

**TO:** Shirley Moore Smeal, Executive Deputy Secretary, Department of Corrections  
**FROM:** Rick Vilello, Acting Deputy Secretary of Community Affairs & Development, DCED  
**DATE:** January 25, 2017  
**RE:** DCED Post Decision Involvement

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Please find below a list of services that the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) can provide to local government officials and the business communities that may be impacted by a potential CSI Prison Closing.

### **CENTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

The Center for Local Government provides important services to Local Governments. This is particularly true during an economic crisis or business closing.

The Center will provide assistance to any municipality that will face a CSI Prison Closing. The Center was able to provide both technical support and grant opportunities to the local governments during the last round of prison closings in Cambria County and Westmoreland County. The Center intends to fully cooperate with any future CSI prison closings proposed.

The following is a list of the services we provided and we will plan to provide in the event of future prison closings:

**Municipal Statistics** analysis can be provided to Secretary Davin and his staff to help to determine the fiscal impact of a potential CSI prison closing. The Center has already collected and provided important financial management information to Secretary Davin regarding the potential closing for five CSI prisons. The Center stands ready to continue to provide this valuable information as requested.

The Center for Local Government Services will provide **Municipal Technical Support** in terms of technical advice relating to Administration, Financial Management (Economic Development), Planning, Zoning, and Public Works, Public Safety (Police and Fire). The Center has an expert in every related municipal field described above.

If the prison closing involves a municipality that is already in the Act 47, Municipalities Recovery Program, then the municipality will have a **financial consultant** engaged by the Department to assist the municipality in question. These would advise on any major economic development issue that would occur within the municipality. If they are not an Act 47 municipality then they may take advantage of the Early Intervention Program grant described below.

The **Early Intervention Program (EIP)** grant can be used to examine the fiscal position and operational efficiency of the Local Government before after the anticipated prison closing. The

Center will provide an unusually high grant match given the fiscal crisis created by the state prison closing within the local government's boundaries. The Center will not only assist with hiring a financial management and economic development consultant but the Center has very talented financial management staff members that regularly engage with municipalities facing fiscal challenges. This grant also opens the door for future grant funding as the Early Intervention Program (EIP) grant study will propose multiple recommendations on resolving the fiscal concerns of the municipality. The Center will fund future programs that are incorporated within the recommendations from the EIP program study.

**The Municipal Services Program (MAP)** grant can be used for planning and zoning, shared services, and municipal collaborative. These grants fund comprehensive planning studies, codes enforcement and related ordinance studies, and shared municipal services between and among municipalities within the same region.

### **BUSINESS FINANCING**

The following are the programs available for business financing opportunities that may exist for parties interested in developing a SCI site upon closing. Some funds, such as Business in Our Sites, would be available for the potential developer, whereas programs like PA First are options for subsequent businesses entering the site post-purchase.

**Business in Our Sites Funds** - provides grants and loans for the acquisition and development of key sites for future use by businesses, private developers, and others.

**Pennsylvania First** - PA First funding includes job training through WEDnetPA , land and building acquisition and construction, purchase and upgrade of machinery and equipment, construction and rehabilitation of infrastructure, working capital, environmental assessment, and remediation.

**Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA)** - PIDA offers loans to for-profit businesses for land and building acquisition, as well as building construction and renovation. The program also offers loans to Certified Economic Development Organizations (CEDOs) for industrial park development and multi-tenant building construction, acquisition, and renovation.

**Renewable Energy Funds** - The Renewable Energy Program (REP) provides financial assistance in the forms of grant and loan funds to promote the use of alternative energy in Pennsylvania.

**The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP)** - Funds have been previously utilized for retired prisons. RACP is a Commonwealth grant program for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational, and historical improvement projects.