FEDERAL LOBBYIST SERVICES PROPOSAL

NIXON PEABODY

RFP # 455-11519

PROPOSAL CONTENTS

TAB 1: BID/PROPOSAL AND SIGNATURE PAGES

BID/PROPOSAL SIGNATURE PAGE

How to submit bids/proposals: Proposals must be submitted by hard copy only. It will be the sole responsibility of the Bidder to ensure that the bid reaches the City of Fort Lauderdale, City Hall, Procurement Services Division, Suite 619, 100 N. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, prior to the bid opening date and time listed. Bids/proposals submitted by fax or email will NOT be accepted.

The below signed hereby agrees to furnish the following article(s) or services at the price(s) and terms stated subject to all instructions, conditions, specifications addenda, legal advertisement, and conditions contained in the bid. I have read all attachments including the specifications and fully understand what is required. By submitting this signed proposal I will accept a contract if approved by the CITY and such acceptance covers all terms, conditions, and specifications of this bid/proposal.

Please Note: All fields below **must** be completed. If the field does not apply to you, please note N/A in that field.

Submitted by: ____________________ (signature) 1.6.15 (date)

Name (printed) Douglas Dziak Title: Counsel

Company: (Legal Registration) Nixon Pebody LLP

CONTRACTOR, IF FOREIGN CORPORATION, MAY BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTE §607.1501 (visit http://www.dos.state.fl.us/).

Address: 401 Ninth Street NW, Suite 900

City Washington, DC State: ______ Zip 20004-2128

Telephone No. 202-585-8180 FAX No. 866-237-4743 Email: ddziak@nixonpeabody.com

Delivery: Calendar days after receipt of Purchase Order (section 1.02 of General Conditions): N/A

Payment Terms (section 1.04): Net 45 Total Bid Discount (section 1.05): N/A

Does your firm qualify for MBE or WBE status (section 1.09): MBE No WBE No

ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Proposer acknowledges that the following addenda have been received and are included in the proposal:

Addendum No. We acknowledge receipt of all addenda posted on the BidSync system Date Issued

P-CARDS: Will your firm accept the City's Credit Card (VISA / MasterCard) as payment for goods/services?

VISA YES X NO____ MasterCard YES X NO____

VARIANCES: State any variations to specifications, terms and conditions in the space provided below or reference in the space provided below all variances contained on other pages of bid, attachments or bid pages. No variations or exceptions by the Proposer will be deemed to be part of the bid submitted unless such variation or exception is listed and contained within the bid documents and referenced in the space provided below. If no statement is contained in the below space, it is hereby implied that your bid/proposal complies with the full scope of this solicitation. PLEASE STATE ANY VARIANCES OR EXCEPTIONS BELOW. If this section does not apply to your bid, simply mark N/A in the section below.
Variances:

TAB 2: COST PROPOSAL PAGE

PART VI - PROPOSAL PAGES – COST PROPOSAL

Cost to the City: Contractor must quote firm, fixed, annual fee, billed monthly, for all services identified in this request for proposal. This firm fixed annual fee includes any costs for travel to the City. No other costs will be accepted. This firm fixed annual rate will be the same for the initial contract period. The fixed annual rate should not include cost associated with providing the additional services indicated within this RFP.

Contractor shall not be reimbursed or otherwise paid for internal word processing, data processing or other services (i.e. local telephone services, copies, mail, or postage services) that would reasonably be deemed the Contractor' overhead expense. Contractor will be reimbursed on a monthly basis at a firm fixed annual fee plus charges per additional service provided during the month, inclusive of all expenses.

Failure to use the City's COST PROPOSAL Page and provide costs as requested in this RFP, may deem your proposal non-responsive.

PLEASE FILL-IN THE TOTAL ANNUAL FIRM FIXED FEE BELOW FOR THE (INITIAL CONTRACT PERIOD – (2) YEARS)

1. TOTAL ANNUAL FIRM FIXED FEE $ 120,000 /ANNUALLY x 2 yrs. =$ 240,000

PLEASE FILL-IN THE AMOUNT PER ADDITIONAL SERVICE PROVIDED BELOW FOR THE (INITIAL CONTRACT PERIOD – (2) YEARS)

2. TOTAL FEE PER GRANT REVIEWED $ 2,500 /GRANT x 4* GRANTS =$ 10,000

3.TOTAL FEE PER GRANT WRITTEN $ 10,000 /GRANT x 4* GRANTS =$ 40,000

TOTAL TWO YEAR COST TO THE CITY…(ITEMS 1+2+3)…………………$ 290,000

If a Contractor wishes to provide a proposal as a joint venture, Contractor shall provide on this Cost Proposal page a breakdown of their portion of the annual fee and the portion of each joint venture Contractor being submitted. i.e. (ABC Company $25,000 annual fee and DEF Company $25,000 annual fee) x 2 yrs. = $100,000. The total cost of the joint venture, is what will be considered in scoring for the cost criteria. If you do not provide the amount to be paid to each proposer, you may be deemed non-responsive. THE JOINT PROPOSERS MUST ALSO, EACH PROVIDE A BID SIGNATURE PAGE, EXECUTED BY AN OFFICER OF THE COMPANY.

*Estimated number of grants

TAB 3: NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT

NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT:

By signing this offer, the vendor/contractor certifies that this offer is made independently and *free* from collusion. Vendor shall disclose below any City of Fort Lauderdale, FL officer or employee, or any relative of any such officer or employee who is an officer or director of, or has a material interest in, the vendor's business, who is in a position to influence this procurement.

Any City of Fort Lauderdale, FL officer or employee who has any input into the writing of specifications or requirements, solicitation of offers, decision to award, evaluation of offers, or any other activity pertinent to this procurement is presumed, for purposes hereof, to be in a position to influence this procurement.

For purposes hereof, a person has a material interest if they directly or indirectly own more than 5 percent of the total assets or capital stock of any business entity, or if they otherwise stand to personally gain if the contract is awarded to this vendor.

In accordance with City of Fort Lauderdale, FL Policy and Standards Manual, 6.10.8.3,

> 3.3. City employees may not contract with the City through any corporation or business entity in which they or their immediate family members hold a controlling financial interest (e.g. ownership of five (5) percent or more).
>
> 3.4. Immediate family members (spouse, parents and children) are also prohibited from contracting with the City subject to the same general rules.

Failure of a vendor to disclose any relationship described herein shall be reason for debarment in accordance with the provisions of the City Procurement Code.

NAME	**RELATIONSHIPS**
___________________________________	______________________________
___________________________________	______________________________
	______________________________
	______________________________

In the event the vendor does not indicate any names, the City shall interpret this to mean that the vendor has indicated that no such relationships exist.

TAB 4: COMPANY PROFILE

Nixon Peabody LLP is a full-service policy and law firm with more than 600 attorneys collaborating across major practice areas in cities throughout the United States. Our Government Relations team is based in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. The firm is headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts.

We see 21st century public policy and law as tools to help shape our clients' futures. Our role is to navigate our clients through the exciting and challenging times we live in, foreseeing new obstacles and opportunities in their space, smoothing the way, and ensuring they are equipped with winning strategies in the face of a constantly changing political, social, and economic landscape. Nixon Peabody's history dates back more than 150 years.

NP contact information

Douglas Dziak
Counsel, primary contact for proposed services
Direct Phone: 202-585-8180
Fax: 866-237-4743
Email: ddziak@nixonpeabody.com

401 Ninth Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20004-2128
Main office phone: 202-585-8000
Hours of operation:
Web: www.nixonpeabody.com
Twitter: @nixonpeabodyllp

TAB 5: LETTER OF INTEREST

Douglas Dziak
Counsel
T 202-585-8180
ddziak@nixonpeabody.com

Nixon Peabody LLP
401 Ninth Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20004-2128
202-585-8000
NixonPeabody.com
@nixonpeabodyllp

January 6, 2015

Bob McKenney
Procurement Specialist
City of Fort Lauderdale
Procurement Services Division, Room 619
City Hall
100 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

RE: Proposal to provide Federal Lobbyist Services to the City of Fort Lauderdale; RFP # 455-11519

Dear Mr. McKenney:

Nixon Peabody LLP appreciates the opportunity to submit our proposal to the City of Fort Lauderdale in response to its RFP for Federal Lobbyist Services. Enclosed please find one original, seven copies, and two CDs containing electronic copies of our proposal.

A full-service law and public policy firm, NP has offices in Washington, D.C., and throughout the United States. We have advised municipalities, districts, counties, and agencies, as well as the private sector throughout the country on the issues key to the success of the City in the long-term, including transportation and infrastructure, economic development, natural resources and water quality, health and human services, energy and environmental, military and defense issues, and affordable housing.

Our professionals have worked in policy and legal positions in Congress, as well as numerous federal and state agencies. This experience—coupled with the key strategic relationships we maintain and continue to forge—provides us with the ability to help the City achieve its goals.

Thank you for your time and consideration in reviewing this proposal. Please contact me directly at 202-585-8180 with any questions. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss our capabilities in more detail.

Sincerely,

Douglas Dziak

4830-1546-6017.2

TAB 6: STATEMENT OF PROPOSED SERVICES

Our team for the City of Fort Lauderdale

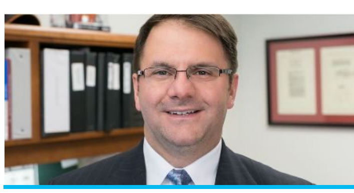
Our bipartisan Government Relations and Public Policy team has unsurpassed federal experience and is positioned to use this experience to help guide the City through a period of federal fiscal austerity and change. Our experienced team is able to cut through the noise and clutter of the 24-hour news cycle and help you determine what is important to your goals and issues. Our team leader for this proposal and your primary point of contact is **Douglas (Doug) Dziak**, who has 17 years of Washington experience, including five years of service as a senior staffer in the U.S. Senate and more than ten years of legal practice before various federal and state departments and agencies. Doug has worked with both Senate and House offices and has extensive Congressional contacts in the various committees with jurisdiction over programs of interest as well as extensive federal agency experience.

The NP Government Relations and Public Policy team is unique among many of our competitors in that it works as a team in every sense. Doug will work on this account with retired Congressman **Thomas (Tom) Reynolds**, who served in Congress for 10 years and is NP's Government Relations and Public Policy practice group leader. Tom has extensive experience in local government and is significantly involved in overseeing our government relations client work for each of our clients. Rounding out our primary DC-based team is **Sally Vastola**, a former Congressional chief of staff. Sally was named one of The Hill's 50 top staffers four years in a row and maintains numerous bipartisan contacts with Members and congressional staff.

Both Tom and Sally maintain active second-home residences with their families in the Sarasota-Bradenton area. Both are familiar with the state and its communities and have worked closely with many in the federal Florida delegation, particularly members of the House during their Congressional service. For example, a former chief of staff to Congressman Reynolds served as CEO of the Everglades Foundation until recently, providing valuable insight on the needs and challenges of the Everglades, as well as issues throughout the state. In addition, Doug, Tom, and Sally—all of whom have been deeply involved in local, state, and federal government throughout their careers—work collaboratively with the firm's 600+ attorneys, a number of whom also lobby federal, state, and local government, to form a team with one goal—solving your issues.

Your Nixon Peabody team has decades of experience in working on the issues like transportation, infrastructure, economic, and homeland security that Fort Lauderdale cares about. It is this experience that we use to regularly achieve our client's goals and exceed their expectations.

NP team resumes



DOUGLAS DZIAK
Counsel
Team leader

Douglas "Doug" Dziak has 17 years of Washington experience, including five years of service as a senior staffer in the U.S. Senate and more than ten years of policy and legal practice before Congress and various federal and state departments and agencies.

Prior to joining Nixon Peabody, Doug worked as Legislative Director and Chief Counsel for Senator George V. Voinovich (OH). During Senator Voinovich's tenure, Doug, in conjunction with

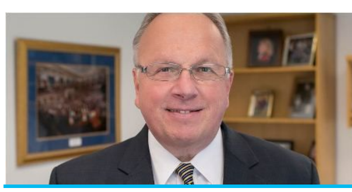
Senator Voinovich's senior leadership team, developed and worked to pass legislation related to transportation, infrastructure, economic and workforce development, and improved government operations. Doug acted as the Senator's primary policy director and liaison to Senate and House committees' staff. In this role, Doug developed, cultivated, and maintains a wide network of colleagues and friends in both congressional chambers and on both sides of the political aisle. He also regularly interacted with federal agencies to achieve goals and provide oversight. In addition, as policy director, Doug regularly vetted requests for grants and appropriations support from numerous organizations, and worked with Senator Voinovich's grants support team to determine how and when to support grant and appropriation support requests.

In addition to his work with Congress and federal agencies, Doug's work for Senator Voinovich brought him into contact with the "Big-7," the state and local governmental organizations, providing him with an understanding of the needs of local government. As the lead policy staffer for the former mayor of Cleveland and President of the National League of Cities, Doug is always mindful of the role the federal government plays in the development efforts and strategies of state and local governments.

Prior to becoming Senator Voinovich's Legislative Director and Chief Counsel, Doug served as General Counsel on the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. In this role, Doug provided advice regarding a wide range of issues, including immigration, communications, and technology, including issues such as infrastructure, economic development, cyber-security, intellectual property, homeland security, and judicial/criminal. He was the primary staffer who worked with members, congressional staff, the executive branch, and outside groups in developing and passing the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008 (PRO-IP Act).

In addition, Doug served as Senator Voinovich's Attorney-Advisor when he was Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. Doug continues to advise clients on federal ethics and federal political law. Consequently, Doug is able to provide counsel on federal ethics issues and ensure compliance with all applicable ethics rules.

Prior to his congressional service, Doug worked at two large international law firms in the Washington, D.C., area focusing on regulatory and administrative law issues. During his time as a regulatory attorney, Doug represented a Fortune 50 telecommunications company, and several energy companies and related parties, on regulatory issues with various federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Federal Communications Commission, and the Federal Trade Commission.



THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

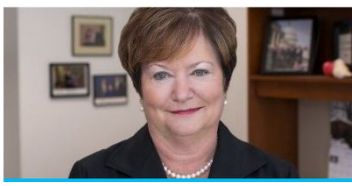
Senior Strategic Policy Advisor
Government Relations practice group leader

Tom Reynolds has more than 35 years of elected public service, including service in local government, the New York Assembly, and the U.S. Congress. Tom assists clients in understanding government and public policy issues and developing and implementing strategic policy plans that address their needs. He served five terms in the U.S. House of Representatives representing the 26th Congressional District, which spans an area from the western suburbs of Rochester to the Buffalo suburbs.

While serving ten years in the House, he spent four years as one of the elected House of Representatives leadership team. Since his retirement, he has continued to maintain these close relations with the House leadership team as well as committee and subcommittee chairs. In addition to his service in House leadership, Tom served on the prestigious House Committee on Ways and Means and three of its subcommittees: Trade, Select Revenue Measures, and Oversight.

Before being elected to Congress, Tom served for five terms as a member of the New York State Assembly, rising to the post of Assembly Minority Leader in 1995. Prior to his service in the State Assembly, Tom was a member of the Erie County Legislature from 1982–1988, also serving as the body's Minority Leader. He also served on the Concord Town Board from 1974–1982, where he rose to the position of Deputy Supervisor. With his experience at the local and state levels of government, Tom is aware of the needs of and solutions that meet the needs of local government clients.

He works with attorneys across the firm to advise clients on legislative and regulatory policies in the areas of government relations, federal aid and assistance, tax, international trade, financial services regulation, and energy. While in Congress, Tom regularly secured significant federal appropriations monies for infrastructure and economic development; as a result, he knows what makes funding decisions attractive to Members and staff, as well as the agencies that make many funding decisions.



SALLY VASTOLA
Strategic Policy Advisor
Government Relations

Sally has more than 25 years of experience in local, state, and federal government, and served as a Congressional Chief of Staff. As Chief of Staff, Sally worked closely with Members and House staff. As a result of her experience and professionalism, Sally was named one of The Hill's Top 50 staffers four years in a row. Like other members of the Nixon Peabody Government Relations and Public Policy team, Sally developed and maintains close contact with Members and congressional staff, providing the Nixon Peabody team with an insider's understanding and knowledge of Washington.

TRAVIS GIBBS
Partner
Transportation and infrastructure

Travis has been involved in a significant number of transactions relating to the financing of general infrastructure, ranging from surface transportation, mass commuting, airport and port, and water and electric utility infrastructure. He has more than twenty years of experience advising municipal entities on tax law matters. A representative list of clients includes the City and County of San Francisco, Transbay Joint Powers Authority, the County of Los Angeles, the Port of Oakland, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the State of California, and the County of Riverside. Travis works with members of the NP Government Relations team to solve client transportation and economic development issues.

KENNETH LIND
Partner
Transportation and infrastructure

Much of Ken's work involves financings and public-private partnerships (3Ps) transactions related to transportation. Ken has significant experience creating financings funded in whole or part by federal grants and loans, including TIFIA loans, federal highway trust fund moneys, and full funding grant agreements, including two of the largest such projects in the country—East Side Access (bringing Long Island Rail Road into Grand Central Terminal) and the NYC Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) Second Avenue Subway. Ken, as Deputy General Counsel for Public Finance, was part of the MTA team that negotiated full funding grant agreements in connection with the East Side Access and Second Avenue Subway projects, still two of the largest projects ever funded. His duties included attending meetings at the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) headquarters and preparing responses to inquiries by the FTA and its advisors; as a result, Ken has developed relationships with policy and legal professionals within the FTA and our Government Relations team is able to leverage these relationships and take advantage of Ken's experience.

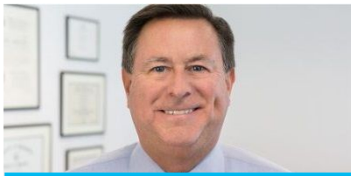
LIBBY FORD
Sr. Environmental Health Engineer
Environment

Libby has worked with organizations and municipal agencies as they review and provide input to federal, state, and local governments on proposed environmental legislation and other government water-related policies. For example, as sub-committee chair and then chair of the Water Environment Federation's (WEF) Governmental Affairs Committee, Libby led WEF's effort to develop and implement a government relations rapid response procedure. These early WEF efforts to become visible and to be accepted as a fact- and science-based resource on legislative, regulatory, and policy issues related to the water environment laid the groundwork for the significant respect with which WEF is held today in these areas.

During the time she served as Chair of this WEF Committee, Libby provided testimony before Congress on behalf of WEF and represented the WEF at meetings with elected officials, Congressional staff and the EPA. This WEF Committee, under Libby's leadership, worked closely with WEF staff to put together a broad outside coalition of water professionals, national organizations, and others to explore ways to improve and update the U.S. Clean Water Act (CWA). She was also closely involved in WEF's development of position papers on a number of topical areas where WEF felt the CWA could and should be modified at the time of its 25th anniversary. During this same time-frame, Libby often traveled to the Washington, D.C., area for water-related government relations events such as conducting tours of wastewater and water quality facilities as an educational outreach to Congress and Congressional staff. Libby remains very active with the WEF.

SCOTT TURNER
Partner
Energy and environment

Scott chairs NP's Energy and Environmental practice group and concentrates in energy and environmental law. Scott has worked with clients and the Army Corps of Engineers on numerous issues in connection with energy and development projects. For example, he represented an energy client in obtaining its California Energy Commission certification and PSD permit for a 500 MW gas-fired merchant power plant in northern California and led the successful defense of that PSD permit before the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board. Scott also works with the NP Government Relations team to resolve client issues involving government entities.



STEPHEN J. WALLACE

Partner, Leader NP affordable housing group
Affordable housing, government relations, real estate, and economic development

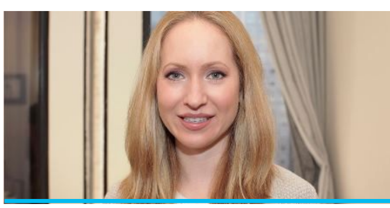
Steve is the leader of the firm's Affordable Housing practice and one of the nation's foremost authorities on the preservation of government-assisted housing. He has been closely involved in the legislative and regulatory development of the various federal housing programs over the past 25 years. For example, Steve was part of the successful effort to have HUD approve post-rehab rents effective at loan closing for certain types of financing.

As a former Senate staffer, working for Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Steve is part of our government relations team and maintains contacts in Congress and with government agencies. As a result of his experience and the focus of the Affordable Housing group, Steve also works regularly with the core members of our Government Relations team to solve client issues, which range from the legislative to the administrative.

HON. JAMES E. VALLEE

Partner (effective 2/1/15)
Health and human services

Jim draws on 18 years in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, where he served as majority leader, as a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, and, mostly recently, as house chairman of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. In addition, Jim is currently serving as an Army lieutenant colonel in the Massachusetts National Guard. Like other members of our Government Relations team, Jim's combined service as a state legislator and in the military helps Jim's clients to deepen their understanding of public policy to help them make good, strategic business decisions. Jim provides the Government Relations team with guidance related to local government and Department of Defense issues.



RACHEL FISCHETTI

Associate

Rachel leverages a wide-range of skills from traditional labor law, employment law, intellectual property law, and internet law to help clients navigate the modern workplace. In addition, she also brings her years of experience as national finance director for Nancy Pelosi for Congress to the NP Government Relations team. Nixon Peabody professionals have extensive government relations as well as subject matter experience in areas of significant concern to the City, including affordable housing, economic development, and transportation and infrastructure. In some instances this experience was legal and in others it was directly related to policy formulation. In all cases, Nixon Peabody professionals work as a collaborative team to share information and problem solving in a way that meets clients' needs in a cost-effective manner.

Our approach

Our first step in working with the City is the development of a strategic plan designed to identify and prioritize the City's issues and achieve its goals. This will include efforts to maintain current federal funding for existing and proposed projects, as well as to identify and achieve additional federal funding opportunities and to influence proposed federal legislation and federal regulatory policies that could affect the City's objectives, operations, and plans.

Possible policy changes that could affect the City include: the next reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act, which expires on May 15, 2015; comprehensive tax reform that could affect municipal bonds, but also provide for new transportation funding; changes to programs that would affect economic development, affordable housing, federal flood insurance issues, and disaster assistance programs; as well as the annual appropriations bills that fund the federal government's operations and offer opportunities to affect federal policies.

Our service goes beyond the traditional reactive government relations policy program where your government relations team waits for a client's direction. We lean forward into the future, together with our clients, to see and prepare for what's ahead. In the government relations context, we apply this so that we are approaching you with ideas, rather than waiting for you to come to us with issues to resolve.

For example, we expect a number of bills to be introduced relating to infrastructure. Nevertheless, we do not anticipate many of them passing until Congress and the President are able to reach some consensus on a funding mechanism to supplement the gas tax. While there is support among some stakeholders for an increase in the federal gas tax, we believe any increases in fuel taxes are much more likely at the state level. At the federal level, we anticipate tax reform as being a potential mechanism to provide new funding sources for infrastructure proposals.

We continue to a revise our views and we accomplish this by having and continuing to develop relationships with key members of Congress and congressional staff, particularly members and staff of the authorizing and appropriations committees, as well as executive branch personnel who oversee and execute programs. This pro-active approach increases the likelihood of achieving our clients' goals by influencing new or reauthorized programs.

Our Government Relations and Public Policy team will serve as the lead in congressional and agency outreach, fully backed by the experience, knowledge, and judgment of this cross-disciplinary team of attorneys and related professionals. This combination of experience helps to ensure that the City's positions and message are designed strategically with both the policymaker and regulator in mind.

For the first time since 2009, both the House and Senate will begin the new Congress (the 114th) with one-party control of the two chambers. While the branches of government (legislative and executive) remain split, we expect that the unified control of Congress will result in increased coordination and legislative output, at least in terms of the number of bills that pass the Congress, though not necessarily get signed into law. We also expect President Obama may increase his use of the veto pen.

Speaker of the House John Boehner and incoming Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell stated that both chambers, among other things, will focus on passing legislation to increase energy production, decrease federal spending, revise and eliminate existing laws (including the Affordable Care Act) and regulations, and review and overhaul the tax code.

In addition, both leaders have stated an interest in greater use of the committee process, which should provide more opportunities for members to offer amendments to legislation and attach legislation to other bills moving through the legislative process. If this process is adhered to, it will offer opportunities to offer solutions to issues as well as using the appropriations process to direct money to projects and areas of importance to the City.

If selected, the NP Government Relations team would:

- Work with the City to develop a government relations strategic plan, which would identify and prioritize the City's federal government issues and funding needs and develop the plan to achieve the City's goals in the following areas: transportation, health and human services, climate change mitigation funding, economic development programmatic funding, and a review of pending grant and other federal funding requests, and any other areas the City identifies.

- Review the City's current and potential future federal funding, including grants and other financing available to the City, to develop a Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats analysis vis-à-vis existing City projects that are already funded, those pending short-term funding, and those awaiting future reauthorization of such programs that provide the funding and financing that meet the City's needs.

- Work with the City to develop a system for notification for various departments regarding federal grant opportunities and information about other programmatic funding. Please see Tab 16 for a recent Grant Digest, which we make available directly to clients and as a complimentary offering on our website. In the case of the City, we will tailor specific grant requests to the City's areas of interest.

- Maintain contact with Members and staff of the Florida congressional delegation and key congressional Members and staff, on behalf of the City, as well as maintain and develop relationships with relevant federal regulatory agencies.

- Provide the City with strategic policy advice as Congress formulates legislation regarding identified issues, including the surface transportation bill reauthorization, the Water Resources Development Act, comprehensive tax reform, housing reforms—including those affecting Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, flood insurance issues—including any additional changes to the National Flood Insurance Program, as well other federal legislative issues the City identifies.

- Organize and schedule congressional meetings with Members and staff of the Florida delegation, as well as key Members and staff on relevant committees as well as leadership staff, as necessary, and key agency personnel at relevant executive branch departments and agencies, as well as independent agencies.

- Maintain communications with Members and staff of the Florida delegation and develop a tailored plan for each audience. With our decades of government experience as key Members and staff on relevant committees, as well as leadership staff, we know how to effectively communicate with each of these audiences.

- Work with the City to develop and maintain a regular communication strategy between Nixon Peabody and the City to discuss progress and issues with the City's relevant staff to ensure the implementation of the strategic plan. An example of such communications can be found in our attached "Washington Update". We will also provide the City with

Washington updates via our Client Alerts, blogs, and similar publications. See examples included in Tab 16.

- Work with the City to maintain relationships and coordinate with other interested groups like members of the "Big 7," other Florida municipal and state agencies, as well as other groups with shared interests.

- Additional services—on an as-needed basis, review and/or write up to four grant requests during the term of the contract per the additional terms and fees.

TAB 7: BUSINESS LICENSES

2014 LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT
FEE IS $25.00! REPORT DUE BY MAY 1, 2014

SECRETARY OF STATE — FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE — DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS

FILED
14 APR 15 AM 10: 46
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

REGISTRATION # LLP050003753

1. Name and Mailing Address

NIXON PEABODY LLP

1300 CLINTON SQUARE
ROCHESTER, NY 14604

If above mailing address is incorrect in any way, line through incorrect information and enter correction in Block 2.

LLP #

LLP140002166-9
04/15/14--01024--004 **25.00

CR2E029 (2/10)

2. New Mailing Address, If Applicable:

Suite, Apt#, etc.

City | State | Zip Code

3. Principal Place of Business Address

1300 CLINTON SQUARE
ROCHESTER, NY 14604

4. New Principal Office Address, If Applicable:

Suite, Apt#, etc.

City | State | Zip Code

5. Federal Employee Identification Number

16-0764720

☐ Applied For
☐ Not Applicable

6. Certificate of Status Desired:

☐ $8.75 Additional Fee Required

7. Name and Address of Registered Agent

CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY
1201 HAYS STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

8. New Name and/or Address of Registered Agent:

Name

Street Address (P.O. Box Number Is Not Acceptable)

FL

City | Zip Code

9. New Registered Agent's Signature, If Changed
The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.

SIGNATURE: ____________________
SIGNATURE, TYPED OR PRINTED NAME OF REGISTERED AGENT AND TITLE IF APPLICABLE. — Date

10. General Partner's Signature (REQUIRED)
The execution of this report as a partner constitutes an affirmation under the penalties of perjury that the facts stated herein are true.

SIGNATURE: [signature] 04/10/14 (585) 263-1000
SIGNATURE AND TYPED OR PRINTED NAME OF SIGNING PARTNER. — Date — Daytime Phone #

E-mail Address: ____________________
(To be used for future annual report notifications)

TAB 8: EVIDENCE OF INSURANCE

Please find enclosed proof of the firm's professional liability insurance. Nixon Peabody is able to meet all of the insurance requirements stated in the RFP. If selected through this process, we will issue certificates of insurance as required.

ALAS
Attorneys'
Liability
Assurance
Society, Inc.

December 30, 2014

Nixon Peabody LLP
1300 Clinton Square
Rochester, NY 14604

To Whom It May Concern:

CONFIRMATION OF INSURANCE

We hereby confirm that Nixon Peabody LLP has Professional Liability Coverage under Policy ALA#1039 with an annual limit of $75,000,000 per claim and $150,000,000 in the aggregate with the right, under stated conditions, to purchase extended reporting rights upon termination of such Policy by ALAS.

The self-insured retention under such Policy is $1,500,000 each claim up to an aggregate of $3,000,000 and $100,000 each claim thereafter.

The Policy effective date is from January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016.

Such Policy is subject to the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions stated therein.

ATTORNEYS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE SOCIETY, INC.,
A RISK RETENTION GROUP

By: Anne M. Mahoney Date: 12/30/14

Anne M. Mahoney
Assistant Director of Underwriting

311 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 5700
Chicago, IL 60606-6629
tel 312.697.6900
fax 312.697.6901
alas.com

TAB 9: ASSESSMENT OF FORT LAUDERDALE'S NEEDS

We know that Fort Lauderdale offers the best of both worlds as a great place to live and a great place to work. NP shares in Fort Lauderdale's forward-looking approach to planning. As a firm focused on thinking ahead for our clients and helping smooth the way, we have the right mindset to help the City execute *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale: Vision Plan 2035.* After reviewing that plan, your 2015 budget, and other research, we understand the City's key initiatives as the following:

- Develop a more connected City with intermodal, sustainable transportation
- Rise to the challenges and opportunities created by Fort Lauderdale's waterways and beaches
- Invest in infrastructure for improved quality of life and public safety
- Encourage redevelopment that protects history and builds on the unique identities of the City's neighborhoods
- Maintain and invest in cultural and civic treasures
- Establish the city as a world-class international business center
- Be the "urban laboratory" for education and business

From the development of strategic planning to representation before the executive branch and U.S. Congress, our professionals provide the full range of services necessary to help the City achieve its goals in all of these areas. We stay ahead of legislative and regulatory challenges and issues, and we work to turn this information into opportunities, by solving business problems with policy solutions arrived at through extensive legal knowledge and strategic relationships, handling difficult issues that others can't. In addition, our professionals look for innovative ways to communicate with our clients and our communities on issues of policy and law.

Our government relations professionals, together with attorneys throughout the firm, have extensive experience with the key issues that matter to the County.

Transportation and infrastructure

NP professionals have experience with a range of transit issues, from dealing with the relevant congressional committees, including the appropriations committees when Congress is designing and funding transportation programs, to providing strategic counsel for large transit-oriented and infrastructure projects, including the financing of mass transit, bridges and tunnels, toll roads, ports, and airports.

As you may know, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act, is now operating on a short-term extension and is set to expire May 31, 2015. The Congressional committees are likely to begin the reauthorization process sometime this Congress. NP professionals are positioned to assist the City in understanding the process and focusing its efforts as Congress drafts this legislation. While a reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act is required, the fact that the highway trust fund (HTF) is a fixed revenue source remains a significant challenge that will require consistent monitoring and work with the relevant committees. As noted above, many proposals for infrastructure investment are likely, however, the key will remain finding a suitable revenue supplement to the HTF. We expect that some additional short-term extensions will continue the program, as Congress works to address the broader funding issues, perhaps as part of some tax reform. Your NP team will maintain these relationships with the relevant Members and staff and continue to communicate information and recommend adjustments to the City's strategic plan based on the updated information.

NP is proud to have been involved with some of the most notable and innovative projects in the country relating to transit and transportation development, including two of the largest full funding grant agreements in the country, which brought the Long Island Rail Road into Grand Central Station. Our professionals also have experience with the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program and Federal Railroad Administration financings. We have assisted clients in the use of Build America Bonds, and the first public-private partnership (3P) toll road, the first HOT lanes project, the first transportation Private Activity Bonds, and the first refinancing under SAFETEA-LU.

Community and economic development

Your NP team members have worked throughout their careers, both in and out of public service, to develop relationships and achieve results in economic and workforce development. They understand that workforce and economic development are often flip sides of the same coin, one that when combined means greater economic growth and better job opportunities in a community. Our professionals have worked with Congressional committees, like the Senate HELP and House Education and Workforce committees as well as with the U.S. Departments of Labor and Commerce, including the Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration.

Nixon Peabody was also engaged by New York City in obtaining federal relief funding in the wake of Hurricane/Superstorm Sandy. The firm's Government Relations team, the same team that will work for the City, succeeded in helping to ensure that the legislation was passed into law. Moreover, through their efforts, the NP team worked with other stakeholders to ensure that $16 billion in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding was included in the final legislation passed to assist in the rebuilding efforts after this natural disaster.

NP legal professionals also have broad experience working with our municipal clients on brownfields initiatives to return contaminated, under-performing property to productive use—quickly and with a minimum of transaction costs while ensuring environmental and public health protection. It is our ability to guide our clients to be accepted into the Brownfield Cleanup Program, enter into an acceptable Brownfield Cleanup Agreement, and move through the remedial and redevelopment process swiftly. In addition, our environmental attorneys regularly work with a broad spectrum of brownfield development players, including lenders, redevelopers, environmental financial fund shareholders, economic and industrial development agencies and taxing authorities, and public and private corporations. As with other areas of expertise, our government relations team can call on this experience to assist the City in developing and implementing its goals in redevelopment.

Environment and sustainability

Your NP team members maintain relationships with key congressional members and committee staff on committees in both chambers, such as the Senate committees on the Environment and Public Works, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as well as the appropriations committees in both chambers. Our government relations professionals as Members, staffers, and lobbyists have extensive experience addressing environmental and water quality issues. We have been involved in and advocated on behalf of clients and constituents during consideration of the latest and prior Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA). As Legislative Director to Senator Voinovich, then a senior member of the relevant Senate committee, Doug worked to ensure a smooth process with committee staff and local needs. He will bring this experience in working with the relevant Congressional committees to bear for the City.

Moreover, we continue to work with clients developing post-WRDA strategies for possible financing mechanisms such at the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) as well as federal grant programs administered via agencies such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Moreover, Nixon Peabody's Government Relations team will enjoy the backing of our transportation and infrastructure legal professionals who have extensive experience in the existing Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program. The WIFIA program is modeled on this TIFIA program and our combination of policy experience combined with the practical experience of participating in the existing TIFIA program provides value added experiences to anticipate issues that may affect the City if it is interested in this program.

Climate change affects real estate, water supplies, agriculture, infrastructure and transportation systems, the natural environment, and our health and safety. Small changes in the average temperature of our oceans and atmosphere translate to large and potentially dangerous consequences for the future, particularly in coastal areas such as Fort Lauderdale. Our cross-disciplinary team of professionals covers all aspects—from carbon trading to the ramifications of sea level rise that extend far beyond the traditional realm of environmental corporate, and business issues. We have a deep passion for our clients' businesses, thinking creatively, anticipating adaptation, resiliency, sea level rise, and water management concerns.

We guide our clients through a climate of constantly evolving legislation and regulations, and have relationships with congressional members and staff of the relevant committees and agencies, as noted above, and we combine this significant experience with professionals who are well versed in the approval, permitting, and licensing processes that renewable energy projects require at the local, state, and federal levels. We also work with clients in areas such as sustainable infrastructure, tax credits, clean-tech, green building design, construction, leasing, reporting and disclosure, sustainable supply chains, validation of green claims, and renewable energy project development and finance. Our clients include municipalities, public power entities and cooperatives, universities, electric and gas utilities, independent power producers, renewable energy developers, and investors.

Public safety

Doug Dziak, spent three years as General Counsel on the staff of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. As a result, he has bipartisan relationships with relevant committees, as well as with the various agencies that make up the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the relevant appropriations committee staff. As an HSGAC staffer, Doug has experience dealing with the DHS programs that may be of interest, including the Assistance to Firefighters and preparedness grants programs.

Affordable housing

NP has one of the largest Affordable Housing groups in the country and we offer unparalleled knowledge and experience in this field. Our professionals have worked in policy and legal positions in Congress, at HUD, the IRS, and in state housing agencies. Our professionals have been involved with every major federal affordable housing initiative in the last 40 years. This experience—coupled with the key strategic relationships we have and continue to forge, both within the relevant agencies and with interested members of Congress—gives our clients an advantage in understanding not only where these programs have been, but where they are likely to go.

For example, NP professionals have worked collaboratively with clients, HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing and Office of Multifamily Housing, as well as local housing authorities to implement HUD's new rental assistance demonstration program successfully. Nixon Peabody also helped pioneer the effective conversion of tenant-based assistance to project-based assistance in the years prior to the introduction of the RAD program. We have also been deeply involved in efforts related to supporting the low-income housing tax credit and federal historic tax credit as Congress begins to consider comprehensive tax reform.

Health and human services

Our cross-disciplinary team tracks the trends that impact delivery, cost, access, and quality of health care. We specialize in government programs for affordable care and health care delivery, as well as corporate organization, emerging payment programs, managed care models, and a vast array of other emerging issues. NP's professionals have relationships with staffers from the Department of Health and Human Services (including the National Institutes of Health, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). We help clients address the significant challenges posed by health care reform since the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) more than two years ago.

TAB 10: RESOURCES

Doug Dziak will serve as the City's primary point of contact for our proposed lobbying services and any related grant work. Doug will ensure the City's receives quality and responsive service, and will lead our core team that includes our core team members of Tom Reynolds and Sally Vastola (background on our team is included in Tab 6). In addition to the core team, we have a number of colleagues who can assist us with specific tasks and issues.

We take an attitude that no problem is too big and no problem is too small in serving our clients. We do not spread ourselves thin, and we take pride on making every client feel like they are our o*nly* client. While many firms may overpromise and under-deliver, our focus is on a collaborative approach that will help the City design an ambitious, but achievable action plan. Our results, both in public service and as government relations professionals, speak to our ability to get things done.

Our lobbying team is also backed by the firm's 600+ attorneys, a number of whom also lobby federal state and local government, to form a team with one goal—solving our clients' issues. The City's government relations team will be supported by Nixon Peabody attorneys and other professionals, including former congressional staff and professionals who have held senior positions in the departments and agencies as well as in state agencies and legislatures.

TAB 11: ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Our Government Relations team is backed by the resources of a full-service, 600+ attorney law firm that can provide a broad range of legal services to the City. Several of our practice groups regularly represent municipalities. Those groups are highlighted in the following section. Should the City be interested in engaging Nixon Peabody in any of these or other areas, we would discuss a discounted hourly fee schedule similar to arrangements we have in place with other municipal clients.

Public finance

Nixon Peabody is a nationally recognized bond counsel firm with more than 30 years of experience in all areas of public finance. Our Public Finance practice is one of the largest in the nation with more than 35 bond and tax attorneys. The diverse backgrounds of our public finance attorneys and the commitment to teamwork and client service have earned Nixon Peabody recognition as one of the foremost public finance law firms in the country.

The firm consistently ranks among the top ten bond counsel, disclosure counsel, and underwriter's counsel firms in the country. For the first three quarters of 2014, Thomson Reuters ranked Nixon Peabody's Public Finance group as:

- 7th most active bond counsel in the nation with 47 transactions totaling $6.0 billion
- 3rd most active underwriter's counsel in the nation with 44 transactions totaling $7.3 billion
- 10th most active disclosure counsel in the nation with 23 transactions totaling $2.2 billion

Our work on public finance transactions has received national recognition:

- Underwriter's Counsel for Citi on Smith's Research & Gradings's 2013 "High Yield Deal of the Year," a project financing for a $1.8 billion nitrogen-based fertilizer production plant owned by Iowa Fertilizer Company LLC and located in Lee County, Iowa
- Underwriters' Counsel on two finalists for *The Bond Buyer's* 2012 Deal of the Year award
- Bond Counsel for *The Bond Buyer's* 2011 Deal of the Year, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts $1 billion Accelerated Bridge Program
- Bond Counsel on Smith's Research & Gradings's 2011 All Star Deal of the Year, the $1.5 billion Railsplitter Tobacco Settlement Authority Tobacco Settlement Revenue Bonds, Series 2010
- Underwriters' counsel on *The Bond Buyer's* 2009 Deal of the Year, the $963.3 million Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Dulles Toll Road Revenue Bonds, Series 2009 (Dulles Metrorail and Capital Improvements Projects)
- TIFIA counsel on *The Bond Buyer's* 2008 Non-Traditional Innovative Financing Deal of the Year, Capital Beltway

Our public finance attorneys have experience with all of the varied securities and structures prevalent in the public finance marketplace. We also assist state and local governmental officials, other issuers, investment bankers, and other public finance professionals with developing and implementing concepts and programs to deal with governmental needs effectively and to meet the changing demands of the financial markets. Attorneys in the group are experienced with drafting and assisting the legislative presentation of constitutional amendments and statutes. The group's tax attorneys have been called upon frequently to analyze the tax aspects of new financing techniques and often provide refinements that not only bring the techniques into compliance with federal tax law but make them more attractive to the market.

Affordable Housing

For more than 40 years, NP's Affordable Housing professionals have led the industry and have been involved in the development of every major federal housing law during that time. The team has handled a broad spectrum of federal housing regulatory and enforcement cases, developing significant experience and relationships with federal and local governmental agencies and housing authorities, private developers, and affordable housing property owners.

NP's comprehensive understanding of the issues and our close collaboration with the firm's Real Estate and Tax Credit Finance & Syndication groups enable its attorneys to provide astute legal counsel in all areas related to federally assisted housing. Professionals in the Affordable Housing group work with:

- Local housing authorities
- State housing finance agencies
- Other public bodies
- Developers of government-financed and -assisted multifamily projects
- Financiers and equity syndicators of these projects
- Management agents

Tax Credit Finance & Syndication

Nixon Peabody has had a practice group, the Tax Credit Finance & Syndication group, dedicated to tax credit finance since these forms of incentives were created. With more than 50 attorneys and legal assistants, it is the largest such group in the industry. Our team works closely with other practice groups such as real estate, affordable housing, bankruptcy, and litigation in a service-oriented approach that provides efficient, creative solutions to a broad range of clients in the affordable housing, economic development, and renewable energy areas.

We represent all types of participants in transactions involving tax credits:

- Public agencies
- Housing credit syndicators
- Direct investors
- For-profit and nonprofit developers
- Trade associations
- Affordable-housing lenders
- Asset management firms
- Developers
- Colleges and universities

The key programs we use to help our clients:

- **New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC)**—Ours is one of the most active law firms in the NMTC sector—we have been involved with the program since its inception in 2000, and closed one of the first transactions ever under the program. Our attorneys have a thorough understanding of the legal, tax, and business concerns of those seeking to earn NMTCs, including financial institutions. We have participated in transactions that have involved the tax, legal, and/or financial departments of a very broad range of clients, from small businesses (QALICBs) seeking funding to dozens of Community Development Entities (CDEs) to many FORTUNE 100 corporations in connection with direct and secondary investments generating tax credits.

- **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)**—The attorneys in our Tax Credit Finance & Syndication group are among the nation's foremost legal authorities on transactions involving the federal low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC). We have been involved with the LIHTC program since its inception, and were involved with the legislative efforts that led to its creation. We have contributed to every major federal housing program since 1970. Most housing developments that use the low-income housing tax credit also use other forms of federal assistance and therefore must interface with a number of public agencies. We navigate these often complex relationships with assistance from attorneys in the firm's Affordable Housing and Public Finance practices who are leading practitioners in their fields.

- **Federal Historic Tax Credit (HTC)**—Nixon Peabody's attorneys have extensive experience in transactions involving the historic tax credit. We have structured, documented, negotiated, and closed numerous transactions involving the credit for both investors and developers. In some instances, we have combined historic tax credits with low-income housing tax credits, as well as with federal new markets tax credits and a wide variety of state tax credits.

- **Energy Tax Credits**—As one of the nation's preeminent law firms in structuring and closing investments in energy tax credit transactions, our attorneys understand the complexities of the energy production tax credit, the energy investment tax credit, and the cash grant in lieu thereof. Nixon Peabody has become a leader in helping clients leverage available resources to structure the renewable energy tax credits into their project financing.

Investment funds

We have one of the leading investor-side investment funds practices in the country, with a tremendous depth of experience representing state and institutional investors. Some representative clients for whom we are acting in a similar capacity include, by way of example, the New York State Common Retirement Fund, the Department of the Treasury of the State of New Jersey, the Indiana Public Retirement System, the Oregon Public Employees Retirement Fund, the New York State Teacher's Retirement System, the Comptroller of the City of New York, Horsley Bridge Partners, Credit Suisse Securities (USA), Top Tier Capital Partners, Northleaf Capital Partners, and Hamilton Lane Advisors.

In a recently released Dow Jones Private Equity Analyst survey of leading law firms, Nixon Peabody ranked fourth in the nation in the number of private equity and venture capital funds negotiated or structured on behalf of general and limited partners (332 fund transactions, primarily on the investor side).

In the most recent edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* (an independent client–survey–driven selection process), our Investment Funds practice received a national award for professional excellence. John Koeppel, our proposed lead for the New Mexico ERB proposal, was recognized for excellence in the area of Investment Funds in the 2014 edition of *Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business* (and in prior editions). Chambers Global covers more than 180 countries and ranks individual lawyers worldwide and by regions. In addition, NP partner John Beals was also recognized for excellence in the area of Investment Funds in the 2013 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* (and in prior editions). Also, several practitioners in our funds area have been selected to serve on the editorial boards of leading industry publications, been invited to speak at leading conferences (including ILPA events), and frequently author various articles and alerts on current legal topics and trends.

We work closely with our clients to review and negotiate limited partnership agreements and related documents from an integrated business and legal perspective. Our goal is to provide maximum legal protection for our clients, align the financial interests of limited partners and general partners, and enhance returns. We see our role as more than representing our clients in transactions—we strive to be extensions of our clients in all of our dealings on their behalf.

TAB 12: CLIENT REFERENCES

Lisa Damiani
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Vice President, External Affairs
Elm & Carlton Streets
Buffalo, New York 14263
Phone: 716-845-3079
Dates of service: 2009 to present

Colleen Fisher
Executive Director
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
1112 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: 703-837-9001
Dates of service: 2005 to present

Howard Wolfson
Building America's Future/New York City
Former Deputy Mayor of New York City under Mayor Bloomberg, presently
Senior Advisor on Politics and Communications to Michael Bloomberg
Bloomberg LP
Bloomberg Tower
731 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10022
Phone: 212-318-2000
Dates of service: October 2012 to December 2013

TAB 13: SUCCESSES

Describe 5 major successes your firm has had for clients in the past 5 years (ex. Legislation drafted/advocated for, earmarks/grants received, etc.).

Building America's Future/New York City

Nixon Peabody was engaged by Building America's Future to assist New York City in obtaining federal relief funding in the wake of natural disaster Hurricane Sandy. The firm's Government Relations team was successful in helping to ensure that the legislation was passed into law, with the needed economic development monies, including over $16 billion in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

When the Hurricane Sandy relief legislation was being drafted, New York City was concerned that the legislation would first send the CDBG monies to the governors for disbursement, rather than directly to the affected cities, via the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Moreover, there was significant concern among some House members about the level of CDBG funding, with some, particularly outside groups, telling Members it was nothing more than a slush fund for cities.

Nixon Peabody, working with House and Senate offices, as well as the relevant committees, including advocates, crafted language to ensure that the U.S. HUD Secretary dispersed the CDBG monies directly to affected cities. In addition, despite some efforts to significantly reduce the amount of funding for the CDBG allocation, the Hurricane Sandy relief legislation included $16 billion in CDBG funding.

The Hurricane Sandy Relief Bill was passed by Congress and was signed into law by President Obama in January 2013.

Council for Affordable and Rural Housing (CARH)

Our Government Relations team—Tom Reynolds, Doug Dziak, and Sally Vastola, working with Richard Price—was instrumental in maintaining and expanding the USDA Section 538 multifamily loan guarantee program in 2011 after it was slated for elimination. Working with our client, CARH, the program was recast as fee driven and adopted by USDA, who had proposed and worked hard to eliminate the program. In 2013, the program was expanded to $150 million in guarantee authorizations. More recently, working with CARH, we helped educate Congress to overcome administration efforts to cut $200 million from the Section 521 Rental Assistance program at the expense of poor and elderly residents, and helped expand the budget from $838 million effective in FY 2013 to $1.11 billion FY 2014.

Our work with CARH is representative of the collaborative nature and interaction between our Government Relations team and our legal professionals. Richard Price acts as general counsel to CARH, and we work regularly with CARH's senior leadership and our legal professionals to achieve the client's goals.

Monroe County (New York) Water Authority

Since 2011 we have represented the Monroe County Water Authority (MCWA), a nonprofit public benefit corporation that reliably provides quality, affordable water to the Monroe County, New York, area. We have continued to work with them advocating for the passage of the reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act, and successfully worked with the relevant Congressional committees and other outside advocates to convince the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to amend its rules requiring customers receive an annual paper mailing regarding a covered water authority's water quality. The EPA's change accomplished the goals of H.R. 1340, the End Unnecessary Costs Caused by Report Mailing Act.

JOBS Act Coalition

We represented a coalition of companies advocating for passage of the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act (JOBS Act). The JOBS Act is designed to encourage funding of United States' businesses by updating various securities regulations.

Despite 2012 being an election year, notoriously a period when little legislation is passed outside of the so-called "must-pass" bills to fund the government, working with a few other outside groups, as well as our coalition, NP was one of a very small number of outside government relations firms that helped to advocate for the passage of the JOBS Act. Most other outside government relations firms dismissed the possibility of passing such legislation, yet during an election year we saw an opportunity.

After a concerted effort in both the House and Senate, as well as with the President, this bipartisan legislation was signed into law by President Obama on April 5, 2012. The passing of the JOBS Act surprised many congressional observers and NP's participation and effort were noted in a popular Washington news publication. And even the bill opponents noted an interest during the debate on the floor in helping to solve our clients' issues.

Niagara County

We are leading efforts with federal, state, and county officials to save the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard Units at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS) that could occur under the next Base Realignment and Closure commission. During the last BRAC, our team was responsible for drafting the final compromise language that the BRAC Commission accepted to overturn closure. We worked with Senator Clinton and Representative Slaughter on continued renewed federal investment of the base. In addition, we have currently assembled a team of specialized BRAC and retired military consultants providing services to NFARS for the purpose of conducting a Future Mission Study for NFARS.

Additional representative experience:

- Health Care—We counsel Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI) on numerous state funding issues and also provide strategic advice on other non-budget initiatives. In 2012, the value of the budget items totaled approximately $100 million. RPCI is America's first cancer center, founded in 1898 by Dr. Roswell Park and is among a handful of cancer hospitals nationwide to hold the National Cancer Institute designation of "comprehensive cancer center" and to serve as a member of the prestigious National Comprehensive Cancer Network.

- Transportation and infrastructure—We advised the U.S. Department of Transportation regarding a $1.5 billion TIFIA loan to the New York State Thruway Authority for the Tappan Zee Bridge project. This loan will be the largest made to date under the TIFIA program and will be the first to implement the new TIFIA loan provisions.

- Sallie Mae (now known as Navient)—We have been engaged by Sallie Mae, the nation's number one financial services company specializing in education, managing or servicing $235 billion in education loans and administering $35 billion in 529 college savings plans.

Our services to the company include advising the Sallie Mae government team regarding legislative and regulatory policies in Congress.

- National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)—NEDA is the leading nonprofit organization in the United States advocating on behalf of and supporting individuals and families affected by eating disorders. Working with NEDA's professional staff, NP has campaigned in Congress for increased attention and legislation for eating disorder prevention, improved access to quality treatment, and increased research funding to better understand and treat eating disorders.

- Western University of Health Sciences—WesternU faced a significant issue with the U.S. Department of Education (DoEd). WesternU was unable to solve the issue, and, as a result, NP's Government Relations team was retained. As part of our successful outreach efforts, which included contacting several members of the California and Oregon delegations to advocate for WesternU, as well as working with the DoEd at the regional and national offices, we successfully resolved WesternU's issues while maintaining good relationships with DoEd personnel.

TAB 14: RELATIONSHIPS, RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES

We have the technical and regulatory intelligence that comes from lifetimes spent in public service and the insight that comes from staffers in both houses of Congress and on both sides of the aisle, including, but not limited to, the:

- U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions
- U.S. House of Representatives' Energy and Commerce Committee
- U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
- U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure
- U.S. Senate Commerce Committee
- U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee
- United States Senate and House Appropriations Committees
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (including the National Institutes of Health, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- U.S. Economic Development Agency
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of Commerce

Our team maintains relationships with both Senators and Members of the House, including members of the Florida delegation, and their staffs. With decades of combined Congressional and public policy experience, our team knows the key to success in Washington is building and maintaining bipartisan relationships with key Members and staff in both the legislative and executive branches.

Both Tom Reynolds and Sally Vastola with their families maintain active second home residences in Florida in the Sarasota-Bradenton area. Each is familiar with the state and its communities and has worked closely with many in the federal Florida delegation. A former Chief of Staff to Congressman Reynolds served as CEO of the Everglades Foundation until recently, providing valuable insight on the needs and challenges of the Everglades.

TAB 15: LOCAL PREFERENCE ORDINANCE DOCUMENTATION

Nixon Peabody is not a local business.

TAB 16: ADDITIONAL ATTACHMENTS

NP

McCutcheon v. FEC: The end of campaign finance law? A victory for the First Amendment? Or something in between?

By Douglas Dziak

Last Wednesday, in *McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission*, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the biennial cap on the total amount any individual can contribute to federal candidates, national parties and committees in a two-year election cycle.

This ruling follows the Court's 2010 decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, which struck down the prohibitions on unions and corporations from using treasury funds to engage in independent expenditures. Both decisions focused on the First Amendment burdens on speech and expression resulting from the existing campaign finance law and regulations. Like *Citizens United*, *McCutcheon* was a 5–4 decision.

The case has already resulted in numerous passionate responses, including both the concurring opinion of Justice Thomas, who would have overruled the Court's landmark decision in *Buckley v. Valeo*, and Justice Breyer's dissent, which argued that this decision will open the door for significant circumvention of the existing contribution limits.

Supporters of the current campaign finance system have expressed concerns that this decision is a part of a continued erosion of the existing campaign finance system that will eventually result in the reversal of *Buckley* and its base limits. Despite such concerns, no other Justice joined Justice Thomas' concurring opinion, which supported overruling *Buckley* and its base campaign restrictions. Thus, the existing direct base contribution limits survive, for now, though some of the Court's language suggested the levels and limits on party committee limits may be open to additional scrutiny.

The practical significance of the decision is likely to be more limited, at least at the federal level. Under existing campaign finance restrictions, an individual could have contributed up to $123,200 to candidate and non-candidate committees over the course of a two-year election cycle. In addition, an individual was limited to a maximum aggregate contribution limit of $48,600 to federal candidates, and $74,600 to PACs and party committees, including no more than $48,600 to state and local parties or PACs. Post-*McCutcheon*, individual donors are no longer constrained by the $123,200 limit.

For now, the decision is likely to result in more maximum donors to the Democratic and Republican political committees, as large donors are no longer subject to biennial limits. In addition, individual donors can now expand the number of individual campaigns they support. Still, as the Court noted several times, it is unlikely that individual donors will use this decision to attempt to fund a single campaign and avoid the still existing circumvention and earmarking provisions in campaign finance. The Court pointed out, in the post-*Citizens United* environment, it is more likely that larger contributors would decide to undertake independent expenditures rather than spend the time and effort to circumvent the existing dollar contribution limits.

There are also state consequences. Eight of the 38 states impose base limits on contributions as well as aggregate limits, like the limits challenged in *McCutcheon*. It is worth watching to see how the states will implement the *McCutcheon* decision into state campaign finance laws. For example, on the day of the ruling, the Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance released a statement that it would no longer enforce the Commonwealth's aggregate limits of $12,500 in donations to state candidates.

For more information on the content of this alert, please contact your Nixon Peabody attorney or:

— Douglas Dziak at **ddziak@nixonpeabody.com** or 202-585-8180

NOW + NEXT

JUNE 16, 2014

NP

Changes to SEC Rule 701 under the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act: What you need to know

By Douglas Dziak

Recently, the House Financial Services Committee (HFSC) passed a series of bills, 11 in total, that are focused on capital formation and financial regulatory reforms. More information about these bills can be found here: http://financialservices.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=380887.

One of the bills included in this package is important to companies who provide stock-based compensation to employees and consultants. Specifically, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act (EEOA) of 2014 (H.R. 4571) was approved by a vote of 36–23. The EEOA would revise the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Rule 701 threshold for providing certain disclosures for compensatory stock programs to $20 million and adjust it for inflation every five years.

So what is SEC Rule 701 and why should my company care?

In a nutshell, SEC Rule 701 provides an exemption from SEC registration requirements for private companies, private subsidiaries of public companies and foreign private issuers with broad-based employee stock programs to offer their own securities, including stock options, restricted stock and stock purchase plan interests, as part of written compensation plans or agreements, to employees, directors, officers, general partners and certain consultants and advisors.

Under the current rule, if the aggregate sales price or amount of securities sold exceeds $5 million in any consecutive 12-month period, then the company must provide specific written disclosures to investors a reasonable period of time before the date of sale (including a copy of the summary plan description under ERISA or, if the plan is not subject to ERISA, a summary of the material terms of the plan; information about the risks associated with investment in the company's securities; and financial statements meeting the requirements of SEC Regulation A as of a date no more than 180 days before the date of the sale). The issuer would also need to comply with the SEC's antifraud rules.

Specific disclosures about the issuer (including detailed financial statements as of a date no more than 180 days before the sale) are not required if the aggregate sale price or amount of securities sold during any consecutive 12-month period does not exceed $5 million.

Why are companies concerned about making these disclosures anyway?

Many privately-held companies cite a significant reluctance to provide the requisite detailed financial information if the $5 million threshold were exceeded out of concern that such information may be obtained by competitors. These concerns were raised in the SEC's 1999 rulemaking, in which the SEC eliminated the original $5 million cap for such offerings, creating the current bifurcated system of disclosure and non-disclosure. In that rulemaking, the SEC stated that it had seen no abuse of Rule 701 for offerings below the $5 million threshold. Nevertheless, the SEC had concerns about not imposing some disclosure requirements for offerings above that threshold out of a fear that some companies could engage in very large stock sales without providing any written disclosures. The $5 million threshold has not been adjusted for inflation since the original 1999 rulemaking.

The SEC will investigate situations in which a company fails to provide the requisite Rule 701 disclosures. Such an investigation may occur when the company is in the process of an initial public offering. Thus, it is important for a company to ensure that it is in compliance with Rule 701 at the time the shares are sold and avoid time-consuming and costly investigations later. In particular, a company cannot withhold the required disclosures even if the company has significant confidentiality concerns. Consequently, some privately-held companies limit the size of their annual stock grant programs so that they do not exceed the $5 million threshold.

Mr. Hultgren's bill, which received bipartisan support, attempts to address the SEC's original concerns about limitless offerings under the exemption, by keeping a disclosure threshold, while addressing concerns that the existing $5 million disclosure threshold has become outdated, by raising the disclosure threshold to $20 million. This new threshold would allow companies to increase their compensatory offerings before being required to make the specific disclosures that cause so much concern. Moreover, the Hultgren bill includes an inflation adjustment so that Rule 701 keeps current in terms of its disclosure thresholds.

The next step in the legislative process is for the EEOA to move to the House floor for consideration, either independently or as a part of a larger package of bills. Assuming the legislation, in whatever form, passes the House, it will then be sent to the Senate for consideration.

For more information on the content of this alert, please contact your Nixon Peabody attorney or:

— Douglas Dziak at **ddziak@nixonpeabody.com** or 202-585-8180

NOW + NEXT

OCTOBER 25, 2013

WEEKLY WASHINGTON UPDATE

Regulatory news

On Wednesday, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce released a report discussing the opportunities for Chinese investors in U.S. infrastructure. The report discusses the U.S. infrastructure needs in a time of tighter federal, state and local budgets, suggesting that substantial private capital will be necessary to finance the new infrastructure investments. According to the report, the infrastructure funding could include direct loans to projects, purchase of debt instruments, or participation in public-private partnerships. Established legal and regulatory frameworks make transportation public-private partnerships more suitable than in the other sectors, the report said, but water infrastructure could also be funded through P3 arrangements.

The report is available here:
http://www.uschamber.com/sites/default/files/reports/ChinaInfrastructure_Final.pdf.

Congressional news

This week, the Senate was in recess; the House was in session for two days, and then went out of session to allow members to attend the funeral of Rep. Bill Young of Florida who passed away.

Comprehensive tax reform news

On Thursday during an interview with a Nevada radio station Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid ruled out the possibility that a budget conference committee convening next week will reach a "grand bargain" that would cut entitlements, raise taxes and reduce spending.

He is quoted as saying, "We are not going to have a grand bargain in the near future." Instead, he suggested negotiators should focus on a replacement for sequestration and forget "happy talk" about a grand bargain. In earlier comments he was also dismissive of discussions of tax and entitlement reform efforts. Senator Reid suggested that he might be open to minor trimming of some Medicare or Social Security spending as part of a deal that involves tax revenue; however, a number of Republicans have stated that after the deal reached in January, new revenues are non-negotiable. If both sides stick to these positions, comprehensive tax reform efforts face a very difficult path to getting done before the 2014 elections.

In addition, House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan stated that the budget talks should focus on the narrowing goal of addressing the sequester cuts that are scheduled to kick in on January 15, rather than focus on a grand bargain.

At the same time, Rep. Dave Camp, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committees, stated he still plans to push a bill though the committee this year. Nevertheless, the House is only scheduled to be in session five more weeks before the end of the year.

Legislative update

House Passes Water Resources Bill: The House passed the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013 (H.R. 3080) on a 417–3 vote on Wednesday. The legislation authorizes water infrastructure projects of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The bill next will go to a House-Senate conference to be reconciled with the Senate-passed Water Resources Development Act of 2013 (S. 601). Of interest, the White House issued a statement of qualified support for the House bill but expressed strong opposition to the environmental review streamlining. The White House also criticized the bill for approving projects that the administration had not recommended. In contrast, the administration opposed the Senate's bill.

Member News

None

For more information on the content of this alert, please contact your regular Nixon Peabody attorney or:

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NP GRANTS DIGEST

DECEMBER 1, 2014

NP

We've reviewed the latest federal grants across a variety of departments and agencies.

PICKS FOR THE WEEK:

Housing

Department of Housing and Urban Development

No select grants this week.

Health

Department of Health and Human Services

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Adminis.

Statewide Family Network Program

The Statewide Family Network Program builds on the work of SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services which helped to establish a child and family focus in programs serving children and adolescents with mental health challenges around the country. Today, nearly every state has active family organizations dedicated to promoting systems of care that are responsive to the needs of children and adolescents with mental health challenges and their families. Although significant progress has been made, further support will ensure self-sufficient, empowered networks that will effectively participate in State and local mental health services planning and health care reform activities related to improving community-based services for children and adolescents with mental health challenges and their families. SAMHSA has demonstrated that behavioral health is essential to health, prevention works, treatment is effective, and people recover from mental and substance use disorders. Behavioral health services improve health status and reduce health care and other costs to society. Continued improvement in the delivery and financing of prevention, treatment and recovery support services provides a cost effective opportunity to advance and protect the nation's health. To continue to improve the delivery and financing of prevention, treatment and recovery support services, SAMHSA has identified eight Strategic Initiatives to focus the Agency's work on improving lives and capitalizing on emerging opportunities. The Statewide Family Network program closely aligns with SAMHSA's Recovery Support Strategic Initiative. As part of the Strategic Initiative, SAMHSA funded the Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS-TACS) to promote the widespread adoption of recovery concepts and practices throughout the United States. The BRSS-TACS will help facilitate the dissemination of information among consumer, family, and youth about health care reform initiated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. The Statewide Family Network Program grants are authorized under 520A of the Public Health Service Act, as amended. This announcement addresses Healthy People 2020 Mental Health and Mental Disorders Topic Area HP 2020-MHMD.

— **Application Deadline**: February 2, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270038

Department of Health and Human Services

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Adminis.

Statewide Consumer Network Program

The purpose of this program is to improve mental health service delivery to people with serious mental illnesses. In so doing, it seeks to enhance statewide mental health consumer-run and -controlled organizations to promote service system capacity and infrastructure development that is consumer-driven, recovery-focused and resiliency-oriented. The program goals are (1) to increase consumer participation, voice, and empowerment statewide; (2) emphasize and build consumer leadership within organizations and in the community; and (3) promote activities related to: partnership development, peer support, service needs related to gender, training and skills development, trauma-informed peer support, integrated care and wellness, and/or health reform as part of the recovery process for consumers. The Statewide Consumer Network program also seeks to address the needs of underserved and under-represented consumers, including those from ethnic, racial, or cultural minority groups, service needs related to gender, veterans, those who have histories of chronic homelessness, those with co-occurring mental and substance use disorders, young adults, sexual orientation and gender identity minority individuals, and those who have been involved in the criminal justice system. SAMHSA has demonstrated that behavioral health is essential to health, prevention works, treatment is effective, and people recover from mental and substance use disorders. Behavioral health services improve health status and reduce health care and other costs to society. Continued improvement in the delivery and financing of prevention, treatment and recovery support services provides a cost effective opportunity to advance and protect the nation’s health. To continue to improve the delivery and financing of prevention, treatment and recovery support services, SAMHSA has identified six Strategic Initiatives to focus the Agency’s work on improving lives and capitalizing on emerging opportunities. The Statewide Consumer Network program closely aligns with SAMHSA’s Recovery Support Strategic Initiative. As part of the Strategic Initiative, SAMHSA funded the Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS-TACS) to promote the widespread adoption of recovery concepts and practices throughout the United States. The BRSS-TACS will help facilitate the dissemination of information among consumers, families, and youth about health care reform initiated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Statewide Consumer Network Program grants are authorized under Section 520A of the Public Health Service Act, as amended. This announcement addresses Healthy People 2020 Mental Health and Mental Disorders Topic Area HP 2020-MHMD.

— **Application Deadline**: February 2, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270039

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Novel Assays for Screening the Effects of Chemical Toxicants on Cell Differentiation (R43/R44)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) solicits Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) grant applications from small business concerns (SBCs) to develop medium- to high-throughput assays to evaluate the effects of toxicants on pluripotent or induced pluripotent cells with respect to cell differentiation and the resulting differentiated cell populations. The ability to incorporate genetic diversity in these assays would be useful. These assays will provide information on mechanisms of chemically-induced biological activity, help to prioritize chemicals for more extensive toxicological evaluation, support more predictive models of in vivo biological response, and potentially inform on the role of genetic diversity in toxicological effects.

— **Application Deadline**: February 13, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269798

Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Establish a Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System for the Nation

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) solicits applications to develop, test, and implement a vision and eye health surveillance system using existing surveys, as well as administrative and electronic data sources. Such a system will be built to provide population estimates of vision loss function, eye diseases, health disparities, as well as barriers and facilitators to access to vision and eye care at the national, state, and community levels. This system will be disseminated and shared with researchers, epidemiologists, decision makers, providers, and other end users for implementation and evaluation of programs aimed to improve the vision and eye health of the nation.

— **Application Deadline**: February 20, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269928

Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Research to Evaluate the CDC Heads Up Concussion Initiative in Youth Sports

The purpose of this funding announcement is to rigorously evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of CDC's Heads Up concussion education and awareness materials (e.g., training, toolkits) used by youth sports organizations (leagues, clubs) or high school sports. There is a strong preference for investigations targeted at youth sports organizations because of the limited evidence base developed with this population and the greater potential for a more rigorous research design. Outcomes of interest include training and material use, policy change, knowledge and attitudes about concussion, coach and athlete behavior, and athlete health outcomes. Projects are to enhance understanding about which components of the CDC Heads Up campaign are most effective. A secondary purpose is to understand whether educational requirements (e.g., training required by state laws, which can be provided through Heads Up online courses) are sufficient to improve coaches'; behaviors, or if rule and practice changes in sports can complement the effects of education and awareness efforts.

- **Application Deadline**: February 24, 2015
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269968

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

NIH Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) Initiative Research Education: Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Data Management for Biomedical Big Data (R25)

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The over-arching goal of this BD2K R25 FOA is to complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nations biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will focus on Curriculum or Methods Development. In particular, this FOA seeks applications for development of an open, online educational resource.

- **Application Deadline**: March 17, 2015
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269888

Department of Health and Human Services

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

NIH Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) Initiative Research Education: Open Educational Resources for Sharing, Annotating and Curating Biomedical Big Data (R25)

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The over-arching goal of this BD2K R25 funding announcement is to complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nations biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will focus on Curriculum or Methods Development. In particular, this FOA seeks applications for development of open educational resources.

- **Application Deadline**: March 17, 2015
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269891

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Innovative Measures of Oral Medication Adherence for HIV Treatment and Prevention (R01)

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to solicit innovative research applications that seek to advance the development of bioanalytical assays, pill ingestion sensors, drug metabolite and taggant detection systems, or wireless technologic approaches for monitoring and improving adherence to oral antiretroviral therapy (ART) and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).

- **Application Deadline**: March 25, 2015
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269951

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Developmental Centers for Interdisciplinary Research in Benign Urology (P20)

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to seek applications for the Developmental Centers for Interdisciplinary Research in Benign Urology Program (P20). The intent of this Program is to further advance research in benign urology by facilitating resources sharing and building research teams. The research teams should be composed of individuals with complementary expertise who propose either to develop innovative resources (Resource Development Projects) or new research projects (Scientific Research Projects) that utilize integrative approaches addressing research questions relevant to benign urological diseases. Resources developed by the Resource Development Projects will be shared upon validation while resources developed by the Scientific Research Projects will be shared at the end or termination of the award. Each Developmental Center is centered on a single Project and must contain an Administrative Core and an Educational Enrichment Program. As part of the larger efforts in the Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases (DKUH) to expand and enhance the urology research community, the Developmental Centers Program will work in partnership with the George M. OBrien Urology Cooperative Research Centers Program (U54) and the Multidisciplinary K12 Urologic Research (KURe) Career Development Program.

— **Application Deadline**: March 25, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269899

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Alcohol Education Project Grants (R25)

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The over-arching goal of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) R25 program is to foster a better understanding of biomedical, behavioral and clinical research and its implications. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on Curriculum or Methods Development and Outreach activities for Health Professionals.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269898

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Lab to Marketplace: Tools for Biomedical and Behavioral Research (R43/R44)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages the translation of technologies for biomedical or behavioral research from academic and other non-small business research sectors to the marketplace. Small Business Concerns (SBCs) are encouraged to submit Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant applications that propose to further develop, make more robust, and make more user-friendly such technologies in preparation for commercial dissemination. It is expected that this activity will require partnership and close collaboration between the original developers of these technologies and applicant SBCs, which may be accomplished in any of a number of ways, including the use of multiple principal investigators.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269799

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Underactive Bladder in Aging (R01)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications that propose basic, clinical, or translational research on underactive bladder (UAB) and its consequences in aging and in older persons. Applications should focus on the 1) biology, etiology and pathophysiology of UAB in animal models and/or older adults; 2) translation of basic/clinical research into clinical practice and health decision-making; 3) diagnosis, prevention, management and clinical outcomes of UAB in older adults; and/or 4) epidemiology and risk factors for the development of UAB with advancing age. Research supported by this initiative should enhance knowledge of UAB and its consequences in older adults and provide evidence-based guidance in the diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of UAB in older persons.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269805

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Underactive Bladder in Aging (R03)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites pilot/feasibility projects that propose basic, clinical, or translational research on underactive bladder (UAB) and its consequences in aging and in older persons. Applications should focus on the 1) biology, etiology and pathophysiology of UAB in animal models and/or older adults;2) translation of basic/clinical research into clinical practice and health decision-making; 3) diagnosis, prevention, management and clinical outcomes of UAB in older adults; and/or 4) epidemiology and risk factors for the development of UAB with advancing age. Pilot/feasibility research supported by this initiative should enhance knowledge of UAB and its consequences in older adults and provide evidence of feasibility of the diagnosis, evaluation, and/or treatment of UAB in older persons.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269806

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Underactive Bladder in Aging (R21)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications that propose basic, clinical, or translational research on underactive bladder (UAB) and its consequences in aging and in older persons. Applications should focus on the 1) biology, etiology and pathophysiology of UAB in animal models and/or older adults;2) translation of basic/clinical research into clinical practice and health decision-making; 3) diagnosis, prevention, management and clinical outcomes of UAB in older adults; and/or 4) epidemiology and risk factors for the development of UAB with advancing age. The R21 mechanism is intended to encourage exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early and conceptual stages of these projects. Research supported by this initiative should enhance knowledge of UAB and its consequences in older adults and provide evidence-based guidance in the diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of UAB in older persons.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269807

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Systems Science and Health in the Behavioral and Social Sciences (R21)

This FOA is intended to increase the breadth and scope of topics that can be addressed with systems science methodologies. This FOA calls for research projects that are applied and/or basic in nature (including methodological and measurement development), have a human behavioral and/or social science focus, and employ methodologies suited to addressing the complexity inherent in behavioral and social phenomena, referred to as systems science methodologies. Additionally, this FOA seeks to promote interdisciplinary collaboration among health researchers and experts in computational approaches to further the development of modeling- and simulation-based systems science methodologies and their application to important public health challenges.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269753   269798

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Systems Science and Health in the Behavioral and Social Sciences (R01)

This FOA is intended to increase the breadth and scope of topics that can be addressed with systems science methodologies. This FOA calls for research projects that are applied and/or basic in nature (including methodological and measurement development), have a human behavioral and/or social science focus, and employ methodologies suited to addressing the complexity inherent in behavioral and social phenomena, referred to as systems science methodologies. Additionally, this FOA seeks to promote interdisciplinary collaboration among health researchers and experts in computational approaches to further the development of modeling- and simulation-based systems science methodologies and their application to important public health challenges.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269754

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in Older Adults (R21)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications that propose basic, clinical, and epidemiological outcomes research on the impact of age on the development of, diagnosis, and management of diabetes and cardiovascular disease (CVD) complications in older persons or animal models. Research may focus on, but is not limited to 1) the epidemiology of increasing incidence and prevalence of DM with advancing age, particularly regarding potential racial-ethnic disparities, 2) the elucidation of age-related mechanisms predisposing older adults to diabetes and resultant CVD , 3) understanding the role of aging in increased incidence and severity of CVD outcomes in older diabetics, and 4) determining age-specific prevention, screening, diagnostic, and management strategies of DM in older persons and its CVD complications. Research supported by this initiative is expected to elucidate the role of aging mechanisms that underlie the increased vulnerability of older adults to DM and its CVD complications and to provide evidence-based guidance to improve more appropriate diagnostic criteria, risk stratification, and intervention recommendations to prevent the onset, or improve short- and long-term outcomes, of DM and CVD in older persons.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269688

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in Older Adults (R01)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications that propose basic, clinical, and epidemiological outcomes research on the impact of age on the development of, diagnosis, and management of diabetes and cardiovascular disease (CVD) complications in older persons or animal models. Research may focus on, but is not limited to 1) the epidemiology of increasing incidence and prevalence of DM with advancing age, particularly regarding potential racial-ethnic disparities, 2) the elucidation of age-related mechanisms predisposing older adults to diabetes and resultant CVD , 3) understanding the role of aging in increased incidence and severity of CVD outcomes in older diabetics, and 4) determining age-specific prevention, screening, diagnostic, and management strategies of DM in older persons and its CVD complications. Research supported by this initiative is expected to elucidate the role of aging mechanisms that underlie the increased vulnerability of older adults to DM and its CVD complications and to provide evidence-based guidance to improve more appropriate diagnostic criteria, risk stratification, and intervention recommendations to prevent the onset, or improve short- and long-term outcomes, of DM and CVD in older persons.

— **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269689

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in Older Adults (R03)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications that propose basic, clinical, and epidemiological outcomes research on the impact of age on the development of, diagnosis, and management of diabetes and cardiovascular disease (CVD) complications in older persons or animal models. Research may focus on, but is not limited to 1) the epidemiology of increasing incidence and prevalence of DM with advancing age, particularly regarding potential racial-ethnic disparities, 2) the elucidation of age-related mechanisms predisposing older adults to diabetes and resultant CVD , 3) understanding the role of aging in increased incidence and severity of CVD outcomes in older diabetics, and 4) determining age-specific prevention, screening, diagnostic, and management strategies of DM in older persons and its CVD complications. Research supported by this initiative is expected to elucidate the role of aging mechanisms that underlie the increased vulnerability of older adults to DM and its CVD complications and to provide evidence-based guidance to improve more appropriate diagnostic criteria, risk stratification, and intervention recommendations to prevent the onset, or improve short- and long-term outcomes, of DM and CVD in older persons.

- **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269690

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Research Aimed at Novel Behavioral Targets to Improve Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention Interventions (R01)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is part of a trans-NIH initiative known as Collaborative Research on Addiction at NIH (CRAN). Areas supported by this FOA include research to inform the generation and refinement of novel targets for substance abuse treatment and prevention interventions, modules or adjuncts to existing treatments and prevention interventions that seek to target and modulate behavioral or neurobehavioral processes (e.g., impulsivity, risk-taking propensity, sensation and novelty seeking, distress tolerance, delay discounting, self-regulation, stress reactivity) in adolescents. Additionally, this FOA will encourage studies to include theoretical links that explore the relationship(s) between neural circuitry and treatment and prevention effects, and in particular, how behavioral targets might be affected by treatment and prevention interventions, and how that might be used to improve targeted treatment and prevention intervention development, that translate to reduced morbidity and mortality.

- **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269691

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Research Aimed at Novel Behavioral Targets to Improve Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention Interventions (R34)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is part of a trans-NIH initiative known as Collaborative Research on Addiction at NIH (CRAN). Areas supported by this FOA include research to inform the generation and refinement of novel targets for substance abuse treatment and prevention interventions, modules or adjuncts to existing treatments and prevention interventions that seek to target and modulate behavioral or neurobehavioral processes (e.g., impulsivity, risk-taking propensity, sensation and novelty seeking, distress tolerance, delay discounting, self-regulation, stress reactivity) in adolescents. Additionally, this FOA will encourage studies to include theoretical links that explore the relationship(s) between neural circuitry and treatment and prevention effects, and in particular, how behavioral targets might be affected by treatment and prevention interventions, and how that might be used to improve targeted treatment and prevention development, that translate to reduced morbidity and mortality.

- **Application Deadline**: January 7, 2018

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269692

Energy

Department of Energy

PAMS

Department of Energy - Office of Science

Office of Science

SBIR/STTR 2015 Phase I Release 2

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) describes two distinct funding opportunities for the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 ? Phase I Release 2. Please see the full FOA document for complete details. The full text of the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is located on FedConnect. Instructions for completing the Grant Application Package are contained in the full text of the FOA which can be obtained at: https://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0001227&agency=DOE.

— **Application Deadline**: February 3, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269800

Department of Energy

PAMS

Department of Energy - Office of Science

Office of Science

Plant Feedstock Genomics for Bioenergy: A Joint Research Funding Opportunity Announcement USDA, DOE

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science, Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), hereby announce their interest in receiving applications for genomics- based research that will lead to the improved use of biomass and plant feedstocks for the production of fuels such as ethanol or renewable chemical feedstocks. Applications are sought for research on candidate bioenergy plants with improved resistance/tolerance to disease and disease complexes. Research to overcome these biological barriers to the low-cost, high-quality, scalable and sustainable production of bioenergy feedstocks using the tools of genetics and genomics are encouraged.

— **Application Deadline**: February 23, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269801

Environmental Protection Agency

STUDENT PROGRAM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN (SPEED)

The Student Program for Environmental Excellence in Design (SPEED) aims to increase students' awareness and understanding of the environmental benefits associated with increased fuel efficiency, reduced carbon intensity in transportation fuels, and reduced emissions in advanced vehicles. Through the SPEED, graduate-level students and senior-level undergraduate students in the science, technology, and engineering disciplines would be provided opportunities, and in certain cases financial support, to collaborate with EPA staff at the EPA's National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory (NVFEL) in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Students would also obtain research training on-site at the NVFEL.

— **Application Deadline**: January 23, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270026

Higher Education

Department of Education

OSERS: OSEP: Educational Technology, Media, and Materials for Individuals with Disabilities: Stepping-up Technology Implementation CFDA Number 84.327S

Note: Each funding opportunity description is a synopsis of information in the Federal Register application notice. For specific information about eligibility, please see the official application notice. The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html. Please review the official application notice for pre-application and application requirements, application submission information, performance measures, priorities and program contact information. Purpose of Program: The purposes of the Educational Technology, Media, and Materials for Individuals with Disabilities Program are to: (1) Improve results for students with disabilities by promoting the development, demonstration, and use of technology; (2) support educational activities designed to be of educational value in the classroom for students with disabilities; (3) provide support for captioning and video description that is appropriate for use in the classroom; and (4) provide accessible educational materials to students with disabilities in a timely manner. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.327S. Applications for grants under the Stepping-up Technology Implementation competition, CFDA number 84.327S, must be submitted electronically using the Government-wide Grants.gov Apply site at www.Grants.gov. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not email an electronic copy of a grant application to us. You may access the electronic grant application for the Stepping-up Technology Implementation competition at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for this competition by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.327, not 84.327S).

— **Application Deadline**: January 20, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269748

Department of Education

Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE): Performance Partnership Pilots CFDA Number 84.420A

Note: Each funding opportunity description is a synopsis of information in the Federal Register application notice. For specific information about eligibility, please see the official application notice. The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal

Regulations is available on GPO Access at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html. Please review the official application notice for pre-application and application requirements, application submission information, performance measures, priorities and program contact information. Purpose of Program: The Performance Partnership Pilots (P3) program, authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014, Division H, Section 526 (the Act), will enable up to ten pilot sites to test innovative, outcome-focused strategies to achieve significant improvements in educational, employment, and other key outcomes \1\ for disconnected youth \2\ using new flexibility to blend \3\ existing Federal funds and to seek waivers \4\ of associated program requirements. P3 pilots will receive start-up grants to support on-going planning, streamlined governance, strengthened data infrastructure, improved coordination, and related activities to help pilots improve outcomes for disconnected youth. --- \1\ Outcomes are the intended results of a program, or intervention. They are what you expect your project to achieve. An outcome can be at the participant level (for example, changes in employment retention or earnings of disconnected youth) or at the system level (for example, improved efficiency in program operations or administration). \2\ The Act defines ``disconnected youth'' as individuals between the ages of 14 and 24 who are low-income, and either homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile justice system, unemployed, or not enrolled in, or at risk of dropping out of, an educational institution. \3\ Blending funds is a funding and resource allocation strategy that uses multiple existing funding streams to support a single initiative or strategy. Blended funding merges two or more funding streams, or portions of multiple funding streams, to produce greater efficiency and/or effectiveness. Funds from each individual stream lose their award-specific identity, and the blended funds together become subject to a single set of reporting and other requirements, consistent with the underlying purposes of the programs for which the funds were appropriated. \4\ A waiver provides flexibility around statutory, regulatory, or administrative requirements to enable a State, locality, or tribe to organize its programs and systems or provide services in ways that best meet the needs of its target populations. Under P3, waivers provide flexibility in exchange for a grantee's commitment to improve programmatic outcomes consistent with underlying statutory authorities and purposes. --- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.420A. Applications for grants under the Performance Partnerships Pilots program, CFDA number 84.420A, must be submitted electronically using the Government-wide Grants.gov Apply site at www.Grants.gov. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not email an electronic copy of a grant application to us. You may access the electronic grant application for P3 at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for this competition by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.420, not 84.420A).

— **Application Deadline**: March 4, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269790

Higher Education

National Science Foundation

Structural and Architectural Engineering

PD 15-1637, Structural and Architectural Engineering (SAE) program replaces Hazard Mitigation and Structural Engineering (HMSE) program. The overall goal of the Structural and Architectural Engineering (SAE) program is to evolve sustainable structures, such as buildings, that can be continuously occupied and /or operational during the structure??s useful life. The SAE program supports fundamental research for advancing knowledge and innovation in structural and architectural engineering that enables holistic approach to design, construction, operation, maintenance, retrofit, repair and end-of-life disposal of structures. For buildings, holistic approach incorporates the foundation-structure-envelope-non-structural system, as well as the facade and roofing. Research topics of interest for sustainable structures include the following: strategies for structures that over their lifecycle are cost-effective, make efficient use of resources and energy, and incorporate sustainable structural and architectural materials; deterioration due to fatigue and corrosion; serviceability concerns due to large deflections and vibrations; and advances in physics-based computational modeling and simulation. Research is encouraged that integrates discoveries from other science and engineering fields, such as materials science, building science, mechanics of materials, dynamic systems and control, reliability, risk analysis, architecture, economics and human factors. The program also supports research in sustainable and holistic foundation-structure-envelope-nonstructural systems and materials as described in the following reports: ?? National Science and Technology Council, High Performance Buildings; Final Report: Federal R & D Agenda for Net Zero Energy, High-Performance Green Buildings. Building Technology Research and Development (BTRD) Subcommittee, OSTP, U.S. Government, September 2008. http://www.whitehouse.gov/files/documents/ostp/NSTC%20Reports/Federal%20RD%20Agenda%20for%20Net%20Zero%20Energy%20High%20Performance%20Green%20Buildings%20Oct2008.pdf ?? Ochsendorf, John, Challenges and Opportunities for Low-Carbon Buildings, The Bridge; National Academy of Engineering, Vol. 42, No. 1; Spring 2012 http://www.nae.edu/Publications/Bridge/57865/58544.aspx Structural health monitoring that focuses on decision-making systems for civil structures is of interest; however, research for new sensor technologies and data collection should be submitted to other programs. Proposals that focus on the performance and mitigation of structures subjected to natural hazards, such as earthquakes, windstorms (tornadoes and hurricanes), tsunamis, and landslides, should be submitted to the Engineering for Natural Hazards Program. Research addressing blast loads and fire effects on building systems, and computational modeling and simulation supported by the multi-Directorate Computational and Data-Enabled Science and Engineering, program are not supported by SAE. The SAE program encourages knowledge dissemination and technology transfer activities that can lead to broader societal benefit and implementation for provision of sustainable structures.

- **Application Deadline**: February 17, 2015
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269756

National Science Foundation

Civil Infrastructure Systems

The Civil Infrastructure Systems (CIS) program supports fundamental and innovative research necessary for designing, constructing, managing, maintaining, operating and protecting efficient, resilient and sustainable civil infrastructure systems. Research that recognizes the role that these systems play in societal functioning and accounts for how human behavior and social organizations contribute to and affect the performance of these systems is encouraged. While component-level, subject-matter knowledge may be crucial in many research efforts, this program focuses on the civil infrastructure as a system in which interactions between spatially-distributed components and intersystem connections exist. Thus, intra- and inter-physical, information and behavioral dependencies of these systems are also of particular interest. Topics pertaining to transportation systems, construction engineering, infrastructure systems and infrastructure management are a focus of this program. Research that considers either or both ordinary and disrupted operating environments is relevant. Methodological contributions pertaining to systems engineering and design, network analysis and optimization, performance management, vulnerability and risk analysis, mathematical and simulation modeling, exact and approximate algorithm development, control theory, statistical forecasting, dynamic and stochastic systems approaches, multi-attribute decision theory, and incorporation of behavioral and social considerations, not excluding other methodological areas or the integration of methods, specific to this application are encouraged. Additional research of interest exploits data/information, and takes advantage of relevant technological advances, such as social media. In general, research that has the promise of long-lasting, cascading (hopefully escalating) impact on the wider research community through its theoretical, scientific, mathematical or computational contributions is valued. The program does not support research with a primary contribution pertaining to individual infrastructure components, materials, sensor technology, extreme event modeling, climate modeling, human factors, structural engineering, geotechnical engineering, environmental sciences, or hydrologic engineering, since these topics do not fall within the scope of the CIS program. Researchers focused in these areas are encouraged to contact the Infrastructure Management and Extreme Events (IMEE), Geotechnical Engineering and Materials (GEM), or Structural and Architectural Engineering and Materials (SAEM) programs. Additionally, researchers may consider contacting the Hydrologic Sciences program in the Earth Sciences Division (EAR) or the Physical and Dynamic Meteorology (PDM) program in the Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Division (AGS) of the Directorate for Geosciences. The CIS program encourages knowledge dissemination and technology transfer activities that can lead to broader societal benefit and implementation for provision of physical civil infrastructure systems.

— **Application Deadline**: February 17, 2015
— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269758

National Science Foundation

Mechanics of Materials and Structures

The Mechanics of Materials and Structures program supports fundamental research in mechanics as related to the behavior of deformable solid materials and respective structures under internal and external actions. A diverse and interdisciplinary spectrum of research is supported with emphasis on research that leads to advances in i) theory, experimental, and/or computational methods in mechanics, and/or ii) uses contemporary mechanics methods to address modern challenges in materials and structures. Proposed research can focus on existing or emerging materials and structural systems, across time and length scales. Proposals related to material response are welcome, and would propose, but not limited to, advances in fundamental understanding of deformation, fracture, fatigue, as well as on contact and friction through constitutive modeling, multi-scale (spatial or temporal) and multi-physics analysis, computational methods, or experimental techniques. Proposals that relate to structural response are welcome and would propose, but not limited to, advances in the understanding of nonlinear deformation, instability and collapse in the context of large deformation, wave propagation, multi-scale (spatial or temporal) and multi-physics analysis, computational methods, or experimental techniques. Proposals at the intersection or considerate of the integration of material and structure (such as, but not limited to, metamaterials, hierarchical, microarchitectured and low-dimensional materials) are especially welcome. Of particular interest are research questions that address the integration and combination of geometry, topology of material distributions, lengthscales and deformation/failure mechanics.

Within this context, the challenge of the notion of what constitutes a ??material?? or a ??structure?? is expected to lead to unique opportunities in terms of analysis and experimentation of novel response characteristics. While the research results should contribute to ultimately guiding assessment of current engineering systems as well as developments of future innovative engineering material and structures with unusual, unprecedented and/or superior physical properties as identified in [1-2], the program emphasis is primarily on making fundamental new advances at the forefront of the field of mechanics. Proposals with a focus on buildings and civil infrastructure system are welcome in CMMI and should be submitted to the program on Structural and Architectural Engineering (SAE). Proposals addressing processing and mechanical performance enhancements should be submitted to the Materials Engineering and Processing (MEP) program. Investigators with proposals focused on design methodological approaches and theory enabling the accelerated development and insertion of materials should consider the Design of Engineering Material Systems (DEMS) program. Proposers who wish to discuss their proposed research related to the Mechanics of Materials and Structures program should discuss it with the Program Directors after sending a one-page white paper by email. [1] National Academy of Engineering, Making a World of Difference: Engineering Ideas into Reality, National Academies Press, September 12, 2014. [2] Materials Genome Initiative for Global Competitiveness, www.whitehouse.gov/mgi.

— **Application Deadline**: February 17, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269757

National Science Foundation

Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences

As part of NSF's Cyberinfrastructure Framework for 21st Century Science and Engineering (CIF21) activity, the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) seeks to develop user-friendly large-scale next-generation data resources and relevant analytic techniques to advance fundamental research in SBE areas of study. Successful proposals will, within the financial resources provided by the award, construct such databases and/or relevant analytic techniques and produce a finished product that will enable new types of data-intensive research. The databases or techniques should have significant impacts, either across multiple fields or within broad disciplinary areas, by enabling new types of data-intensive research in the SBE sciences.

— **Application Deadline**: February 22, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269814

National Science Foundation

Research Coordination Networks (RCN)

The goal of the RCN program is to advance a field or create new directions in research or education by supporting groups of investigators to communicate and coordinate their research, training and educational activities across disciplinary, organizational, geographic and international boundaries. RCN provides opportunities to foster new collaborations, including international partnerships, and address interdisciplinary topics. Innovative ideas for implementing novel networking strategies, collaborative technologies, and development of community standards for data and meta-data are especially encouraged. RCN awards are not meant to support existing networks; nor are they meant to support the activities of established collaborations. RCN awards do not support primary research. RCN supports the means by which investigators can share information and ideas, coordinate on-going or planned research activities, foster synthesis and new collaborations, develop community standards, and in other ways advance science and education through communication and sharing of ideas. Proposed networking activities directed to the RCN program should focus on a theme to give coherence to the collaboration, such as a broad research question or particular technologies or approaches. Participating core programs in the Directorates for Biological Sciences (BIO), Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE), Geosciences (GEO), Engineering (ENG) and Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) will accept General (non-targeted) RCN proposals. Some submission deadlines for the general RCN proposals vary by program; consult program websites. BIO is joined by the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR) in the Undergraduate Biology Education (RCN-UBE) track described below. The following targeted track within the RCN programs is intended to foster linkages between BIO and EHR. RCN-UBE: The Undergraduate Biology Education track focuses on any topic likely to lead to improved participation, learning, or assessment in undergraduate biology education and follows the same guidelines outlined below for the general RCN program. Note: Because it addresses undergraduate biology education, the RCN-UBE track is offered in alignment with the NSF-wide undergraduate STEM education initiative, Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE). More information about IUSE can be found in the Program Description section of this solicitation. Several other NSF solicitations accept RCN proposals, or support research networking activities if appropriate to the solicitation. Please see section IX. Other Information of this solicitation for a listing of these programs.

— **Application Deadline**: March 2, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270014

National Science Foundation

Materials Innovation Platforms

The Division of Materials Research (DMR) seeks to significantly accelerate advances in materials research and engineering through the rapid discovery of new materials and phenomena by developing a new midscale user facility program - Materials Innovation Platforms (MIP) program. MIPs embrace the paradigm set forth by the Materials Genome Initiative (MGI) which strives to discover, manufacture, and deploy advanced materials in half the time and at a fraction of the cost.” Platforms respond to the increasing complexity of conducting materials research that requires the close collaboration of multidisciplinary teams who have access to cutting edge tools. To accelerate research outcomes, Platforms conduct research through iterative; closed-loop; efforts among the areas of materials synthesis, characterization, theory, and the application of theory through modeling and/or simulation. The in-house research conducted by a MIP is transformational and focuses on a targeted materials grand challenge and/or a technological outcome (e.g., understanding complexity, discovery of new phenomena and materials, etc.) that addresses a national priority. MIPs push the frontiers in materials research by advancing the capabilities of current state-of-the-art experimental tools through the development of new techniques and the next generation of instrumentation that will lead to understanding and discovering new phenomena as well as the discovery of complex functional material systems. In addition, it is expected that open access to these cutting edge tools will strengthen collaborations among scientists and enable researchers to work in new ways, while fostering new modalities of multidisciplinary education and training. The user facility aspect of a Platform accounts for approximately 50% of the collaborative effort, where a MIP provides access to unique high-quality, state-of-the-art instrumentation and technological services through a staff of experts that are accessible to external researchers and all types of institutions. Due to this convergence of expertise, MIPs will serve as focal points that promote cross-fertilization of ideas between internal and external researchers. The Platform, the tools and techniques developed, and the resulting new materials are themselves meant to be transformative. The US, once a global leader in materials synthesis, has fallen behind in the science of crystal growth. To rebuild technical strength in this area, the initial MIPs will focus on developing new bulk and thin film crystalline hard materials. The scientific focus of the MIP program is subject to change from competition to competition. MIPs are anticipated to be five year awards totaling $10,000,000 to $25,000,000 for the award period. MIP awards are eligible for a one-time five-year renewal, subsequent to a rigorous and favorable review by NSF. To cover the breadth of this endeavor, it is expected that proposed projects will be directed by a team of at least three Senior Personnel with complementary expertise. Equipment acquisition is expected in the first few years, but yearly budget should not exceed $7.0M.

— **Application Deadline**: March 2, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269813

Department of State

Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferat

Global Biosecurity Engagement Activities

The Department of State's Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction (ISN/CTR) is pleased to announce an open competition for assistance awards through this Request for Proposals (RFP). ISN/CTR invites non-profit/non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and educational institutions to submit proposals for projects that will advance the mission of the Department's Biosecurity Engagement Program (BEP). ISN/CTR has approximately $25,000,000 available in the current fiscal year to award multiple grants and cooperative agreements in this field. ISN/CTR prefers projects that cost less than $500,000, though awards may involve multiple projects that cumulatively exceed $500,000.

— **Application Deadline**: February 13, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269694

Transportation

Department of Transportation

No select grants this week.

Technology

No select grants this week.

International

No select grants this week.

Defense

Department of Defense

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

DARPA - Information Innovation Office

Edge-Directed Cyber Technologies for Reliable Mission

DARPA is soliciting innovative research proposals in the area of resilient, mission-aware computer networking. Proposed research should investigate innovative approaches that enable revolutionary advances in science, devices, or systems. Specifically excluded is research that primarily results in evolutionary improvements to the existing state of practice. See attached PDF, "DARPA-BAA-15-10 EDICT" for further details.

— **Application Deadline**: January 27, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270041

Department of Homeland Security

No select grants this week.

Other

Corporation for National and Community Service

Corporation for National and Community Service

Operation AmeriCorps

Operation AmeriCorps is a new initiative created by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). For the first time, applicants may request AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC resources in a single application to use national service as the transformative catalyst to address a community's most pressing local problem. Through Operation AmeriCorps, tribal and local leaders will identify a high priority local challenge which AmeriCorps resources can holistically address in a relatively short period of time (no more than two years). The competition is open exclusively to tribal and local governments, including counties, cities, towns, and school districts; and state service commissions. The proposed solution may be a new program, or it may use national service to scale up an existing successful effort. In either case AmeriCorps must be the additive ingredient to achieve holistic change at the local level.

— **Application Deadline**: January 14, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269752

Department of Agriculture

No select grants this week.

Department of Commerce

No select grants this week.

Department of Interior

National Park Service

Notice of Intent to Award: The Lower East Side Tenement National Historic Site, New York

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service (NPS) NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD. THIS IS NOT A REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS. This funding announcement is to provide public notice of the NPS's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition: modification to add funds against existing Cooperative Agreement P13AC00297 (formerly P12AC30052) with the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, Inc. For complete details on this NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD, see attachment under the "Full Announcement" link at the top of this page. For questions on navigating the Grants.gov website, or for general information about applying for grants, please see the "Contact Us" link at the top of this page.

- **Application Deadline**: November 30, 2014
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269811

Department of Interior

National Park Service

Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry, and Tourism

This is not a request for applications. This is just an announcement that NPS is fulfilling its mandated obligation to provide assistance to the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry, and Tourism Inc. for their work in the Oil Region Heritage Area. Specifically, ORABIT agrees to: 1. Implement the Management Plan in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and the Legislation as described in their FY 2015 Work Plan and Budget. 2. Conduct public meetings at least annually regarding the implementation of the Management Plan. 3. Include units of local government, regional planning organizations, and nonprofit organizations in the implementation of their management plan. 4. Comply with all applicable State and Federal laws, including, but not limited to, National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. 5. Prepare compliance documents for NPS and/or State approval.

- **Application Deadline**: December 7, 2014
- http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270010

Department of Justice

No select grants this week.

Department of Labor

No select grants this week.

Agency for International Development

No select grants this week.

IMLS

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries

Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries are a special funding opportunity within the IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries program. These small grants encourage libraries and archives to test and evaluate specific innovations in the ways they operate and the services they provide. Sparks Grants support the deployment, testing, and evaluation of promising and ground-breaking new tools, products, services, or organizational practices. You may propose activities or approaches that involve risk, as long as the risk is balanced by significant potential for improvement in the ways libraries and museums serve their communities. Successful proposals will address problems, challenges, or needs of broad relevance to libraries and/or archives. A proposed project should test a specific, innovative response to the identified problem and present a plan to make the findings widely and openly accessible. To maximize the public benefit from federal investments in these grants, the Sparks! program will fund only projects with the following characteristics: Broad Potential Impact—You should identify a specific problem or need that is relevant to many libraries and/or archives and propose a testable and measurable solution. Proposals must demonstrate a thorough understanding of current issues and practices in the project's focus area and discuss its potential impact within libraries and/or archives. Proposed innovations should be widely adoptable or adaptable. Significant Innovation—The proposed solution to the identified problem must offer strong potential for non-incremental, significant advancement in the operation of libraries and/or archives. You must explain how the proposed activity differs from current practices or takes advantage of an unexplored opportunity, and the potential benefit to be gained by this innovation.

— **Application Deadline**: February 2, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=269949

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NASA Headquarters

2014 NASA RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENT {NRA} MINORITY UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PROJECT {MUREP} SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING AND MATH {STEM} ENGAGEMENT {MSE}

Awards will be made as cooperative agreements. The period of performance for an award is up to 3 years. Note that it is NASA policy that all investigations involving non-U.S. organizations will be conducted on the basis of no exchange of funds. Prospective proposers are requested to submit any questions in writing to NASAMSE@nasaprs.com no later than 10 business days before the proposal due date so that NASA will be able to respond. Only Minority Serving Colleges and Universities that are legally recognized by the Department of Education are eligible to apply for this NASA Research Announcement (NRA). No later than the due date for proposals, proposers to this NRA are required to have: 1) a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, 2) a valid registration with the System for Award Management (SAM) [formerly known as the Central Contractor Registry (CCR)], 3) a valid Commercial And Government Entity (CAGE) Code, 4) a valid registration with NASA Solicitation and Proposal Integrated Review and Evaluation System (NSPIRES). The NASA Office of Education Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) solicits proposals from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) to create and implement a NASA STEM challenge, targeted for MSI participation. STEM challenges are creative applications of NASA-related science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and cross-cutting concepts. MUREP Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Engagement (MSE) seeks proposals to support MSIs that demonstrate the potential to increase the number of minority undergraduates in STEM education areas relevant to NASA. The specific goals of MSE awards are to: * Increase the retention and completion rates of undergraduate degrees awarded from MSIs in NASA-related STEM disciplines; * Increase the number of NASA-focused STEM experiences that engage underrepresented groups in active learning to improve retention of information and critical thinking skills; and, * Disseminate proven, innovative practices and programs in STEM teaching, STEM learning, and recruitment and retention of underrepresented/ underserved students in STEM fields. The specific objectives of the NASA MSE solicitation are to: Design, develop, and implement a NASA-related STEM challenge targeted for MSI and community college STEM-enrolled student participation; Align the challenge design with the NASA mission and with a specific NASA program or project; and Develop and implement processes to capture the impact of activities and strategies implemented through this challenge. Explanation of Other Category of Funding Activity - MSE may be categorized as both other Research and Development and Education funded activity. Every institution that intends to submit a proposal to this NRA, including the proposed prime award or any partner whether an informal education institution, other non-profit institutions, state and local Government agencies, and other organizations that will serve as subawardees or contractors, must be registered in NSPIRES. Electronic submission of proposals is required by the due date and must be submitted by an authorized official of the proposing organization. Such registration must identify the authorized organizational representative(s) who will submit the electronic proposal. All principal investigators and other participants (e.g. co-investigators) must be registered in NSPIRES regardless of submission system. Potential proposers and proposing organizations are urged to access the system(s) well in advance of the proposal due date(s) of interest to familiarize themselves with its structure and enter the requested information. Electronic proposals may be submitted via the NASA proposal data system NSPIRES or via Grants.gov. Organizations that intend to submit proposals via Grants.gov must be registered 1) with Grants.gov and 2) with NSPIRES. Additional programmatic information for this NRA may develop before the proposal due date. If so, such information will be added as a Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) or formal amendment to this NRA and posted on http://nspires.nasaprs.com . It is the proposer's responsibility to regularly check NSPIRES for updates to this NRA.

— **Application Deadline**: March 2, 2015

— http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=270037

U.S. Department of Treasury

No select grants this week.

For more information on the content of these grants, please contact your regular Nixon Peabody attorney or:

— Douglas Dziak at **ddziak@nixonpeabody.com** or 202-585-8180