



Strategic Insights

September 2026 | A monthly recap of what we've been up to.

A Note from Mike Tusino, Creative Director, Project Manger:

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we head into the fall, I'm excited to share another month of projects, partnerships, and resources that reflect the wide range of work happening across Capital Strategic Solutions.

One of the things I enjoy most about my role at CSS is helping turn the work our team and our clients are doing into communications that people can connect with.

Whether we're supporting a community outreach campaign, sharing an important municipal update, highlighting a successful project, or helping make information more accessible, effective communication plays an important role in bringing that work to the people it serves.



This month's newsletter highlights that idea in several ways, from municipal funding and infrastructure to public safety communications, partnerships, and the people behind the work. You'll also find our latest project updates, career opportunities, Grant Watch resources, and more from across the CSS team.

Thank you for following along with us and for continuing to be part of the CSS community. I hope you enjoy this month's edition and find something useful to bring back to your own community or organization.

Warm regards,

Mike Tusino

Creative Director, Project Manger, Capital Strategic Solutions

This Month's Highlights

CONNECTED WHEN IT COUNTS



CAPITAL
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When Every Second Counts

How LB Comms Keeps Communities Connected, and Why CSS Is Proud to Call Them a Partner

Underneath every emergency response is something easy to take for granted until it fails: the radio connecting a firefighter to command, the console allowing a dispatcher to hear a caller clearly, and the network keeping police, fire, and EMS connected during the worst five minutes of someone's day.

That is the work LB Comms, LLC does every day. It is also why Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS) values LB Comms as a partner in helping communities build real, lasting resilience.



"LB Comms has been an invaluable partner in the emergency management work we do with our municipal clients. Communication infrastructure is often the

piece that gets overlooked until it is tested. That is exactly where LB Comms' expertise makes the difference.

Mark Cady and his team bring a level of hands-on, real-world knowledge that you cannot fake. It comes from decades in the field, not just behind a desk. Working alongside them gives us confidence that the departments we serve are not just prepared on paper. They are actually connected when it counts."

— Nichol Figueiredo CEO, Capital Strategic Solutions

[Read the Full Story Here](#)

PUBLIC RECORDS, MODERNIZED.

REVIEW. REDACT. RESPOND.

[BOOK A DEMO](#)



CAPITAL
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SOLUTIONS

Modernize Your Public Records Process with CSS + CaseGuard

Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS) is proud to partner with CaseGuard to help public agencies modernize the way they manage, review, redact, and respond to public records requests.

By combining CSS's public-sector consulting expertise with CaseGuard's AI-assisted redaction technology, this collaboration gives organizations a more efficient approach to managing increasingly complex public records. CaseGuard can assist with redacting

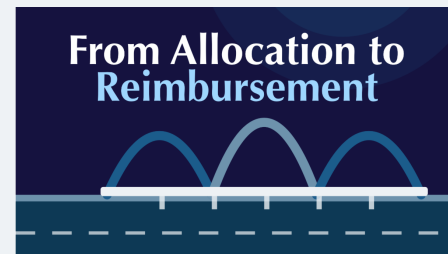
sensitive information across multiple file types, helping agencies streamline time-consuming processes while supporting accuracy, consistency, and compliance.

[Learn More ->](#)

Maximizing Chapter 90 Funding: How CSS Can Help Cities and Towns Make the Most of Every Dollar

For Massachusetts cities and towns, Chapter 90 funding is an essential resource for maintaining and improving local transportation infrastructure. Making the most of it requires strategic planning, coordination with other funding sources, careful project administration, and accurate financial tracking from allocation through final reimbursement.

[Learn More ->](#)



Employee Spotlight

Patti Grigas Senior Project Manager

Effective public safety organizations require strong leadership, sound policy, and a commitment to continuous improvement. At Capital Strategic Solutions, those qualities are exemplified by **Patricia “Patti” Grigas, Senior Project Manager.**

[Read Patti's Spotlight](#)



Eddie Burman Senior Project Manager

Strong communities rely on trusted leadership, effective public safety services, and the ability to navigate complex challenges with professionalism and integrity. At Capital Strategic Solutions, those qualities are exemplified by **Edward Burman, Senior Project Manager.**

[Read Eddie's Spotlight](#)



Where to Find Us Next



Connecting Beyond the Office

At CSS, some of our most valuable conversations happen outside the office. Over the next couple of months, members of our team will be attending two upcoming municipal conferences, where we'll have the opportunity to connect with local leaders, strengthen existing partnerships, and meet professionals who are passionate about building stronger communities.

We always enjoy learning from others, sharing our expertise, and exchanging ideas that help municipalities tackle today's challenges and prepare for tomorrow's opportunities. If you'll be attending either conference, we'd love to connect—be sure to stop by, introduce yourself, and say hello!

Annual Dinner Meeting & Education Day

Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns

Crown Plaza, Warwick, RI
September 17, 2026



Workshop Wednesday: AI-Assisted Redaction Process: CaseGuard Demo

Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns

[Web Event](#)
September 23, 2026



Fall Forum – Clear Communications Upstream

Massachusetts Water Works Association

Devens Common Center, Devens, Massachusetts
October 15, 2026



Annual Training Conference & RIPCA Technology Tradeshow

New England Association of Chiefs of Police

Crown Plaza, Warwick, RI
November 16, 2026



2026 ICMA Annual Conference

International City/County Management Association

Booth 957 at the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center,
Long Beach, California
October 17-21, 2026



2027 Connect 351

Massachusetts Municipal Association

Booth 808 at the Menino Convention & Exhibition Center, Boston, Massachusetts
January 21-23, 2027



2027 Spring Joint Regional Conference & Exhibition

New England Water Works Association

DCU Center, Worcester, Massachusetts
March 31 – April 1, 2027



Water Resources Conference

Florida Water Resources Conference

Booth 510 at the Orlando World Marriott, Orlando, Florida
April 18 – April 21, 2027



Worth a Read



One Firm, Every Sector: How Capital Strategic Solutions Helps Organizations of All Kinds Reach Their Goals

No two organizations face the exact same challenges. A water district planning a rate study has different needs than a nonprofit chasing its next grant, and a municipality managing an emergency has different priorities than a private company restructuring its workforce. But at Capital Strategic Solutions (CSS), we've built our entire practice around a simple idea: organizations don't need a dozen different vendors to solve a dozen different problems. They need one team that understands how all the pieces fit together.

[Read More...](#)



When One Alert Isn't Enough: Emergency Readiness Requires More Than a Communications Plan

Before information reaches the public, someone must confirm what happened, understand the operational impact, determine what people need to do, approve the message, distribute it across multiple channels, and continue providing updates as conditions change.

[Read More...](#)



Strength in Numbers: Affordable Support for Small Organizations

If you've ever run a small town, agency, or organization, you know the math doesn't always add up. You need an experienced administrator, an operations director, a grants manager, or HR support—but the budget only stretches to a fraction of a full-time position. Too often, the result is going without, stretching existing staff too thin, or paying premium rates for occasional outside consultants who don't know your organization..

[Read More...](#)



Astro-Strategic Solutions – Weekly Municipal Horoscope

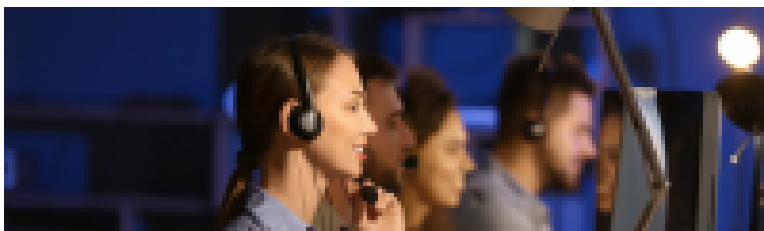
This week's stars have aligned directly over your inbox.

Somewhere in municipal government, an email is currently being written that begins: "Just following up..."

You saw the first email. You remember the first email. You simply haven't had 14 uninterrupted minutes since Tuesday.

[Read More...](#)

Career Corner



Now Hiring

Public Safety Telecommunicator Town of Westford

The Town of Westford is seeking qualified applicants to join its Public Safety Communications Department as a Public Safety Telecommunicator. This civilian role plays an essential part in supporting emergency response for police, fire, and medical services.

The successful candidate will receive and prioritize emergency and non-emergency calls, dispatch public safety resources, and help ensure critical information reaches first responders quickly and accurately.

This opportunity is ideal for a strong communicator who can remain calm, professional, and focused while serving the Westford community in a fast-paced public safety environment.

Salary

\$24.86 – \$32.48 per hour

Schedule

Full-Time • Day Shift

Location

55 Main Street,
Westford, MA

Agency

Town of Westford, MA

[View the Full Job Posting & Apply](#)

Grant Watch

Let us help you with your application! Our team specializes in grant management at every stage: from identifying opportunities and securing awards to ensuring compliance and managing budgets. Our public-sector expertise helps communities deliver sustainable, impactful projects.

Federal

[BJA Body-Worn Camera Program](#)

[Kevin and Avonte Program](#)

[Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant \(JAG\)](#)

[FEMA Homeland Security Grant Program – SHSP/UASI](#)

[FEMA State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program](#)

[COPS Technology & Equipment Program](#)

[FY 2026 Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative](#)

[FY 2026 Intellectual Property Enforcement Program](#)

Massachusetts Shannon Community Safety Initiative – FFY 2027 Seaport Economic Council Dredging Construction & Regional Equipment Grants	Connecticut Historic Documents Preservation Program – Targeted Grant FY2027 Energy Resilience Construction Grant	Maine Maine Community Resilience Partnership – Service Provider Grant Forest Economy Program Historic Community Buildings Grant Program – Round 2
Texas Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG) FY27	Florida Florida Coastal Management Program Grants	Rhode Island Rhode Island Housing Funding 2026 Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants – Targeted Watersheds Opioid Settlement Municipal Incentive Fund
New Hampshire Drinking Water & Groundwater Trust Fund – Construction Project Assistance	Vermont Community Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Grant Program Vermont Recreational Facilities Grant	

Contact Our Team

About Capital Strategic Solutions

CSS is a certified woman-owned, disadvantaged business enterprise of municipal experts delivering creative, cost-effective solutions that maximize success and minimize risk. With deep local government expertise, we craft tailored strategies to meet each community's unique needs.



**CAPITAL
STRATEGIC
SOLUTIONS**

A Women-Owned Business Enterprise

Our capabilities span public administration, municipal finance, human resources, policy development, emergency management, public safety, public works, water operations, interim municipal services, public relations, community engagement, project management, grant writing, and onsite support. We partner with clients to define clear goals, overcome challenges, and implement human-centered plans that drive performance and transform communities.

Visit Our Website



MA: 43 Broad Street, Suite B309A, Hudson, MA 01749 | **FL:** 34125 US Highway 19 N #17118364, Suite 200, Palm Harbor, FL 34684
(508) 690-0046 | (727) 516-7930 | info@capital-strategic-solutions.com

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

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