

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$19 Million Investment through the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission's inaugural State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) Grant Program

The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) invests \$19 Million into 57 community projects to address poverty and promote economic growth spanning six states

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**Columbia, SC – July 17, 2024** – The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) has announced 57 grant recipients from the inaugural State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant program. This flagship grant program is designed to revitalize communities and spur economic development in 129 counties in six Southeast Crescent states -Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

The \$19 million SEID grant program will fund projects that align with priorities identified in <u>SCRC's authorizing statute</u>, <u>Five-Year Strategic Plan</u>, and <u>State Economic Development Plans</u>. Each state's grant allocation was determined using a four-pronged formula based on equality, total regional population, total distressed population, and each state's distressed area in square miles.

Of the \$19 million appropriated to the SEID grant program, \$5 million came through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). BIL is a key component of the *Investing in America* agenda which equips local communities with the resources needed to drive bottom-up, middle-out economic growth that delivers new jobs and opportunities to families, workers, and small businesses.

SCRC Federal Co-Chair, Dr. Jennifer Clyburn Reed, remarked, "The inaugural SEID grant program represents a significant step toward addressing longstanding economic challenges experienced by a significant number of residents in the region. Investing in community-based projects, SCRC is laying the foundation for sustainable economic growth and improved quality of life."

National Economic Advisor, Lael Brainard, stated, "Under President Biden's leadership, today's awards are fueling comeback stories in communities across the Southeast Crescent region through investing in local infrastructure, workforce training, and small business support."

The Commission worked closely with the Office of the Governor in each participating state. Designees from their offices reviewed submissions from both stages of the application process, ensuring a thorough and localized evaluation.

The SEID program received an overwhelming response during the pre-application phase, with 363 entities requesting \$119.2 million in funding for community projects. Of those demonstrating an interest, 136 were invited to submit a full application. At the close of the application phase, 103 entities submitted a full application, requesting over \$36 million.

"The launch of the SEID grant program is a testament to the progress SCRC is making to improve the quality of life for our people," said Governor Henry McMaster, former SCRC States' Co-Chair. "By enhancing our infrastructure through these grants, we provide a critical boost to communities where it is needed the most."

The 57 projects selected will serve 129 counties, of which 103 or 80% are designated as distressed. Additionally, 40 or 70% of projects funded are categorized as infrastructure projects - representing a \$15.4 million investment in laying the foundation for sustainable economic development and growth in the region. The awards exceed SCRC's statutory requirements to allocate 50% of funding to support projects in distressed communities and 40% to infrastructure projects. The results demonstrate SCRC's commitment to address critical infrastructure needs in the more distressed areas within its footprint.

"Infrastructure investment in the southeastern United States is critical for millions of people who call it home," replied Governor Roy Cooper, SCRC's newly elected States' Co-Chair. "These grants along the Southeast Crescent region will update that infrastructure to create jobs and promote economic growth."

For more information about the State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant program and the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC), please visit <u>scrc.gov</u>.

#### About the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission

The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) is a federal-state partnership dedicated to promoting economic development and improving the quality of life for 51.1 million residents in the 428 counties in the Southeast Crescent footprint. Through strategic investments and collaboration with local, state, and federal partners, SCRC aims to address challenges and promote opportunities throughout the region.

# FY24 SCRC State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) Grant Awards by State



# **SCRC SEID Grant Awards Summary**

Number of Projects Funded	57
Total Dollar Amount of Funded Projects	\$19,028,371
Total Number of Counties Served	129
Total Number and Percentage of Distressed Counties Served	103 (80%)
Total Number and Percentage of Transitional Counties served	26 (20%)
Total Number and Percentage of Infrastructure Projects	40 (70%)
Total SCRC Infrastructure Investment	\$15,399,139
SEID Infrastructure Investment	\$10,399,139
BIL Infrastructure Investment	\$5,000,000

#### <u>Alabama</u>

Number of Projects Funded	5
Total Dollar Amount of Funded Projects	\$1,181,976
Total Number of Counties Served	12
Total Number and Percentage of Distressed Counties Served	3 (25%)
Total Number and Percentage of Transitional Counties Served	9 (75%)
Total Number and Percentage of Infrastructure Projects	3 (60%)
Total Infrastructure Investment	\$817,266

Project Location (County)	Grantee	Project Name	Grant Amount	State
Houston, Mobile, Montgomery, Pike	Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries	Inclusive Career Pathways in the Recycled Material Industry: Cultivating Sustainable Communities	\$138,046	AL
** Pike	City of Brundidge	Brundidge Sewer Improvements	\$500,000	AL
Covington, Geneva, Pike, Autauga, Coffee, Crenshaw, Dale, Henry, Houston, Lee, Mobile, Montgomery	Opportunity Alabama, Inc.	Driving Revitalization and New Investment in South Alabama	\$226,664	AL
* Crenshaw	Town of Brantley	Brantley Water and Sewer Benefiting South Central Alabama Mental Health Crisis Diversion Center	\$155,000	AL
* Pike	Troy University	Troy University Arboretum Hickory Loop Nature Trail	\$162,266	AL

# <u>Georgia</u>

Number of Projects Funded	17
Total Dollar Amount of Funded Projects	\$7,185,153
Total Number of Counties Served	67
Total Number and Percentage of Distressed Counties Served	60 (90%)
Total Number and Percentage of Transitional Counties Served	7 (10%)
Total Number and Percentage of Infrastructure Projects	11 (64%)
Total Infrastructure Investment	\$5,221,961

Project Location (County)	Grantee Name	Project Name	Grant Amount	State
* Chatham	Chatham County Board of Commissioners	Enhancing EV Capacity	\$350,000	GA
** Bulloch	City of Brooklet	Highway 80 Water Main Improvements	\$600,000	GA
* Glynn	City of Brunswick	New Town Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Area	\$600,000	GA
* Ben Hill	City of Fitzgerald	Assisting with Industry Expansion	\$85,000	GA
** Jenkins	City of Millen	Industrial Water Supply Improvements	\$538,349	GA
** Washington	City of Sandersville	Tybee Community Drainage Improvements	\$500,000	GA
* Ben Hill, Irwin, Turner, Wilcox	Dorminy Medical Center	New Upgraded CT Machine	\$498,612	GA
* Laurens	Dublin Laurens County Development Authority	Hwy 257 Industrial Park Water Sewer and Road	\$600,000	GA
* Emanuel	Emanuel Medical Center	Emergency Process Improvement Collaborative (EPIC)	\$600,000	GA
Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baker, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bleckley, Brantley, Brooks, Calhoun, Charlton, Clay, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Cook, Crisp, Decatur, Dodge, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier, Laurens, Lowndes, Macon, Mitchell, Montgomery, Peach, Quitman, Randolph, Seminole, Stewart, Sumter, Tattnall, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Toombs, Treutlen, Turner, Twiggs, Ware, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, Wilcox	Georgia Heirs Property Law Center, Inc.	Resolving and Preventing Heirs Property to Grow Georgia's Economy and Workforce Housing Stock	\$600,000	GA

Project Location (County)	Grantee Name	Project Name	Grant Amount	State
Bulloch, Candler, Evans, Tattnall,	Georgia Tech Research Corporation	Certified Economic Development Ready	\$349,952	GA
Liberty, Long		Communities		
Baker, Ben Hill, Bibb, Bulloch, Calhoun,	Georgia Tech Research Corporation	PIN Student Internship	\$350,000	GA
Clayton, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty,				
Early, Mitchell, Richmond, Seminole,				
Sumter, Terrell				
Glynn	Glynn County Board of	Housing Action Plan	\$50,000	GA
	Commissioners			
*Jasper	Jasper County Board of	Jasper County (GA) Community Food	\$350,000	GA
	Commissioners	Bank		
* Ware	Legacy Ventures DC Corp	The Bailey Street Redevelopment Project	\$500,000	GA
Clarke, Newton, Walton	Northeast Georgia Regional	NEGA STEM Connects	\$350,000	GA
	Commission			
Washington	Washington County Regional	New MRI and Nurse Call System	\$263,240	GA
-	Medical Center			

# <u>Mississippi</u>

Number of Projects Funded	9
Total Dollar Amount of Funded Projects	\$2,644,403
Total Number of Counties Served	11
Total Number and Percentage of Distressed Counties Served	8 (73%)
Total Number and Percentage of Transitional Counties Served	3 (27%)
Total Number and Percentage of Infrastructure Projects	7 (78%)
Total Infrastructure Investment	\$2,332,403

Project Location (County)	Grantee Name	Project Name	Grant Amount	State
** Pearl River	City of Picayune	I-59/Sycamore Road Intersection Improvements and Frontage Road	\$500,000	MS
* Clarke	Clarke County	Infrastructure Improvements for Howard Industries	\$500,000	MS
** Neshoba	Neshoba County	Burnside Park Improvements	\$312,000	MS
* Pearl River	Nicholson Water and Sewer Association	Expansion and Upgrade for Sustainable Communities and Economic Growth	\$446,888	MS
Pearl River	Pearl River County	Poplarville/Pearl River County Airport Advancement Plan	\$50,000	MS
* Jackson	City of Moss Point	Sue Ellen Recreation Center Restoration	\$252,500	MS
* Newton, Scott	Town of Lake	Highway 489 Pump Station Rehabilitation	\$175,428	MS
George, Harrison, Stone, Hancock, Jackson, Pearl River	University of Mississippi	Coastal Business Growth Accelerator	\$312,000	MS
* Lauderdale	Wechsler Foundation	Saving Wechsler School, 1951 Addition	\$95,587	MS

#### North Carolina

Number of Projects Funded	10
Total Dollar Amount of Funded Projects	\$4,035,620
Total Number of Counties Served	13
Total Number and Percentage of Distressed Counties Served	12 (92%)
Total Number and Percentage of Transitional Counties Served	1 (8%)
Total Number and Percentage of Infrastructure Projects	8 (80%)
Total Infrastructure Investment	\$3,670,140

Project Location (County)	Grantee Name	Project Name	Grant Amount	State
* Vance	City of Henderson	Low-Pressure Pump Station	\$500,000	NC
** Robeson	City of Lumberton	Lumberton LS#21 Resiliency Upgrade	\$440,000	NC
* Columbus	County of Columbus	Water System Rehabilitation	\$500,000	NC
* Hyde	Hyde County	Ponzer Tank Restoration and Resiliency Project	\$264,000	NC
* Scotland	Laurinburg-Maxton Airport Commission	Project Waco	\$500,000	NC
Greene, Lenoir, Jones	Lenoir Community College	Aviation Academy	\$285,480	NC
* Bertie, Hertford, Northampton	Roanoke-Chowan Community College	Weld to Work Pipeline	\$470,140	NC
** Rockingham	Town of Stoneville	Water System Improvements	\$500,000	NC
* Columbus	Town of Tabor City	Tabor City Business Incubator	\$496,000	NC
Warren	Town of Warrenton	Developing Frontier Warren's Entrepreneurial Ecosystem	\$80,000	NC

#### South Carolina

Number of Projects Funded	12
Total Amount of Funded Projects	\$2,428,760
Total Number of Counties Served	19
Total Number and Percentage of Distressed Counties Served	15 (79%)
Total Number and Percentage of Transitional Counties Served	4 (21%)
Total Number and Percentage of Infrastructure Projects	7 (58%)
Total Infrastructure Investment	\$1,804,910

Project Location (County)	Grantee Name	Project Name	Grant Amount	State
** Abbeville	City of Abbeville	Harry's Plaza Redevelopment Project	\$350,000	SC
* Dillon	City of Dillon	Community Pavilion/Festival Market	\$200,000	SC
* Florence	City of Johnsonville	Fire Hydrant Improvements	\$81,000	SC
Horry	City of Myrtle Beach	City of Myrtle Beach Zoning Rewrite	\$150,000	SC
* Orangeburg	City of Orangeburg	Gateway to Orangeburg	\$350,000	SC
Horry, Georgetown	Horry-Georgetown Technical College Foundation, Inc.	HGTC Marine Technology Center	\$200,000	SC
* Hampton	Lowcountry Council of Governments	Town of Brunson Transit Shelter	\$62,892	SC
Chesterfield, Clarendon, Colleton, Dillon, Laurens, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Williamsburg	Main Street SC	SC's Small Business E-Commerce Omnichannel	\$105,250	SC
* Williamsburg	Open Space Institute Land Trust Inc	The Black River Initiative: Opening the First State Park (RMS-South)	\$500,000	SC
Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Clarendon, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper, Orangeburg, Williamsburg	South Carolina Justice Navigators Network (Georgetown University Law Center)	South Carolina Justice Navigators Network	\$75,000	SC
** Lee	Town of Lynchburg	Town of Lynchburg Water System	\$261,018 \$259,651 – BIL \$1,367 - SEID	SC
Hampton	Town of Varnville	Varnville Gin Feasibility Study	\$93,600	SC

# <u>Virginia</u>

Number of Projects Funded	4
Total Amount of Funded Projects	\$1,552,459
Total Number of Counties Served	7
Total Number and Percentage of Distressed Counties Served	5 (71%)
Total Number and Percentage of Transitional Counties Served	2 (29%)
Total Number and Percentage of Infrastructure Projects	4 (100%)
Total Infrastructure Investment	\$1,552,459

Project Location (County/County Equivalents)	Grantee Name	Project Name	Grant Amount	State
* Campbell	Campbell County Economic Development Department	Seneca Commerce Park Grading JKL Sites Project	\$202,459	VA
** Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Lunenburg	Industrial Development Authority of Brunswick County	Brunswick County Produce Project	\$500,000	VA
* Emporia, Greensville	Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation	SCDHC Emporia Rail Depot Townhomes	\$350,000	VA
* Richmond (city)	The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust	Oak Grove Resilience: Building a Brighter Future Together	\$500,000	VA