



CAPITAL STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS

A Certified WBE/DBE/SBPP Business Enterprise

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News, Updates & Features

July 2023



CAPITAL
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A Women-owned Business Enterprise

Company Newsletter

JULY 2023

Proudly Serving Communities Throughout New England!



**CAPITAL
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A Women-owned Business Enterprise

Welcome to the Team

MIKE GALLAGHER

Join us in welcoming Michael Gallagher to Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS) as a Senior Project Manager! Mike brings to the team a unique skill set developed throughout his career in the public and private sectors. His experience in multiple roles in town management as an appointed and elected official, coupled with his years managing IT teams and projects for large corporations, allows him to look at issues, opportunities, and risks from multiple angles.

Mike's primary focus has been to lead change within organizations to develop innovative processes and procedures to better deliver services sought by various constituencies, which will greatly assist our clients. In Mike's previous role as Town Manager in North Attleboro, he successfully revamped the capital improvement process ensuring a return on investment (ROI) for all capital expenses. He also expanded opportunities to streamline online processes for residents and businesses to increase customer service and operational excellence.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CERTIFIED



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Capital Strategic Solutions, LLC is thrilled to announce that it has been officially certified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (DOT). This prestigious certification recognizes the company's commitment to excellence, diversity, and equal opportunities within the business community.

The DBE certification program, administered by the New Hampshire DOT, aims to create a level playing field for small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. It offers various benefits, including enhanced access to contracting opportunities, bidding advantages, and specialized business development resources.

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Reshaping the City of Brockton's Future through Grant Funding Opportunities

The City of Brockton has enlisted Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS) to assist them in reshaping its future through state, federal and private funding opportunities for projects that

will foster and anchor regional economies. The project team will target funding opportunities to encourage investment in the city, including taking advantage of Brockton's mixed-use district and transit-oriented development.

CSS recognizes the emergent needs faced by Brockton including improving flood resiliency, effective storm water management and the enhancement of green space. Our team also understands the fiscal challenges that come with trying to fund these multiple initiatives and the need to identify and maximize funding available through state, federal and other sources.



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Project Spotlight

Providing Administrative Support Services to the City of Marlborough, MA

Labor shortages across municipalities has been an ongoing issue for several years now, as many career professionals retired during and shortly after the pandemic, many cities and towns find themselves in need of assistance, from DPW laborers to administrative assistants, and department managers, every community is hiring in one role at least. CSS recently assisted the City of Marlborough Massachusetts, providing 2 months of administrative support services to the Mayor's office as they found themselves experience a staffing gap between the departure of their previous administrator, and the start date of their newly hired administrator. CSS was happy to step in and fill the gap in staffing, providing transitional support and continuity of services...



"We found our office shorthanded and Capital Strategic Solutions quickly filled a six week gap for us with a highly experienced administrative assistant to provide front desk and phone support. This individual brought vital municipal experience, was extremely reliable and competent, and we were able to get much more done than we anticipated. We will certainly call them again if

the need arises," stated Mayor Arthur Vigant.

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Newspaper Coverage for Municipalities

Newspaper coverage can improve public, political support for water infrastructure issues and investment, according to recent Journal AWWA paper

According to a recent paper, "What People Learn about Drinking Water Disruptions from Local Newspapers," written by authors C.E. Otero,

E.V. Bell, S. Das and M. Mullin and published in the June 2023 edition of Journal AWWA, newspaper coverage of drinking water service issues can help inform public understanding and political support for investments in strengthening water systems. Through previous academic research and the authors' own recent research of newspaper coverage of water infrastructure issues across 10 years in North Carolina, the authors surmised that newspapers wield a great deal of influence and power "in shaping political communication, individual behavior, and the behavior of elected officials."

The Capital Strategic Solutions communications team agrees with these findings and also finds that newspapers can lead the media conversation, from national to local coverage. In our experience managing water utilities public information efforts and media relations, we have found that when local newspapers cover a topic it starts a ripple effect of that topic through other forms of media, including the local television news media and local social media channels.

"The power of the newspaper to influence people and needed actions should not be underestimated or avoided." - Nichol Figueiredo, CEO Capital Strategic Solutions

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Grant Watch



Your Conservation District is eligible for an innovation grant

The State is seeking proposals from Districts in good standing formed under MGL c.21 sections -19-24 for innovative partnership projects to conserve land,

soil, forests, water and related natural resources in their efforts to restore and protect such places in the Commonwealth. The goal of the program is encouraging development of new approaches and ideas to spur innovation among grantees. Grants will range from \$9K (to support district operations) to \$49K to support larger project initiatives per year. The grant deadline is August. 18th. A match is encouraged but not required, and the projects can last up to two years, beginning in December 2023. Consideration will be given to environmental justice and underserved neighborhoods and may fund cost to provide education/outreach, and plan, design and implement natural resource conservation projects, assist forest and farm businesses to be more viable, and purchase materials and equipment to carry out a project. Contact us for further information:

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