANT

The City of Corona has applied for **\$600,000** in Section 5307 funding to purchase four Dial-A-Ride vehicles. To reduce the carbon footprint, these vehicles will be powered with clean burning compressed natural gas (CNG) engines. These vehicles will replace four vehicles that have exceeded their useful life. The cost of vehicles is estimated to be \$360,000. The City is proposing to install up to 20 bus shelters along the Corona Cruiser Red and Blue Lines, bus stop benches, signage and concrete bus pads at an estimated cost of \$240,000.