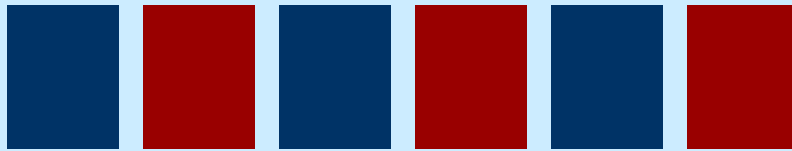


Connecting the Dots

COG's effort to ensure that the stimulus funding will be a value-added effort and provide a competitive advantage for our region.



Presentation of COG's Online Regional Information Center for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

April 8, 2009

Connecting the Dots: COG's ARRA Online Center

Background

COG's ARRA Regional Action Plan includes:

- Assisting area governments in identifying ARRA information, deadlines and funding opportunities;
- Convening government officials and other stakeholders to identify and share best practices for ARRA investments and programs; and
- Identifying and seeking opportunities to leverage ARRA funding for regional and/or COG-led projects.

Connecting the Dots:
COG's ARRA Online Center

Screen Shot

To help implement this plan, COG is creating an online center to serve as a clearinghouse for information to help the region maximize the benefit of federal stimulus dollars.

www.mwcog.org/recovery

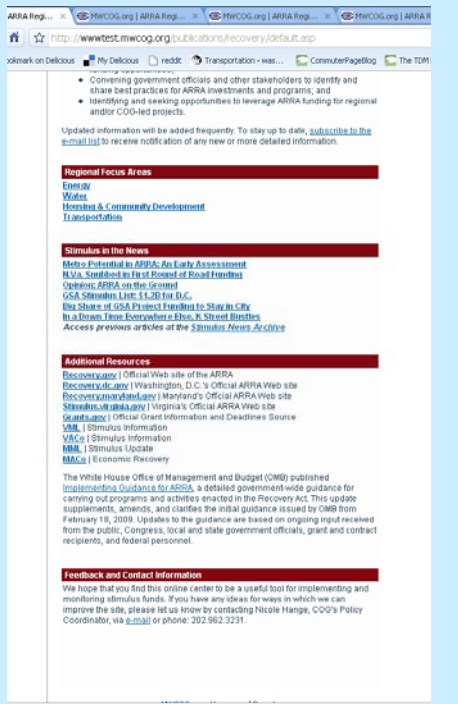


Connecting the Dots:
COG's ARRA Online Center

Screen Shot

The online center will explore Regional Focus Areas receiving stimulus funds, including Energy, Water, Housing and Community Development, and Transportation. Additional focus areas may be added in the future.

The site also includes an in-depth description of any initiatives that COG will be pursuing within that focus area.



Connecting the Dots:
COG's ARRA Online Center

Screen Shot

Each of the four Regional Focus Areas has a page that includes information on the various programs funded by the ARRA.

Housing & Community Development screen shot shown as an example.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs for 'MWCog.org | ARRA Reg...'. The address bar shows 'http://wwwbest.mwcog.org/publications/recovery/housing.asp'. The page title is 'American Recovery & Reinvestment Act Regional Information Center'. The main heading is 'HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'. Below this, there are links for 'Neighborhood Stabilization | Community Development Block Grants | Homelessness Prevention'. An 'Updates' section lists HUD awards to the Housing Opportunities Commission, the Rockville Housing Enterprises, and the Virginia Photo to Bring Jobs, Economic Independence to Public Housing Residents. A section for the 'Neighborhood Stabilization Program (MSP)' provides details on funding opportunity number HUD-RA-04, closing date September 01, 2009, and an estimated total program funding of \$1.98 billion. An overview explains that Congress authorized funding to assist communities severely impacted by housing foreclosures. It notes that grants have already been awarded and that the ARRA makes available another \$2 billion of NSP funding through competitive grants to state, local governments, non-profit entities, or consortia of non-profit entities for similar stabilization efforts. A state breakdown lists Washington, D.C. with \$2.83 million and Maryland (Montgomery County) with \$2.07 million.

Connecting the Dots: COG's ARRA Online Center

Comments/Feedback

This is an exciting and defining time in our history and the actions we take now will determine the region's ability to emerge stronger and more competitive. COG intends to be a partner in that process.

We hope that you find this online center to be a useful tool for implementing and monitoring stimulus funds. If you have any ideas for ways we can improve the site, please contact Nicole Hange, COG's Policy Coordinator, via e-mail: nhange@mwcog.org or phone: 202.962.3231.