

Isett's Grants team offers its municipal clients assistance in preparing grant applications, as part of their overall service package. This service saves our clients hours of staff time working on grants, or fills a void in municipalities that never had the staffing opportunity to seek any grants.

## MUNICIPAL GRANTS PROGRAM PROCESS

We create a customized grants program adapted specifically to the comprehensive needs of each community, based off the foundation of our company's existing relationship with them.

### **We guide the development of a strategic funding and community project plan**

Isett works with its clients to identify priority projects and creates an annual funding plan to target realistic, quality projects. The plan includes matching compatible grant funding programs with the projects' goals and determining the level of match funding the municipality must commit.

### **We sift through the material for each grant program and simplify the content into a list of requirements and coordination of responsibility**

Isett reviews all guidelines, criteria and application components and creates a manageable "task list" categorizing all the needs.

Applicants will provide background information, support letters, match funding commitments and other municipal-commissioned requirements. ***A grant application is only as good as the information available to help "sell" the project, i.e., existing plans, studies, public meetings, community support and data.***

Isett's Grants team of engineers and consultants prepare cost estimates, technical documents, and guidance on projects that will require engineering and consulting services, if funded. These ***"fee for service" planning, estimates, drawings/design and other technical needs can be easily arranged through Isett's multi-discipline departments.***

### **We pull it all together into a grant proposal package that sells your project**

Isett's grant writers will draft narrative and application text, and communicate and follow up regularly with all parties involved to obtain and organize the required application pieces into the proper format for the client to submit.

Isett, in partnership with the municipalities, submits grant applications that are ***correct, consistent, complete and competitive.***



Over \$500,000 in PennDOT grant funding (2010) was used to improve the pedestrian use and safety of the Hellertown Borough Hall property, including narrowing an intersecting road with Main Street and constructing a plaza, rain garden, sidewalks, stamped crosswalk, pervious color concrete and a cedar pergola, in addition to installing bike racks and ornamental LED street lighting. Below grade stormwater improvements pre-treat and convey rainwater runoff in this previously flood prone area.

***Grants can be a powerful catalyst for positive change in the community for turning ideas into something real, valuable and tangible.***

**Over \$35 million in grant funds secured with Isett assistance in six years!**

\$495,000 from two DCED grants and additional borough funds and labor were used to improve and refurbish Col. Jacob Weiss Park in downtown Lehigh, historically the *Town Square*: curbing and sidewalks, stormwater improvements, pavers, two decorative concrete medallions, landscaping, lighting, the cleaning of the Col. Jacob Weiss statue, park benches and trash receptacles. The project was dedicated in 2016 in preparation for their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.



*Isett's Grants team has partnered with clients to submit State, County and Local grant applications for funding offered through a diversity of programs. Roughly 1 out of every 3 applications we submitted in the past were successfully funded.*

## **POPULAR MUNICIPAL FUNDING SOURCES INCLUDE...**

- Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) – funds for greenways, trails and recreation; multimodal transportation and connectivity enhancements; and economic and community development projects
- PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT) – grants for traffic signals & intersections, alternative transportation options and multimodal and transportation asset improvements
- Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) – grants for park and recreational planning and studies, park development or facility upgrades and land acquisition
- Community Development Block Grants for improvements benefitting low income & underserved people in demographically designated geographical areas
- County Specific Grant Programs focusing on community improvements, economic development and tourism assets, and recreation and trail development

## **COMMON PROJECTS SEEKING GRANT FUNDING INCLUDE...**

- Parks & Recreation – playgrounds, athletic facilities, interior paths, pavilions, amenities, restrooms, trails, planning/studies, acquisition, parking
- Transportation – infrastructure improvements, traffic signals, stormwater & drainage infrastructure
- Downtown & Walkability – streetscapes, beautification, multimodal safety, traffic calming – bump outs, decorative crosswalks, ped-activated signalization, signage & line painting, pedestrian connections
- Municipal Facilities – garages, salt sheds, and town hall renovations (through LSA only), as well as public land and ADA improvements
- Water & Wastewater – reservoir and pump station upgrades, and pipe lining and replacement
- Stormwater Management & MS4 – streambank restoration, raingardens & bioretention areas, swale greening, infrastructure upgrades



**Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. can help you navigate the informational maze; identify & prioritize projects; assist with application preparation and coordination; and provide general program support.**