



CAPITAL STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS

A Women-owned Business Enterprise

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News, Updates & Features

March 10, 2023



CAPITAL STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS

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Company Newsletter

MARCH 2023

Town of Shrewsbury Announces the Launch of Transportation and Multimodal Study

The Town of Shrewsbury announces the start of a Comprehensive Transportation and Multimodal Study also known as the Town Center Multimodal Study. The Town Center Multimodal Study will identify strategies that would accommodate active transportation modes while supporting local commerce and economic development opportunities; and improving safety and comfort for all users. The Town Center Study will



Town of Shrewsbury
Comprehensive Transportation and Multimodal Study

build on the Shrewsbury's 2030 Strategic Plan, along with the Town Center Visioning Study, and the Town Center Parking Study.

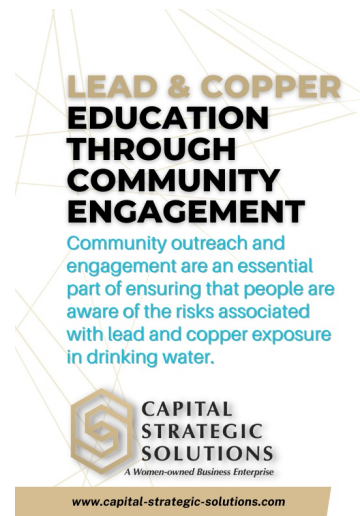
"We are excited to get the Town Center Multimodal Study underway, there will be an abundance of opportunities for community stakeholders to provide their thoughts, experiences, and suggestions to shape the future development of the Shrewsbury Town Center. This is an opportunity to implement changes that will enhance safety, improve walkability, increase commerce, and improve economic development for generations to come," **said Kevin Mizikar, Town Manager.**

[Read More](#)

Lead & Copper Education Through Community Engagement

Community outreach and engagement is critical for the new Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) because it plays a crucial role in educating the public about the risks of lead and copper exposure in drinking water and provides them with the tools and resources, they need to protect themselves and their families.

The updated LCR proposes significant changes to the current regulations, including requiring water utilities to test for lead in schools and childcare facilities, reducing the allowable levels of lead in drinking water, and implementing new reporting requirements. These changes can have a significant impact on water systems and the people who rely on them.



[Read More](#)

Lunch & Learn with Us! We are launching a FREE webinar series.

March 21, 2023
12 PM - 1 PM

Workplace Investigations

When and How They Should Be Done

Join Attorneys Christopher Brown and Alexandra Rubin of **Miyares and Harrington** and Blythe Robinson and Timothy Goddard of **Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS)** for a Workplace Investigations Webinar on March 21, 2023, at 12 PM. In this webinar, Miyares and Harrington and CSS will provide helpful information for municipal employers with insights on when an investigation should be conducted and efficient and effective practices of a workplace investigation.

Click on the button below to register for this informative webinar. There will be time for Q&A following the presentation.



Lunch & Learn with Us!
— FREE WEBINAR —
WORKPLACE INVESTIGATIONS
When and How They Should Be Done
March 21, 2023
12 PM - 1 PM
MiyaresHarrington CAPITAL STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS
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REGISTER

[Register Today](#)

Edward Godgart Joins the Team



Welcome to the Team

ED GOTGART

Capital Strategic Solutions is proud to welcome Ed Gotgart to our team. Ed's expertise in education across a myriad of school systems and positions makes him especially adept at managing operations for both the long and short term. Ed's experience across the commonwealth has given him the ability to analyze complex systems and build data driven solutions. As an expert administrator in education, Ed can handle the hefty responsibility associated with managing school districts, combining his experience working in the classroom with his ability to work with municipalities. Ed's innate curiosity has fueled the growth of his expertise in multiple areas, as he has earned degrees in several fields from Government and Urban Studies to Educational Leadership and Administration. We at CSS are ecstatic to bring his expertise to our clients and welcome him to the team.

[Read](#)

Grant Watch



Two Major State Grant Programs are accepting applications for Recreation & Parks Projects

The State has released notices that applications are being accepted for its most transformative grant programs for recreation and parks. The Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) program provides funding for

Conservation Commissions to acquire land for natural resource and passive recreation purposes. The Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) supports acquiring land to develop for parks and outdoor recreation purposes, as well as funds renovation of existing parks. Both programs received additional funding this fiscal year with up to \$500,000 per application for each grant. Interested communities are strongly encouraged to attend training on the application process being held on May 4th ahead of the grants being due on July 13th. The programs do require an approved Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) on file with the State, but if a community doesn't have one, there are options to apply for funding to satisfy this requirement, due this spring.

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Massachusetts Announces a Groundbreaking Low- & Moderate-Income Housing Decarbonization Grant Program

Seeking to make a significant impact on ensuring the State's energy supply, while also creating a clean, affordable and resilient future for residents and businesses, the State has announced a new grant targeted

at these purposes. Targeted at low- and moderate-income residential buildings, the State has committed \$50 million between now and 2027 to make retrofits to this category of housing to implement energy efficiency, decarbonize heating and other systems, and reduce fossil fuel use. Projects must ensure that housing units remain affordable for 3 years and limit rent increases. Eligible applicants include towns, but also include non-profits and private owners. Grant awards will differ depending on the number of units in a building, and can be used for building envelope improvements, electrification (ground source heat pumps), on site renewable energy such solar, and remediation of barriers to achieving these goals. Projects must also leverage funding from applicable energy efficiency programs. Applications will be accepted starting June 1st and every six months after that through June 2027 or when funding is exhausted.

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Bridge Academy Training Reimbursement Program

Municipalities who have police officers who have completed the **Bridge Academy Training Program** are eligible to apply for and receive \$3,000 for each officer that has completed all four of the required training programs. The training programs must have been completed between July 1, 2021 - June 30,

2023. The deadline to apply is March 30, 2023, until the \$1 million in funding is depleted.

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Bulletproof Vest Program

Police departments that have already applied for and been approved for reimbursement from the **Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership | Overview | Office of Justice Programs (ojp.gov)** are eligible to receive reimbursement from the State to purchase replacement bulletproof vests. The federal program covers the first 50% of the cost, and State funds will make up the difference for vests that

are more than five years old, or new ones for an officer not previously issued a vest. Funding is available on a first come first served basis for all departments that submit the required certification forms and contract documents.

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The FY22 Federal Fire Prevention & Safety Grant Program is now open

FEMA has recently announced the re-opening of this **grant** which focuses on enhancing the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fires and fire-related hazards, and research and development. \$36 million is available to fire departments and related entities in a number of categories that fulfill

these objectives. The program most likely to be of interest to departments are comprehensive fire and life safety education programs. Departments that have already developed a plan that identifies the risks in the community, an intervention strategy, implementation plan and evaluation process can apply for funds to implement the program. A popular one that has been funded is smoke alarm installations for high-risk populations as part of a home fire safety campaign. If a town has not completed a risk assessment and developed a plan, they can still apply for funding to complete that step and apply the following year for funds to implement it. Other funded priorities include code enforcement awareness programs and fire and arson investigation training and tools. The grant requires a match of 5% of the award from non-federal sources, and the application, which must be filed through the FEMA GO site by March 31st at 5:00 PM.

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Why Community Engagement is Critical for Infrastructure Projects

Community engagement is critical for infrastructure projects for several reasons:

- Builds Trust
- Identifies Concerns
- Strengthens Collaboration
- Meets the Community's Needs
- Builds Support



Engaging with the community early and often helps to build trust and credibility for the project. When community members feel that their concerns are being heard and taken into account, they are more likely to support the project and advocate for it to others.

Community engagement helps to identify potential concerns or issues that may arise during the project. By identifying these issues early on, project managers can take steps to mitigate them, which can save time and resources in the long run.

Engaging with the community allows for collaboration and partnership-building. Community members may have valuable insights or expertise that can help inform the project, and involving them in decision-making processes can lead to more creative and effective solutions.

Infrastructure projects that are developed with community input are more likely to meet the needs of the community. By engaging with the community, project managers can gain a better understanding of what the community needs and wants, which can help ensure that the project is designed to meet those needs.

Community engagement can help shape the public perception of the project. If community members feel that they have been adequately informed and involved in the project, they are more likely to view it positively and support it.

Overall, community engagement is critical for infrastructure projects to ensure that they are well-designed, well-supported, and effectively meet the needs of the community.

Contact Us

Where to Find Us



2023 MRPA State Conference and Trade Show
March 27 – 29, 2023
New Location – Four Points by Sheraton Norwood



2023 Spring Joint Regional Conference & Exhibition
April 5-6, 2023
Worcester DCU Center, Worcester, MA



Central Mass Conference For Women

Nichol Figueiredo is a proud board member for the Central Mass Mass Conference for Women. The Central Mass Conference for Women aims to inspire, connect, motivate and move women through every stage along their path. She's Local brings together women with a shared objective to support, connect and inspire one another, close to home.

Our mission is to create lasting experiences for women, close to home. Since 2016, our She's Local team of volunteers have created and sustained local conferences for women in six regions of New England. We average 300 attendees at each in-person event, skillfully bringing together speakers, vendors, entertainers, sponsors, attendees, business owners and community leaders. For the second time, we are bringing a high-quality, affordable, in-person and live virtual experience to local women on **June 8th 2023** at the **AC Hotel by Marriott, in Worcester, MA.**

Buy your ticket to the 2nd Annual Central Mass Conference for Women

- \$52 Conference day
- \$35 Comedy Kick-off Wednesday night
- Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities are still available!

For More Information



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