



South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority

Infrastructure Funding Programs Update

**Government Finance Officers
of Association SC
May 1, 2023**



Agenda



- RIA's Mission
- SCIIP Program Awards
- RIA State Funding Opportunities
- SRF Funding Opportunities
- Partnerships/Coordination

Community Sustainability



Increase community sustainability by helping to maintain reliable and affordable infrastructure

Quality of Life



Improve quality of life by addressing public health, environmental and regulatory concerns

Economic Impact



Create opportunities by building the infrastructure capacity to support economic growth

Mission

Help close the financial gap for infrastructure improvements and lay the groundwork for economic opportunities.



South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program



Creation of SCIIP



Purpose

To utilize funds for critical infrastructure projects that will have transformational impact on community needs

- Transformational Impact
- Additional Investment
- Rural Outreach
- Cooperative Solutions
- Accountability
- Transparency

ARPA Funds Available



	Round 1 2022	Round 2 2023	Totals
Competitive Grants	\$783M	\$486M	\$1.269B
Special Economic Development Grants	\$100M	\$100M	\$200M
Admin/ Other Costs	\$17M	-	\$17M
Totals	\$900M	\$586M	\$1.486B

Competitive Programs of Assistance



INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

- Water, Sewer, Stormwater
- \$10 million grants
- Local Investment:
 - **25% Large Utilities**
(30,000+ population)
 - **15% Small Utilities**
(<30,000 population or Tier III/IV counties)

REGIONAL SOLUTIONS GRANTS

- Capital improvements for multiple systems to implement regional partnership solutions
- \$10 million grants
- 15% local investment

PLANNING GRANTS

- Studies to evaluate system needs and identify capital projects to achieve viability for smallest systems
- \$1 million grants
- No match

Community Impact Grants Priorities for Assistance



1. Regional Solutions
2. Water Quality
3. Resilience & Storm Protection
4. Other Aging Infrastructure
5. Capacity



All Applications



306

Applications
Received

\$1.9B

SCIIP Funds
Requested

\$1.1B

Other Funds
Match

\$43M

State Funds
Requested
Match

Total Requests vs Awards



306

Applications Received

\$1.9B

SCIIP Funds Requested

216

Grants Awarded

\$1.369B

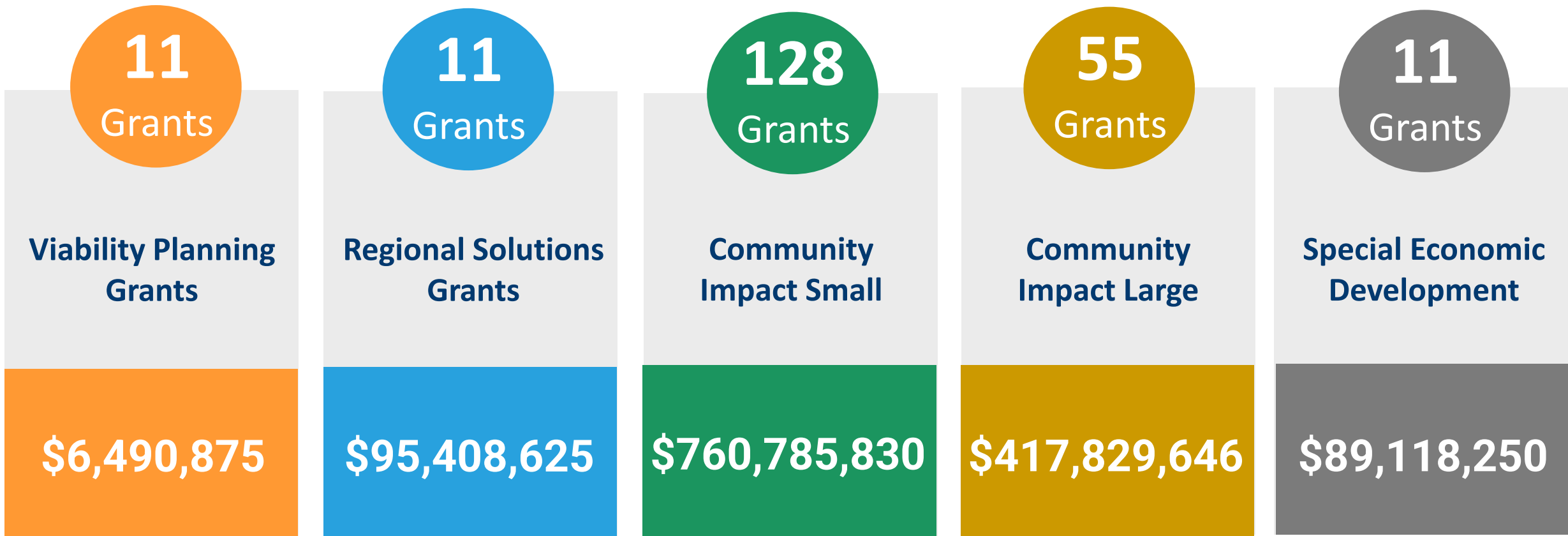
SCIIP Funds Awarded



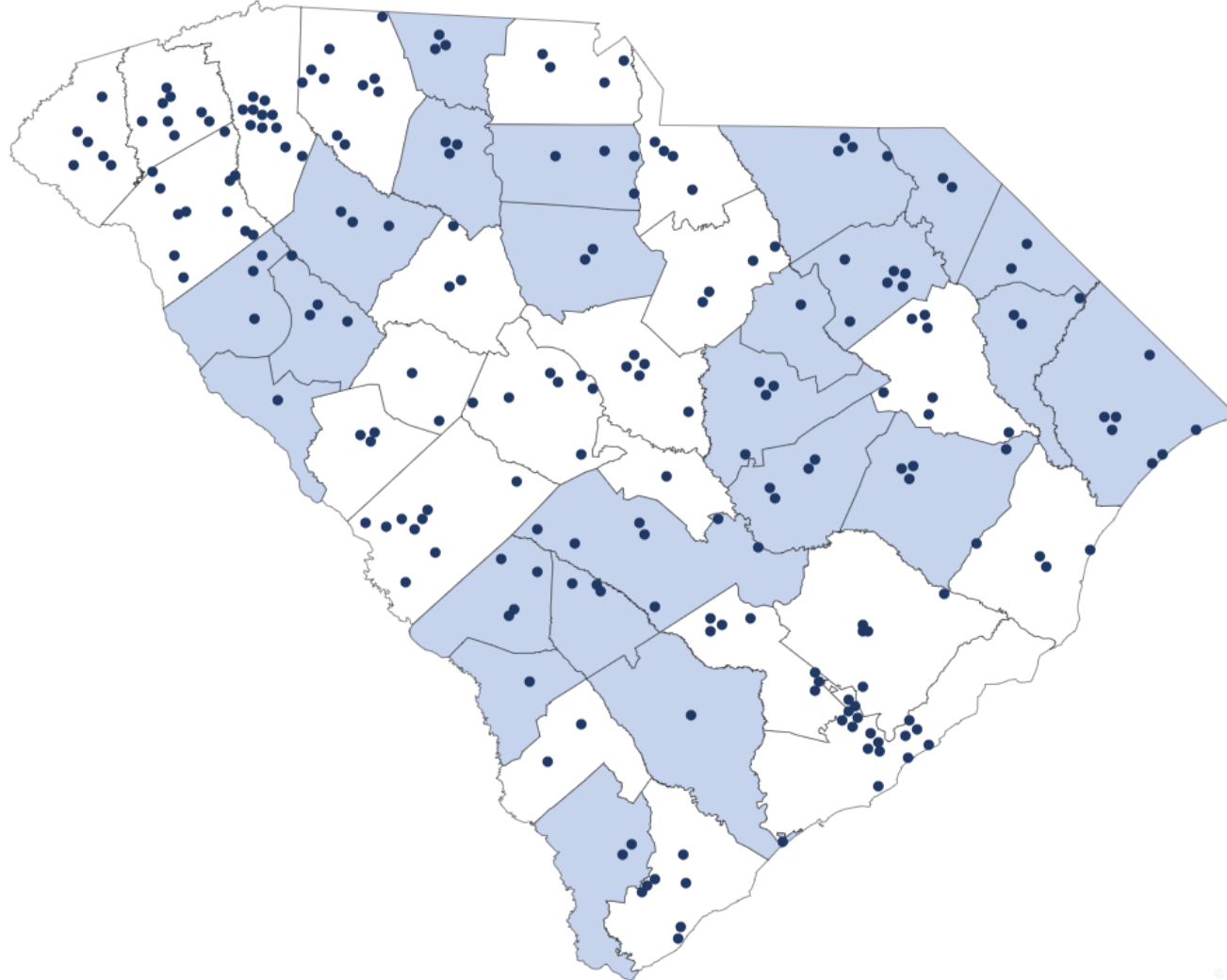
Total SCIIP Awards



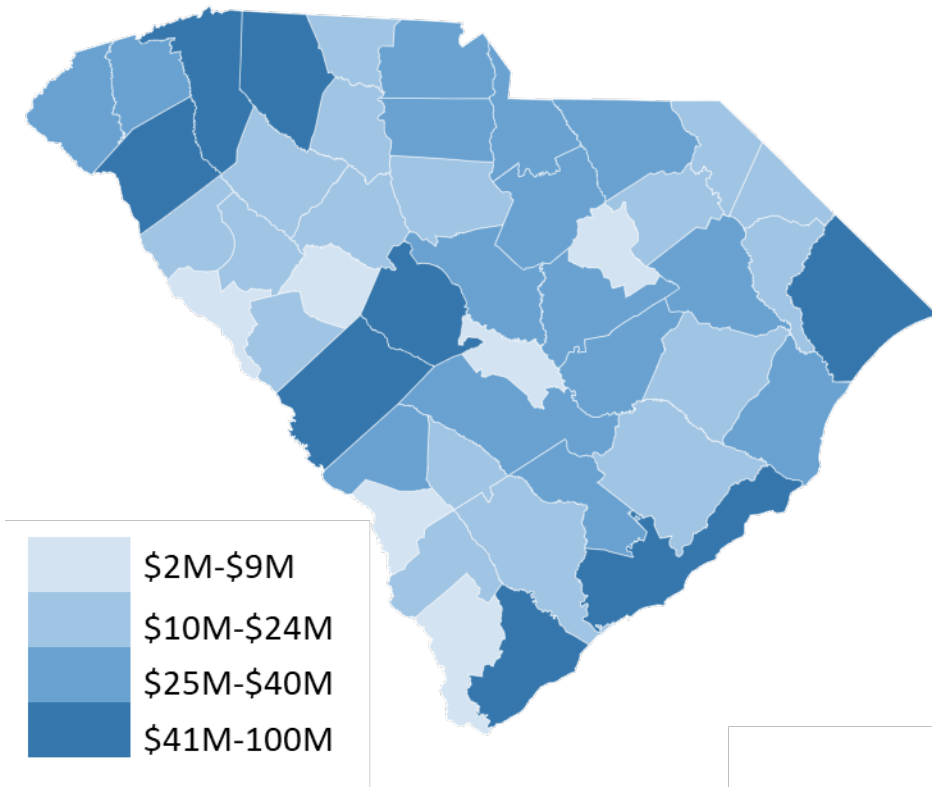
216 Grants | \$1.369B SCIIP Grant Dollars



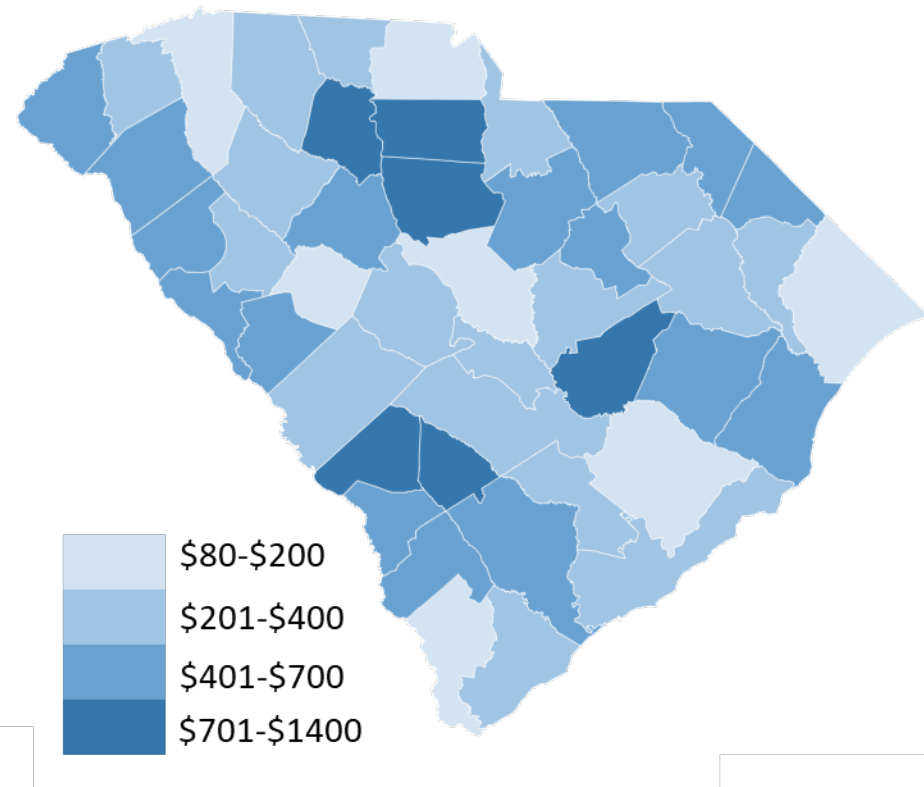
Awards by Location



Funds Awarded & Per Capita



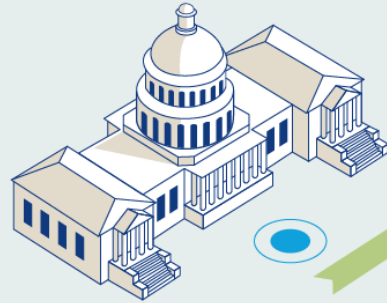
Total



Per Capita

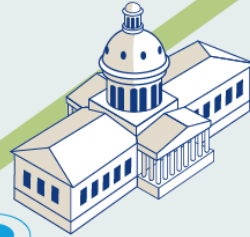
South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP)

\$1.369 billion in federal infrastructure funding for water, wastewater and stormwater systems in South Carolina communities



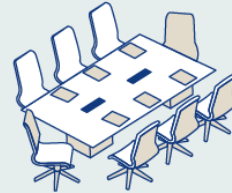
1

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
Funding to States via State and
Local Fiscal Recovery Funds



2

S.C. General Assembly
Allocations to State
Agencies



3

S.C. Rural Infrastructure
Authority Board of Directors'
Award Decisions



4

216

SCIIP Grant Awards across South Carolina

Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure
Projects in Local Communities

Timeline

Federal Obligation



Deadline: December 31, 2024
Met: April 24, 2023

Federal Expenditure

Deadline: December 31, 2026

Federal Requirements



Acceptance of SCIIP Grant Awards requires compliance with the following:

- US Treasury Final Rule for ARPA, and other Treasury rules, policies, procedures, and directives;
- Uniform Guidance (2 CFR 200), including Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements; and
- SCIIP Grant Agreement, Program Management Procedures and other state or federal directives



Agency Coordination



SC Office of Regulatory Staff

Implementation of a “dig once” plan for incorporation of broadband conduit during SCIIP construction

SC Department of Transportation

Agency commitment and coordination for SCIIP-identified projects that require DOT ROW

SC Department of Health & Environmental Control

Agency commitment and coordination for SCIIP-identified projects that require DHEC permits

Increasing efficiencies to meet the SCIIP expenditure deadline



South Carolina
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RIA State Grant Program

State Grants

Estimated Funding Available 2024

Basic Infrastructure
Emergencies

\$16.5M

Economic
Infrastructure/Jobs

\$5M

Planning Grants

\$3.5M

\$26 Million
Total Available



Basic/Emergencies

Funding to assist communities in complying with environmental quality standards, protecting public health, and improving capacity.



Economic/Jobs

Funding to help build or enhance local infrastructure to support economic development that will create jobs and boost opportunities for future economic impact.

RIA State Grant Programs



Planning Grants

Funding to support water and sewer systems in planning for long-term viability including regional solutions.

Who is Eligible



Local Governments

Special Purpose & Public Service Districts

Public Works Commissions

Activities/Thresholds



Construction Activities Only

One Applicant per Program Category

One Approved RIA Grant per Category

Applicant Must Own/Maintain Facilities

Eligibility

RIA State Grant Programs



What is Eligible

Build, upgrade, improve or extend publicly owned water, sewer and storm drainage infrastructure. Planning activities related to water, sewer and stormwater.

Requirements by County

Tier I & Tier II Counties

Construction/Planning Cost

25%

Tier III & Tier IV Counties

No
Match

**Grantee Match
Requirement**
RIA State Grant Programs

Meeting Local Match

- ✓ Source may be federal, state, local or private
- ✓ Must be associated with RIA project
- ✓ Can be used on RIA non-eligible construction activities



Basic/Economic

Current: \$500,000

Could be increased to
\$1,000,000



Planning

Current: \$100,000

Could be increased to
\$250,000

**Maximum Allowable
Grant Amounts**



Working Together:
A Path to Water Viability

2

Coordinating Assistance

RIA will focus on creating a **partnership of stakeholders** to make recommendations for coordination of assistance and new programs.

Viability Strategies

1

Utility Viability Identification

3

Leveraging Partnerships

4

Targeted Financial Assistance



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State Revolving Fund (SRF)



DHEC is the EPA grantee and manages the technical aspects of the program

Partnership in Program Management



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RIA's Office of Local Government (OLG) handles the financial responsibilities of the program.

State Revolving Fund (SRF)

Clean Water (CWSRF)

- Wastewater & Stormwater Projects

Drinking Water (DWSRF)

- Drinking Water Projects



A modern building with large glass windows and a stone base, set against a sunset sky. The building features a prominent overhanging roof and a series of vertical glass panels. The sky is a mix of blue, purple, and orange, suggesting dusk or dawn. The building's interior lights are visible through the glass panels.

Financing Solutions

Since 2016:

104 loans | \$748M

An Affordable Financing Tool



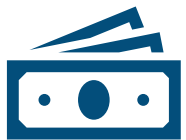
Below-market interest rates



Terms up to 30 years



Fixed rate financing



100% financing of eligible costs

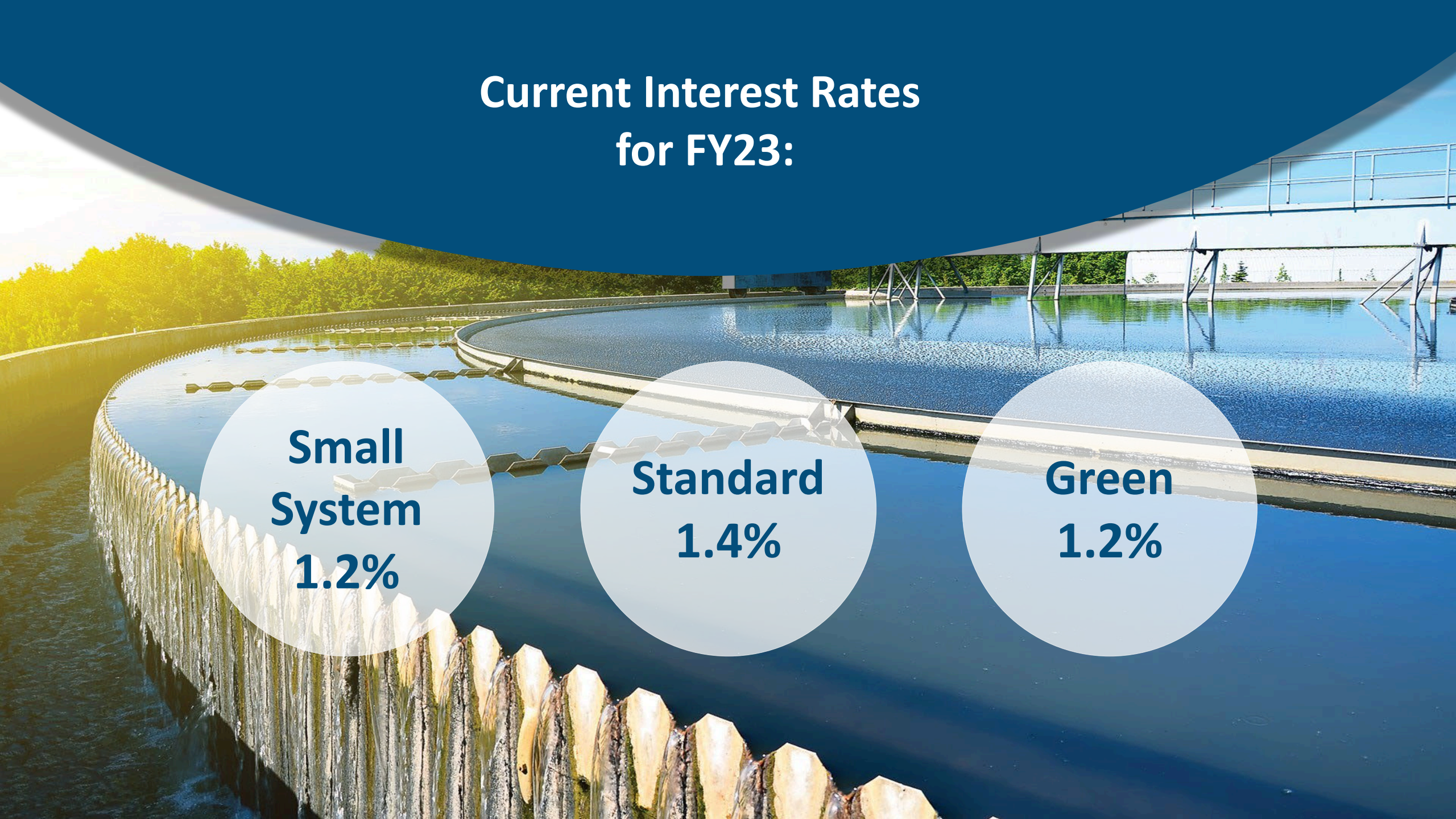
**State
Revolving
Fund (SRF)**

Current Interest Rates for FY23:

**Small
System
1.2%**

**Standard
1.4%**

**Green
1.2%**



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

Significant increases for SRF loans and principal forgiveness funds for 5 years

Funding provided for:

- All SRF-eligible drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater projects
- Emerging contaminants
- Drinking water lead service line replacement



SRF Funding Increase for FY22

- Year 1 of 5 for increased funding
- Increase from **\$16M to \$32M**

All Eligible Projects*

Loans **\$20M** | Principal Forgiveness **\$11M**

Emerging Contaminants

Principal Forgiveness **\$1M**

* Includes Base and BIL General Supplemental Funds

**Clean Water
(CWSRF)**

SRF Funding Increase for FY22

- Year 1 of 5 for increased funding
- Increase from **\$14M to \$79M**

All Eligible Projects*

Loans **\$19M** | Principal Forgiveness **\$14M**

Emerging Contaminants

Principal Forgiveness **\$10M**

Lead Service Line Replacement

Loan **\$18M** | Principal Forgiveness **\$18M**

*Includes Base and BIL General Supplemental Funds

**Drinking
Water (DWSRF)**

SRF Principal Forgiveness Eligibility

Eligible sponsors must meet three criteria

- Small System (pop. <10,000)
- Median Household Income (MHI) less than the State MHI
- Sponsor does not qualify for an SRF loan

Also, viable system taking ownership of nonviable or abandoned system

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Federal requirements apply to any project funded in whole or in part by SRF

Lead Service Line Replacements

Project Funding:

Loan

+

Minimum 49% All
Principal Forgiveness



Program Requirements

- SRF loan must be taken out for the portion of the project not funded through SRF Principal Forgiveness.
 - Must be a loan eligible system
- Each draw request must consist of a loan and PF portion by ratio. The ratio will be set in the Loan Agreement.
 - The loan portion will be no greater than 51%
- $\geq 67\%$ of the work must be in disadvantaged areas as demonstrated in a socio-economic study.
- * Disadvantaged criteria must include a Median Household Income of less than the state average but may consider other factors

Program Requirements

- Must have lead service line inventory completed for the proposed replacement areas


- Must replace the entire lead service line up to building inlet*

* Unless a portion has previously been replaced (includes private side work)

- All projects must comply with SRF equivalency requirements including:
 - Build America, Buy America (BABA);
 - Davis-Bacon Wages; and
 - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

Project Questionnaires (PQ)

- Submit a two-page Project Questionnaire (PQ) to DHEC
- Available at: scdhec.gov/srfcall
- LSLR PQs are **due by March 31, 2023**
- Email completed PQs to SRF-Info@dhec.sc.gov and include any supporting documentation you may have (PER, etc.)
- Priority ranking system

	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Questionnaire	
		SCDHEC Use Only SRF -
SPONSOR INFORMATION		
1. Project Sponsor	_____	
2. Sponsor Address	_____	
3. Sponsor Contact	Title	_____
Contact Phone	Email	_____
PROJECT INFORMATION <i>(Please refer to instructions)</i>		
4. Project Title	_____	
5. County where project takes place	_____	
6. Describe and define the project location. Please supply any coordinates or street addresses . <input type="checkbox"/> Attach a project map, or, maps, showing both a regional view and a project level view.	_____	
7. Project Description - Describe the scope of the project.	_____	
8. Describe in specific detail how the project will protect / improve public health or achieve / maintain compliance with drinking water standards. <i>(Attach evidence of deficiencies.)</i>	_____	

Other Infrastructure Grant Programs





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Contact Information



General Questions
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**South Carolina
Rural Infrastructure Authority**

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We are here to help!



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Grant Managers



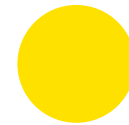
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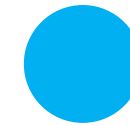
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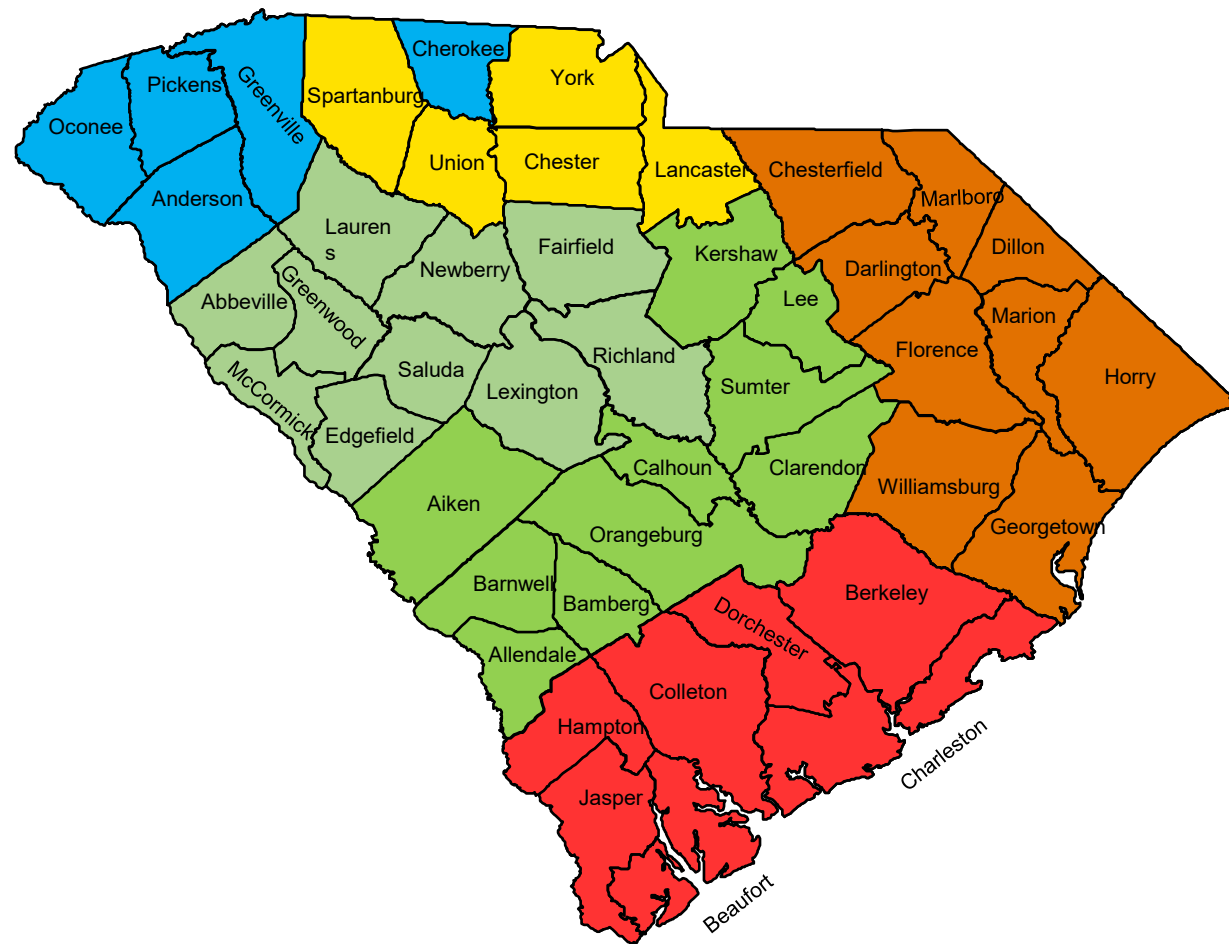
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Questions?