



**CAPITAL  
STRATEGIC  
SOLUTIONS**

*A Certified WBE/DBE/SBPP Business Enterprise*

*Monthly Newsletter*

FEBRUARY 2024

*Proudly Serving Communities Throughout New England!*

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**CAPITAL  
STRATEGIC  
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*A Certified WBE/DBE/SBPP Business Enterprise*

**Happy  
Valentine's Day**

**WE LOVE OUR CLIENTS.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT!**



## Supporting Communities with Lead Service Line Inspections: Capital Strategic Solutions and the EPA's Revised Lead and Copper Rule



**CAPITAL  
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*A Women-owned Business Enterprise*

**All public water systems—  
even those without lead  
service lines—are required  
to submit an initial full  
service line inventory and to  
develop a LSL replacement  
plan by October 16, 2024.**

☎ 508-690-0049  
🌐 [INFO@CAPITAL-STRATEGIC-SOLUTIONS.COM](http://INFO@CAPITAL-STRATEGIC-SOLUTIONS.COM)  
🌐 [WWW.CAPITAL-STRATEGIC-SOLUTIONS.COM](http://WWW.CAPITAL-STRATEGIC-SOLUTIONS.COM)  
📍 11 APEX DRIVE, SUITE 300A, MARLBOROUGH, MA 01752



In a world where public health and environmental sustainability are increasingly at the forefront of community concerns, the importance of maintaining safe and clean drinking water cannot be overemphasized. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Revised Lead and Copper Rule has brought a renewed focus on the critical issue of lead contamination in water systems. Complying with these regulations, however, can be a daunting task for many communities. This is where Capital Strategic Solutions can step in to offer vital support, ensuring that communities meet the standards set by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Understanding the EPA's Revised Lead and Copper Rule

The EPA's Revised Lead and Copper Rule is being implemented as a measure to reduce lead and copper levels in drinking water and mandates stringent inspection and remediation protocols. Lead, a toxic metal, can cause significant health problems, especially in children and pregnant women. The revised rule aims to identify and replace lead service lines (LSLs) that contribute to contamination...

## The Role of Capital Strategic Solutions

Capital Strategic Solutions is at the forefront of assisting communities in navigating these regulatory waters. With a team of experienced professionals, we offer a comprehensive range of services to ensure compliance with the DEP's mandate. Our approach includes:

- Partnering with engineering professionals to conduct thorough assessments of existing water systems to identify lead service lines, including detailed mapping and inventory management, which is crucial for strategic planning.

[Read More](#)



## Streamlining Success: The Vital Role of Standard Operating Procedures in Water and Sewer Utilities

Water and sewer utilities play a pivotal role in maintaining the health and well-being of communities across the

United States. Ensuring access to clean water and efficient sewage management is not just a matter of convenience; it's a fundamental necessity for public health and environmental protection. To achieve these goals, standard operating procedures (SOPs) are indispensable.

In the following blog, Capital Strategic Solution's Senior Project Manager and experienced water and sewer director, John DeLuca, provides a look at the significance of developing and maintaining SOPs for water and sewer utilities and discusses regulatory best practices for operating utilities.

## The Significance of Standard Operating Procedures

Why are SOPs important? Written SOPs help ensure every operator at your facility follows consistent and correct procedures, your utility follows industry

best practices, and your plant meets regulatory requirements. During this time of COVID-19, SOPs are as important as ever. When staff turnover occurs or outside operators assist during an emergency, SOPs help new operators come up to speed quickly and help ensure nothing important is overlooked.

[Read More](#)

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## Welcome Aboard!

### William (Bill) Keegan

Capital Strategic Solutions is proud to announce that William (Bill) Keegan will be joining our team as Senior Project Manager. With over forty years of experience in municipal government, Bill is a master of strategic planning and has the leadership and management experience to tackle any issue in any community.



Most recently, Bill served as the Town Manager of Foxborough, and prior to that tenure worked as the Town Manager of Dedham. Using his astute financial insight, Bill was able to achieve and maintain a Triple A Bond Rating from Standard and Poor's for both communities. This achievement has allowed those communities to borrow money at the most favorable rates, potentially saving the towns millions of dollars in borrowing costs.

Bill understands that nothing in government is ever done alone, and that success is best when it is shared. That mindset allows him to develop thoughtful relationships with community members and stakeholders that are built on trust, transparency and communication. His eye for long term planning makes him especially adept at executing financially complex projects.

[Meet Bill](#)

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### Kenneth Calder

Capital Strategic Solutions is happy to welcome Kenneth Calder to our team as Senior Project Manager. Ken's experience in Public Works, his work ethic, and his unique set of skills make him an asset to every project and every community. Ken is unafraid to jump into a challenge and is a master of leading his team



through uncertain waters. His hands-on approach ensures a fine attention to detail, and his ability to foster a collaborative work environment increases the likelihood of success with any project he tackles. Ken is able to evaluate and improve internal departmental processes, and his insight on best management practices sets departments up for long term success.

As the Deputy Director of Project Management at Weston, Ken worked to develop long term capital and maintenance plans, and organized priority projects to best suit the needs of the community and ensure delivery of services. His experience on projects like implementing automated water meters, the EPA Lead and Copper Rule inventory, and the Weston de-icing program honed his ability to jump into projects early, problem solve, and communicate with invested stakeholders throughout the project.

What stands out most from Ken's work in Weston and other communities, is his implementation of in-house training and programming...

**Meet  
Ken**



### **Federal RAISE Grant Application Deadline Approaching**

The deadline for the U.S. Department of Transportation \$1.5 billion in Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funding is fast-approaching. Applications for the competitive program that supports investments in road, rail, transit and

port projects that have a significant local or regional impact are **due February 28**.

RAISE discretionary grants are funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Eligible applicants include state and local governments, Tribal governments, and counties.

[Learn More](#)

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## Reminder! Massachusetts Announces \$4 Million Available for FY25 Inland Dredging Pilot Program Grant

The State of Massachusetts has announced that \$4 million is available for a pilot round of funding for final design and construction grants to communities for the dredging of freshwater lakes, ponds, rivers, streams and drinking water reservoirs, as well as dredging required for the removal of municipal dams. The most competitive applications will focus on projects that are advanced in design and permitting and provide public benefit through restoration or improvement of drinking water storage, recreational boating, ecosystem health and/or hazard mitigation such as dam removal.

Applications are due on March 1, 2024, at 11:59 p.m., utilizing the state's grant portal.

[Learn More](#)

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## AARP Community Challenge Grant Application Deadline Approaching

The AARP Community Challenge application period for small grants to fund quick-action projects will close soon. **The application deadline is Wednesday, March 6.**

The AARP Community Challenge is currently accepting applications for three different grant opportunities that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages: Flagship Grants, Capacity-Building Microgrants, and Demonstration Grants.

Grant funding is available for local governments and nonprofits that are eager to work on a community-improvement project that can be started and completed before year's end.

[Learn](#)

[More](#)

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## Reminder! Early Planning Key to Receiving Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant

The State of Massachusetts has released the Drinking Water Supply Protection grant opportunity again for FY24 that provides financial assistance to purchase land in DEP approved drinking water supply protection areas, or land in estimated protection areas for future water supply wells or reservoirs.

Property can be acquired either through purchase in fee simple, a conservation restriction or watershed preservation restriction. A maximum grant award of \$350,000 is available for qualified applications, which also requires a 60% match from the community.

**Applications are due on Friday, March 8, 2024 at 3 p.m., electronically via email.**

[Learn More](#)

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## 294 Massachusetts Communities Eligible to Apply for the FY24 CDBG Program

The State of Massachusetts has announced that 294 communities in the Commonwealth are eligible to apply for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. FY24 grants to individual communities will range from \$100,000 – \$950,000, with higher amounts for joint applications with another community or regional initiatives. Some of the requirements to apply include confirmation that a community has an ADA self-evaluation and transition plan, and that a community will comply with the requirements for citizen participation in the CDBG process. Communities that have not received a CDBG grant in the last three years may include \$9,000 in grant application preparation costs in their application.

Applications must be submitted through the State's web-based application system by **Monday, March 25, 2024, at 3 p.m.**

[Learn more](#)

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[Contact](#)



**Insights from ICMA: What Does Your Community Actually Want from Animal Services?**

**From MMA: MassDEP Proposes Updates to Multiple Waterways Regulations**

**EPA, HUD, DOE Ask Utility Companies to Make Energy and Water Usage Data Available for Multifamily Properties**

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Find Us...



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About Us...





Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS) is a Massachusetts-based certified woman-owned, disadvantaged business enterprise comprised of municipal experts. We deliver creative and cost-effective services that maximize success while minimizing risk for our clients. We have hands-on experience that allows us to formulate and implement strategies tailored to the communities we serve. We specialize in public administration and municipal finance, human resources and policy development, emergency management services and public safety, public works and infrastructure operations, public relations and community engagement, project management and oversight, grant writing and administration, and public management and support services.

**Visit our  
Website**

Capital Strategic Solutions LLC | 11 Apex Drive, Suite 300A, Marlborough, MA 01752

[Unsubscribe info@capital-strategic-solutions.com](mailto:info@capital-strategic-solutions.com)

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