

The Community Planner

October 4, 2011

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Planning, Financing, and Administration News

Conference Summary

Last week we attended the Minnesota State Planning Conference in St. Cloud, along with over 500 other planning professionals. A wide variety of topics were discussed at the conference, with a major focus on the current economy and the importance of financial planning. There were various presentations such as Fiscal Impact of New Development, Capital Improvement Programming, Financing Development, Financial Condition of Small Town America, and Redevelopment Costs.

One constant theme was how communities must be more prepared to address these issues and develop financial solutions in order for their communities to thrive, and, in some cases, survive.

Financing Seminar

A great opportunity for communities to continue to learn new ways to financially plan is to attend our upcoming Municipal Funding Seminar on October 21, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Owatonna (see attachment).

Topics that will be discussed include:

Long Term Budgeting Communities can spend a fair amount of time developing an annual budget, and then often struggle with the same issues six to nine months later with the next annual budget process. We will explore the benefits and details of financially planning for the next several years and the benefits that the program has.

Capital Improvement Planning

Capital Improvement Planning is a good planning tool for larger infrastructure projects and helps a community prioritize project needs and budget for projects.

SAVE THE DATE!

I&S Group is partnering with Abdo, Eick, & Meyers to present a seminar on Municipal Funding. The seminar will be held the morning of Friday, October 21, at the Owatonna Cabelas. Please register soon because space is limited.

Lunch will be provided after the event and you will have time to ask colleagues about issues within their communities.

More details and a registration form are attached. We look forward to seeing you there!

Project Financing

We will discuss the various ways to finance projects and what different financial tools may be the best fit for a variety of projects completed by a municipality. Bonding, Tax Increment Financing, Tax Abatement and USDA Rural Development programs will be discussed.

At Your Service

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

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ARCHITECTS · ENGINEERS · PLANNERS · LAND SURVEYORS · SCIENTISTS

Municipal Funding Seminar

It is not news to any of you, but there is work to be done in our cities. The real question is how to prioritize and finance these real needs in a responsible and sustainable fashion. At this Municipal Funding Seminar, experts from across a broad range of disciplines will discuss the importance of managing infrastructure and facilities in a manner that extends the life of the assets while planning for their replacement. Our panel of experts will include professionals from PlanScape Partners, Northland Securities, USDA Rural Development, Abdo Eick & Meyers, and I&S Group.

Please plan on joining us for the morning at Cabela's in Owatonna for a lively discussion. The cost for the seminar is a very reasonable fee of \$15 to help defray facility and food costs. To register, please return the bottom portion of this sheet before October 7th. Space is limited, so register early! If you have questions, please contact:

Bill Goldy of I&S Group at 507.331.1500 or bill.goldy@is-grp.com
Tom Olinger of Abdo Eick & Meyers, 507.304.6802 or tolinger@aemcpas.com

WHEN October 21, 2011
8:00 am - 12:30 pm
Morning snacks and lunch included

WHERE Cabela's, Owatonna, MN

WHO Municipal staff and elected officials (targeted at cities under a population of 3,500)

WHAT Seminar discussing infrastructure and facilities management and funding

SPONSORED BY:



Municipal Funding Seminar Registration Form

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Names of Additional Attendees: _____

Number of Attendees: _____ X \$15 = Total Payment: \$ _____

Return to: I&S Group, 115 East Hickory Street, Suite 300, Mankato, MN 56001