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Economic Development Department assists communities with MainStreet Capital Outlay Projects

SANTA FE, NM – The Economic Development Department is assisting communities with MainStreet capital outlay projects from 2008, by lowering the community match necessary to take advantage of moneys for economic development projects around the state.

The concerns over the national economic crisis and the State's budget shortfall has prompted Cabinet Secretary Fred Mondragón to reevaluate the matching funds needed by communities to tap into capital outlay funds set aside for MainStreet economic development work. Typically communities must match the capital outlay dollars 1:2 or 50,000 to every 100,000 granted, under the new standards communities will match only 1:10 or 10,000 to every 100,000, and the match can be in kind services from the municipality and the MainStreet organization.

“We hope this move will help communities around the state continue to move forward with important economic development projects that will assist with job creation and growth. We know that most of our communities are facing shortfalls, and we don't want that to affect their ability to get these projects up and running in a timely manner,” said Secretary Mondragón.

This change in matching requirements will impact 13 communities around the state with 1.5 million in capital outlay funds made available in fiscal year 2008. The MainStreet Capital Outlay funds are competitive and the amount awarded to MainStreet communities annually varies, depending on an appropriation from the state legislature and Governor Richardson. The funds go for infrastructure and capital improvements into New Mexico's downtowns to leverage private sector reinvestment.

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