rihousing

Municipal Technical Assistance Program (MTAP)

Application Deadline: July 17, 2025, 3:00 PM EDT

Applications must be submitted via: https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/79e09026ba884edfb12fd409bd9b48a5

RIHousing is reopening applications for the Municipal Technical Assistance Program (MTAP) on a competitive basis. Rhode Island is facing a critical housing shortage due to decades of underproduction of rental housing and homeownership opportunities. This has rapidly increased housing costs and an extremely low inventory of available homes and apartments, putting safe and affordable housing out of reach for many Rhode Islanders. In 2023, \$4 million was initially made available for municipal technical assistance, and the program temporarily closed in 2024. The program has now been reopened. This program is funded by the State of Rhode Island.

FUNDING AVAILABLE: Approximately \$1,600,000

MAXIMUM FUNDING AWARD: \$100,000 per project.

Multiple municipalities may jointly apply for consultant services for larger or regional projects, in which case they may qualify for the lower of \$100,000 per participating community or up to \$500,000 in total in consultant services. RIHousing reserves the right to exceed the price caps for projects that demonstrate potential to significantly increase housing production or access to affordable housing opportunities.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES:

Needs analysis: Assistance in identifying where affordable housing could/should be built in the community. Municipalities may target areas of the community and/or specific properties.

Updating land use and permitting requirements: Assist municipalities with updating/improving their zoning/land use requirements and/or permitting process to remove barriers to housing development.

Developing model zoning ordinances: Assistance in developing model zoning ordinances that increase density, promote a mix of housing types, and otherwise remove barriers to housing development.

Infrastructure capacity assessment: Assistance in evaluating the capacity of a municipality's infrastructure (such as water and sewer service) to serve existing and planned development and/or determine infrastructure needs to serve future development.

Public engagement and education: Share techniques and tools to respond to resident opposition that is preventing residential development and engage the community in support of proposed affordable developments or proposed zoning/land use changes that would facilitate housing development.

Comprehensive Plans: Assistance in updating the Housing Element of Comprehensive Plans.

TIMELINE:

Project activities must be completed within 18 months of an award. Municipalities may request an extension of up to 6 months to address extenuating circumstances.

APPROVED CONSULTANTS FOR MTAP

Click to learn more about each consultant and their services.

- <u>Anser Advisory Consulting, LLC</u>
- Barrett Planning Group LLC
- Camoin Associates, Inc.
- Horsley Witten Group, Inc.
- HousingWorks RI at Roger Williams University
- Innes Associates Ltd.
- Libra Planners
- Ninigret Partners, LLC
- RKG Associates, Inc.
- Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
- Weston & Sampson Services, Inc.

Consultants may subcontract to other entities for some elements of proposed projects as necessary, with the approval of RIHousing.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Program funds may not be used to reimburse consultants for costs incurred prior to the award of funds or for work that the municipality has already contracted with the consultant to complete.

Municipalities must select a consultant eligible to work on their program and ask them to prepare a proposal that includes a formal scope of work, budget, and timeline. Municipalities must directly contact the consultant(s) for this information. Municipalities may contact one or more consultants and choose the consultant they would like to engage.

Municipalities must submit letters of support on municipal letterhead from the chief municipal authority (Mayor, Town Administrator, or Town Council Chair as appropriate).

If a project proposal is approved, RIHousing will contract directly with the consultant for all programs and reimburse them for program-related expenses.

<u>Awards will be made on a competitive basis.</u> Funding is not guaranteed. Additional contract terms will apply.

Questions must be submitted via email to Stacy Wasserman at swasserman@rihousing.com.