

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND
MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

Introduced By: Senators DiMario, F. Lombardi, Lauria, Bell, Valverde, and Lawson

Date Introduced: March 01, 2024

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 42-11.4-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-11.4 entitled "The
2 Rhode Island Municipal Infrastructure Grant Program" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **42-11.4-1. Establishment.**

4 The Rhode Island municipal infrastructure grant program is hereby created within the
5 Rhode Island infrastructure bank. The Rhode Island infrastructure bank shall have all the powers
6 necessary and convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter,
7 including, without limiting the generality of the preceding statement, the authority to:

8 (1) Issue public infrastructure grants to municipalities and other public instrumentalities
9 for design, construction, building, land acquisition, rehabilitation, repair, and other improvements
10 to publicly owned infrastructure including, but not limited to, sewers, utility extensions, streets,
11 roads, curb-cuts, parking, water-treatment systems, telecommunications systems, transit
12 improvements, and pedestrian ways;

13 (2) Assist municipalities to advance projects that support job creation and expansion,
14 housing development and rehabilitation, community development projects in areas or districts that
15 communities have determined are best suited to efficiently accommodate future growth and
16 redevelopment, largely in previously developed areas with some level of existing or planned
17 infrastructure;

18 (3) Establish a fund within the Rhode Island infrastructure bank to receive and disburse

1 such funds as may be available for the purpose of the program, subject to the provisions of this
2 section;

3 (4) Make and enter into binding commitments to provide grants to municipalities and other
4 public instrumentalities from amounts on deposit in the program fund;

5 (5) Engage the services of third-party vendors to provide professional services;

6 (6) Establish one or more accounts within the fund; ~~and~~

7 (7) Such other authority as granted to the Rhode Island infrastructure bank under this
8 chapter and chapter 12.2 of title 46; and

9 (8) Notwithstanding any general law, public law, special law, or budget appropriation
10 designation to the contrary, the five million five hundred thousand dollars (\$5,500,000)
11 appropriated to the infrastructure bank for the municipal matching grant pool pursuant to the 2023
12 budget act, Pub. L. 2023, chap. 79, art 10, § 1, shall instead be allocated for eligible municipal
13 infrastructure grant program projects only, as described within this chapter.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- THE RHODE ISLAND
MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

- 1 This act would provide that the \$5,500,000 appropriation to the infrastructure bank from
- 2 the 2023 budget act be allocated for eligible municipal infrastructure grant program projects.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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