

AMERICAN REINVESTMENT & RECOVERY ACT OF 2009

SUMMARY OF KEY PROVISIONS AND RESOURCES RELATED TO GREEN BUILDING



[>> Click here for an overview of USGBC's resources for economic recovery](#)

The funding provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 offer a tremendous opportunity for states and localities to green existing buildings that might otherwise remain inefficient and unhealthy and at the same time to create green jobs. USGBC's LEED Green Building Rating Systems offer highly-respected and nationally-accepted benchmarks for best practices that can optimize funding spent on buildings and communities. USGBC has prepared this chart to give a brief overview of some of the provisions in the bill and a sampling of resources that can be used to ensure that sustainable buildings and communities remain a priority in the way economic recovery funds are spent.

This chart is intended to offer summary highlights of provisions of the Act with the understanding that agencies will offer new guidance over the next several weeks. This information and available resources will continue to change, so please check back for updated information.

For a complete summary of the Act, please visit:

<http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/PressSummary02-13-09.pdf>

For the full text of the legislation, please visit:

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1enr.txt.pdf

For tracking of the funding and further information:

<http://www.recovery.gov>

GENERAL RESOURCES AND LEARNING

[White House & OMB Guidance on Recovery Act](#)

Find the Office of Management and Budget's official guidance on usage of funds from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act.

[USGBC Economic Recovery Resources](#)

Find USGBC's hub for resources and information related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the ties between green jobs and green building, and additional resources for governments looking to take advantage of funds for green projects.

[USGBC Stimulus Plan Implementation Webinar Series](#)

This webinar series provides a forum for questions and conversation including information on how to use the matrix, USGBC resources and expert guidance from the Clinton Climate Initiative.

[USGBC "Online-Anytime" Course Catalog](#)

Find a course on many green building subject areas, including: implementing energy retrofits, and developing green building policies.

[Roadmap to Sustainable Government Buildings](#)

Find answers from your peers in the government sector on how to build an effective green building program and implement the LEED rating systems.

[Playbook for Green Buildings + Neighborhoods](#)

Find best practices and how-tos for green building policy programs at the local level, spanning green neighborhoods, green buildings and green infrastructure.

[USGBC Government Community Strategy Sessions](#)

Find a peer-to-peer outlet for Q&A on green building from a government perspective including presentations on building codes.

[USGBC Resource & Education Center on Green Schools](#)

Find introductory and in-depth information as well as news and media on green schools, including case studies, videos, and slide shows.

[USGBC's Online Green Home Guide](#)

Find in-depth information on greening residential buildings, including research & publications, expert commentary, and do-it-yourself tips.

[USGBC Database: LEED Initiatives in Governments & Schools](#)

Find leading examples from across the country that encourage, adopt and incentivize green building using LEED as a benchmark.

[USGBC Information, Education and More](#)

Find additional information on U.S. Green Building Council programs, LEED, press and media, and chapter organizations near you.

SCHOOLS PROVISIONS

SCHOOLS PROVISIONS			RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS		
Program Name	Funding Description	Additional Information	Ties to USGBC Mission and Green Building	Best Practices to Share and Utilize	More Information
<p>State Fiscal Stabilization Fund: \$53.6b (approx. \$8.8b is for discretionary use by the Governor, which may include school modernization)</p>	<p>Roughly \$8.8 billion of this \$53.6 billion fund administered by U.S. Dep't of Education will be available for governors to use in addressing "public safety and other government services," which may include school modernization, renovation, and repair consistent with a recognized green building rating system.</p>	<p>US Department of Education: Schools Modernization Guidance for an overview of provisions and resources available for schools modernization from the Act.</p> <p>Under the Act, state stabilization funds are available for distribution to states whose governors must apply for stabilization funds. After reserving funds for administration, outlying areas, and innovation and incentive grants, the Department of Education will allocate funds to states. On receipt, states are to dedicate 81.8% of any funds received to restoring state funding to school districts and higher education institutions. The remaining 18.2% of the funds (roughly \$8.8 billion) will be available for discretionary use by the Governor for "public safety and other government services," which may include school modernization, renovation, and repair projects, including those consistent with a recognized green building rating system.</p>	<p><i>Green schools are the stepping stone towards a greener, more efficient, sustainable and prosperous future. Greening existing schools offers the biggest opportunity to provide healthy buildings for the next generation. This funding provides opportunities to green schools that otherwise would continue to be operated in ways that are inefficient and, in some cases, unhealthy. In addition, attending a green school and having a green curriculum ensures that green</i></p>	<p>LEED for Schools - The Rating System contains guidance for building a new green school or performing a green major renovation of a school facility.</p> <p>LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance - The Rating System contains green guidance for minor renovations, energy audits, and operations improvements.</p> <p>West Brazos Junior High School - a case study and success-story from a green school construction project in Texas, built for 18% less than the regional average for middle school construction costs.</p> <p>Rosa Parks Elementary School - fulfilling the educational mission of the school, this success story from Oregon tells of a smart and healthy learning environment coupled with operational savings.</p>	<p>Energy Efficiency Strategies for Schools web series introducing energy efficiency measures that can significantly improve the energy performance of school facilities.</p> <p>Build Green Schools for all the introductory and in-depth information on building and operating efficient, healthy and productive schools.</p> <p>Greening Schools Research for premiere research and publications on the costs and benefits of green schools in America.</p> <p>The LEED in Existing Schools pilot program provides training and resources that help schools and school districts to crack the code for the greening of operations and maintenance practices. For more information on how to participate in the program, contact: GreenExSchools@gmail.com</p> <p>Introduction to LEED for Schools Online Course defines the benefits of green schools especially for student and teacher</p>
<p>Impact Aid: \$100m</p>	<p>Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Education for construction grants under the Impact Aid program, which provides financial assistance to school districts that are financially affected by reduced property tax bases due to tax-exempt federal activities and properties (such as Indian lands, military bases). After providing for management and oversight, 40% of funding under the Act is to be distributed by formula, and the remaining 60% is to be awarded as competitive grants.</p>	<p>Among the criteria to be considered for the competitive grants is "[t]he extent to which the new design and proposed construction utilize energy efficient and recyclable materials" and "[t]he extent to which the new design and proposed construction utilizes non-traditional or alternative building methods to expedite construction and project completion and maximize cost efficiency."</p>			

<p>Bureau of Indian Affairs Construction Funding: \$450m</p>	<p>- Provides funding to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the “repair and restoration of roads; replacement school construction; school improvements and repairs; and detention center maintenance and repairs.”</p>
<p>School Construction Bonds: \$22b; \$400m</p>	<p>Creates a new form of tax credit bonds that may be issued by states and local governments “for the construction, rehabilitation, or repair of a public school facility” or for the purchase of land where a public school facility will be built. The amount of the bonds is capped at \$22 billion over two years (\$11 billion 2009; \$11 billion 2010).</p> <p>Authorizes the Secretary of Interior to allocate \$400 million (\$200 million for 2009 and \$200 million for 2010) in qualified school construction bonds for use in supporting construction, rehabilitation, and repair projects in Bureau of Indian Affairs-funded schools.</p>
<p>Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZABs): Increases authorization by \$1.4b</p>	<p>Increases the authorization for QZABs (tax credit bonds) that may be issued by states and localities in 2009 and 2010 to finance certain activities in “qualified zone academies,” including the renovation of school facilities, purchase of educational materials, curriculum development, and personnel training.</p> <p>Qualified zone academies are public schools and public school programs located in designated empowerment zones or enterprise communities, or those with at least 35% of students eligible for free or reduced lunch, that collaborate with businesses in the creation of educational programming to enhance learning, and develop employment skills and opportunities.</p>

practices become a way of life and prepares students fo step into green jobs upon graduation. The resources listed in the next two columns will connect you to best practices for greening both new and existing schools as well as case studies and examples of green curriculums.

[LEED as a Tool for Performance Strategies](#) for a list of potential building renovation and retrofit work areas that could benefit from specific guidance and performance benchmarks via the various LEED rating systems.

productivity and health. Also addressed are funding issues such as sources, bonds & tax issues, and how to make the case to decision makers.

[Build Green Schools](#) for all the introductory and in-depth information on building and operating efficient, healthy and productive schools.

>> [USGBC Resources for Economic Recovery](#)

[Best Practices in Green Education](#) - Browse a sampling of award winning education programs.

[Green Schools Fact Sheet](#) for an overview of the benefits of green schools.

[Green Schools at the Top of the Agenda](#) - This article reviews the growth of green schools at the federal, state and local levels.

[Find a Green Schools Advocate](#) to connect with experienced green building professionals and find out about current and ongoing green school initiatives in your area.

ENERGY PROVISIONS

ENERGY PROVISIONS			RESOURCES ON ENERGY		
Program Name	Funding Description	Additional Information	Ties to USGBC Mission and Green Building	Best Practices to Share and Utilize	More Information
Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant: \$3.2b	Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Energy for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, created by the 2007 energy law to support energy efficiency initiatives of state, local, and tribal governments. Under the Act, \$2.8 billion is to be distributed through formula, and \$400 million is to be distributed through competitive grants for energy efficiency projects.	<p>DOE's Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Fund Web site for more general and specific info on the EECBGs.</p> <p>Title V, Subtitle E of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007---Eligible activities for grants include conducting residential and commercial building energy audits; developing and implementing energy efficiency & conservation strategy; retaining consultant services to assist in the development of such a strategy; installing LEDs. Units of local government (including Indian tribes) that are not eligible entities, and consortia of those units of local gov't, can submit an application at the time and in the manner that the DOE Secretary designates, including a plan outlining the eligible activities that they will be implementing.</p>	<p><i>Greening existing commercial buildings, existing homes and infrastructure is critical to ensure that the economic stimulus funding achieves the goals of not only creating jobs but also meeting critical needs for infrastructure upgrades and ongoing maintenance. The cost savings that come from efficiency in energy and water can ensure the long term financial success of a family or a business.</i></p>	<p>Babylon, NY - Innovative policies and programs that are effectively addressing residential energy efficiency with immediate benefits and little or no up-front costs.</p> <p>Washington, DC - DC's Department of the Environment is offering free home energy audits to educate consumers and spur action on weatherization and energy efficiency.</p> <p>Los Angeles, CA - This case study details the costs and projected ROI for the City's LED street lighting project, as part of the City's work with the Clinton Climate Initiative.</p> <p>Best Practices on Block Grant Programs for a future collection of best practices on block grant programs being developed by the National Association of State Energy Officials.</p>	<p>NASEO - Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs for Potential Stimulus Implementation</p> <p>Roadmap to Sustainable Government Buildings for in-depth resources and case-studies for government agencies to maximize the results of government building-focused sustainability or efficiency programs. (see: Implement LEED-Existing Buildings; Implement LEED- New Construction)</p> <p>Introduction to Energy Performance Contracting - The EPA's web site with general information on EPCs.</p> <p>Energy Efficient Building Retrofit Program for an overview of the Clinton Climate Initiative's efforts to reduce energy consumption in existing buildings.</p>
State Energy Program (SEP): \$3.1b	Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Energy for the State Energy Program, which provides funding to states and state energy offices for energy initiatives, and renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.	<p>State Energy Program Web site for program overview, technical assistance, news and guidance on SEP grants.</p> <p>Under the Act, SEP grants above the base allocation are conditioned on the receipt of assurances from governors related to regulatory policies regarding utilities and consumer energy efficiency; the implementation of building energy codes that meet or exceed the most recent version of the IECC for residential and ASHRAE 90.1-2007 for commercial (or equivalent), as well as a plan for achieving code</p>	<p><i>LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance offers best practices for ongoing building operations. This tool can help to lower the cost of operating the building not just in the short term but over the lifetime of the building. The third party verification that LEED offers can be used to ensure that the economic recovery funds do not</i></p>	<p>LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance - The Rating System contains green guidance for minor renovations, energy audits, and operations improvements.</p> <p>LEED as a Tool for Performance Strategies for a list of potential building renovation and retrofit work areas that could benefit from specific guidance and</p>	<p>Greenbuild 365 course catalog for easy-to-find educational offerings focused in and around green building.</p>

compliance within 8 years for 90% of all new and renovated residential and commercial space; and the prioritization of grant funds toward existing renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.

economic recovery, just as they go to waste because the buildings are not maintained. The links to the right of this column will bring you to the LEED rating systems as well as the Roadmap to Sustainable Government Buildings, a how-to guide that can help you build your own green building program. In addition, success stories from green building programs across the country are highlighted, as well as the sites of other organizations with helpful resources.

performance benchmarks via the various LEED rating systems.

[Performance Contracting by State](#) for a state-by-state guide to the status of energy service performance contracting enabling legislation (Oak Ridge National Laboratory).

[National Association of State Energy Officials Web site](#) for SEP success stories, SEP-funded projects, and specialized support for SEPs.

[Weatherization Information Resources](#) for general and specific information on the program and on weatherization.

Weatherization Assistance Program: \$5b

Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Energy for the Weatherization Assistance program, which funds home weatherization services for low-income families through community action agencies. The Act increases the income levels covered by the program to 200% of the federal poverty level, raises the amount of assistance available for each unit to \$6,500, and increases the amount of funding that is available for training and technical assistance to up to 20%.

[Weatherization Assistance Program Web site](#) for more information on the allocation formula

Pursuant to Title IV, Subtitle A, Section 411 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, the Secretary of Energy may make funding available to local weatherization agencies to expand the weatherization assistance program for residential buildings to include materials, benefits, and renewable and domestic energy technologies not covered by the program (as of the date of enactment of this Act), if the State weatherization grantee certifies that the applicant has the capacity to carry out the proposed activities and that the grantee will include the project in the financial oversight of the grantee of the weatherization assistance program.

>> [USGBC Resources for Economic Recovery](#)

[Annapolis, MD](#) - A new city program will offer tax-exempt, low-interest loans to property owners who install energy-efficient equipment.

[REGREEN](#) - Best practices and educational resources for sustainable residential improvement projects.

[Chicago, IL](#) - tuned up its gas-fired boilers and saved \$1.65 million in gas bills and 8,000 tons of CO2 per year.

[Consumer's Guide to Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy](#) for consumer-friendly resources and information from U.S. Dep't of Energy.

[Ann Arbor, MI](#) - A self-sustaining funding program for energy-efficient municipal projects that reduce operating costs and GHGs.

HOUSING PROVISIONS

HOUSING PROVISIONS			RESOURCES ON HOUSING		
Program Name	Funding Description	Additional Information	Ties to USGBC Mission and Green Building	Best Practices to Share and Utilize	More Information
Assisted Housing Retrofit Program: \$2.25b	Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Housing and Urban Development for payments and energy efficiency projects related to HUD-assisted housing. Under the Act, \$2b is to be distributed as 12-month payments to owners of certain HUD-assisted rental housing, and \$250m is for grants or loans for green and energy retrofitting investments in HUD-assisted housing.	U.S. Dep't of Housing and Urban Development for news, updates, and guidance on HUD program funding.		HUD Project Summaries demonstrating significant reductions in operating costs through investments in efficiency in public and assisted housing.	2008 USGBC Affordable Housing Green Building Summit for a review of the November, 2008 conversation.
Public Housing Capital Fund: \$4b	Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Housing and Urban Development for the Public Housing Capital Fund, with \$3b to be allocated by formula and \$1b as competitive grants. Under the Act, competitive grants are to be made available "for priority investments, including investments that leverage private sector funding or financing for renovations and energy conservation retrofit investments."	Public Law 105-276--Monies from the Public Housing Capital Fund may be used for the development, financing, and modernization of public housing developments and for management improvements. For competitive grants, the Public Housing Agency (PHA) must demonstrate that it has the legal authority to develop, own, modernize and operate a public housing development in accordance with the 1937 Act. The beneficiary must be low-income public housing residents.	<i>Greening existing homes is critical to ensure that the economic stimulus funding achieves the goals of not only creating jobs but providing affordable healthy housing to those that need it the most. The cost savings that come from efficiency in energy and water can ensure the long term financial success of a family or a business. Beyond ensuring energy and water efficiency, greening a home can protect the health of the occupants with better indoor air quality and saves them money in the cost of operating the home over the life of that home. These savings can mean the difference between keeping and losing a home.</i>	Oleson Woods - site-specific and community benefits of a green affordable housing development in Oregon.	REGREEN - Best practices and educational resources for sustainable residential improvement projects
HOME: \$2.25b (for use as Low-Income Housing Tax Credit gap funding)	Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Housing and Urban Development through the HOME Investment Partnerships program to provide gap funding for Low-Income Housing Tax Credit projects. Under the Act, such funds are to be provided to state housing credit agencies based on the HOME program formula. The state housing credit agencies are to distribute the funds through competition and according to their qualified allocation plans to owners of projects that have received or are at the same time receiving Low-Income Housing Tax Credits. Funds provided for by the Act are subject to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit limitations for rent, income, and use restrictions, and other relevant rules, rather than those of the HOME	Created as Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, the HOME program provides formula grants to States and localities that communities use--often in partnership with local nonprofit groups--to fund a wide range of activities that build, buy, and/or rehabilitate affordable housing for rent or homeownership or provide direct rental assistance to low-income people.		Morrisania Homes - facts, figures and narrative from an affordable housing success story in New York City's South Bronx community.	HUD Office of Environment and Energy for additional information and review requirements for energy and environmental components of HUD programs.
Native American Housing Block Grant: \$510m	Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Housing and Urban Development for the Native American Housing Block Grant program. Under the Act, 50% of the funds provided are to be	Indian Housing Block Grant Fund for specifics on the HUD program receiving funding.		The Case for National Commitment to Efficiency for Low-Income Households - A paper laying out the details and urgency in nation-wide efforts to bring efficiency to low income families.	HUD Energy Performance Contracting Toolkit for more detailed information and resources on energy performance contracting.

the Act, 50% of the funds provided are to be distributed through formula, and 50% through competitive grants. Formula funds must “be used for new construction, acquisition, rehabilitation including energy efficiency and conservation, and infrastructure development.”

Rural Housing:

Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Agriculture to make subsidized direct mortgage loans totaling \$1 billion and to guarantee \$10.472 billion in unsubsidized mortgages made by banks under USDA's Section 502 program, which provides low-cost mortgages to low-income rural families.

[HUD's Rural Housing and Economic](#)

[Development web site](#) for general and specific information on existing HUD programs and services for rural housing.

>> [USGBC Resources for Economic Recovery](#)

[Green Playbook](#) for details on leading programs on greening affordable housing

GREEN JOB TRAINING PROVISIONS

GREEN JOB TRAINING PROVISIONS			RESOURCES ON GREEN JOBS		
Program Name	Funding Description	Additional Information	Ties to USGBC Mission and Green Building	Best Practices to Share and Utilize	More Information
<p>Job Training: \$3.95b; \$250m</p>	<p>Provides \$3.95 billion to the U.S. Dep't of Labor for job training and employment programs under the Workforce Investment Act, including \$500 million "for research, labor exchange and job training projects that prepare workers for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy industries" as provided by the Green Jobs Act in the 2007 energy law.</p> <p>Provides \$250m to the U.S. Dep't of Labor for the Office of Job Corps for use in the construction, rehabilitation, and acquisition of Job Corps Centers. Up to 15% (\$37.5 million) of this funding may be directed by the Secretary of Labor to "meet the operational needs of such centers, which may include training for careers in the energy efficiency, renewable energy, and environmental protection industries."</p>	<p>The U.S. Dept of Labor Employment and Training Office's green jobs page.</p> <p>Known as the Green Jobs Act, Title X of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-140) authorized funding to establish national and state job training programs, administered by the Department of Labor, to help address job shortages that are impairing growth in green industries, such as energy efficient buildings and construction, renewable electric power, energy efficient vehicles, and biofuels development. It created a National Research Program, National Energy Training Partnership Grants, and the State Energy Training Partnership Program--all of which are eligible for grant money.</p> <p>Job Corps Centers are provided for in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998--Chapter 6, Subtitle C.</p>	<p><i>USGBC and its roundtable of stakeholders and community members have been hard at work paving the way for green building and communities. Whether in design, construction, manufacturing, assessment, operations, education or finance, all components are essential for the growing green economy. USGBC stands by the truth that green building creates green jobs for the green economy, and is dedicated to supporting new programs, policies and initiatives that further this end.</i></p>	<p><i>USGBC and its roundtable of stakeholders and community members have been hard at work paving the way for green building and communities. Whether in design, construction, manufacturing, assessment, operations, education or finance, all components are essential for the growing green economy. USGBC stands by the truth that green building creates green jobs for the green economy, and is dedicated to supporting new programs, policies and initiatives that further this end.</i></p>	<p>Green Building = Green Jobs - USGBC's hub for resources and media on the emerging green jobs sector, with the green building industry as its backbone.</p> <p>Workforce Investment Act Laws and Regulations for an overview, news, and technical assistance for this program.</p> <p>Green Jobs Act of EISA for more information on the existing Act (located on p. 257).</p> <p>Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Web site for news and updates on BIA programs.</p> <p>BIA program funding through September 2009.</p>
<p>BIA Training and Housing Improvement: \$40m</p>	<p>Provides funding to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Indian Programs for both workforce training programs and the BIA's Housing Improvement Program.</p>	<p></p>	<p>>> USGBC Resources for Economic Recovery</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>



TRANSIT PROVISIONS

TRANSIT PROVISIONS			RESOURCES ON TRANSIT		
Program Name	Funding Description	Additional Information	Ties to USGBC Mission and Green Building	Best Practices to Share and Utilize	More Information
<p>Mass Transit: \$6.9b</p>	<p>Provides \$6.9b to the Federal Transit Administration for grants to transit agencies for mass transportation projects. \$100 million of such funds are to be provided to public transit agencies as discretionary grants for projects aiding the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption, with priority assigned to projects based on their anticipated energy savings. The remainder of the grants are to be provided through formula.</p>	<p>The Federal Transit Administration website for ARRA implementation guidance .</p>	<p><i>USGBC has made a commitment to providing resources that will help regions and jurisdictions advance green cities and communities. Transit ridership is expected to grow in the coming years and transit is a critical resource for low and middle-income workers and an important driver for real estate development. In order to keep this critical resource up and running, the Act provides funding for new modes of transit and the ability to renovate and modernize existing systems. The LEED-ND rating system provides best practices for creating development with access to public transit.</i></p>	<p>Housing + Transportation Affordability Index a tool measuring true affordability of housing taking transportation into account (Center for Neighborhood Technology).</p> <p>California Transit-Oriented Development for Best practices collected and detailed by the Caltrans Division of Mass Transportation.</p> <p>Sustainable Transportation Networks for information on how regions can build connected, multi-modal transportation networks. Developed by the Congress for the New Urbanism.</p> <p>Review of Best Practices in Transport and Congestion for a review of case studies and findings from cities around the world (Clinton Climate Initiative)</p>	<p>Green Playbook for local governments that are beginning to plan mass transit and exploring demand management.</p> <p>Reconnecting America for resources on transit-oriented development.</p> <p>Public Bike Rental Programs are growing in urban areas across the world.</p>
<p>Transit Benefits: Increased benefit levels</p>	<p>Under current law, employers are permitted to offer tax-free fringe benefits to employees for utilization of transit or parking, although these benefits are set at different levels. The Act harmonizes treatment of such benefits, increasing the level for transit to \$230 per month for tax years through 2010 to match the parking provision.</p>		<p>>> USGBC Resources for Economic Recovery</p>	<p>Car Free Diet for Arlington, VA's consumer education tool for alternative transportation made easy.</p> <p>Commuter Benefits for San Francisco's requirement for employers to offer pre-tax deductions for mass transit expenses.</p>	<p>Low emissions transport - learn more about low-emissions transport system with zero emissions vehicles from a C40 city.</p>

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROVISIONS

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROVISIONS			RESOURCES ON COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC		
Program Name	Funding Description	Additional Information	Ties to USGBC Mission and Green Building	Best Practices to Share and Utilize	More Information
Community Development Block Grants: \$1b	Provides funding to the U.S. Dep't of Housing and Urban Development for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to communities that received CDBG grants in fiscal year 2008.	CDBG Grants for a list of information about CDBG grants on the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development web site. Communities receiving CDBG funds may use such funds for a range of community development activities, including: construction or reconstruction of streets or other public works, purchase and rehabilitation of buildings, and funding of nonprofit entities to carry out community development work. Many recipients of CDBG grants are Main Street communities.	<p><i>USGBC has made a commitment to providing resources that will help regions and jurisdictions advance green cities and communities. Economic reinvestment is a critical step in greening a community. The LEED for Neighborhood Development rating system incentivizes walkable streets and investment in existing communities.</i></p> <p>>> USGBC Resources for Economic Recovery</p>	<p>U.S. Conference of Mayors for a searchable list of best practices with many examples of successful CDBGs.</p> <p>National Main Street Center for resources for revitalizing Main Street communities.</p> <p>Philadelphia Green for PA Horticultural Society's vacant land stabilization program creating green space, removing neighborhood blight, and transforming communities.</p> <p>Housing Renovation for a Genesee County Land Bank program that renovates foreclosed houses to revitalize neighborhoods, encourage home-ownership, and provide affordable housing.</p> <p>National Governors Association for best practices in state-managed economic development efforts.</p>	<p>National Assn for County Community & Economic Development for a draft paper on how CDBGs can be used to revitalize communities with large foreclosure problems.</p> <p>National Vacant Properties Campaign for resources on Neighborhood Stabilization Grants, including a webinar series.</p> <p>Land Banking as Metropolitan Policy for a Brookings Institution report detailing strategies for land banking as a neighborhood stabilization tool</p> <p>International Economic Development Council for additional resources.</p> <p>Economic Development and Smart Growth for an IEDC paper linking economic development to smarth growth.</p>
Neighborhood Stabilization Funds: \$2b	Provides funding for the U.S. Dep't of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Stabilization Program to be distributed through a competitive process to states, localities, nonprofit organizations, and consortia for the purchase, rehabilitation, and redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed housing and/or vacant properties to reduce neighborhood blight.	HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program grants website for additional information on the funds distribution.			
Economic Development Assistance:	Provides \$150 million to the Economic Development Administration within the U.S. Dep't of Commerce for economic development assistance programs, including \$50 million for economic adjustment assistance and up to \$50 million for federally authorized regional economic development commissions. These programs are designed to assist communities experiencing significant economic distress and job losses in developing programs and strategies for economic development and increased employment, and in leveraging private funds.	Economic Development Administration web site for additional information on the funds distribution			
New Markets Tax Credits (NMTC):	See "New Markets Tax Credits" in next section, "Tax Incentive & Bond Provisions."				

TAX INCENTIVE & BOND PROVISIONS

Program Name			Funding Description			Additional Information			RESOURCES ON TAX INCENTIVES & BONDS		
Program Name			Funding Description			Additional Information			Ties to USGBC Mission and Green Building	Best Practices to Share and Utilize	More Information
Tax Credit for Energy-Efficient Existing Homes: up to \$1,500 per recipient			Existing federal law provides an individual tax credit of 10% of expenses for certain energy-efficient improvements to existing homes. Previously, the tax credit offered specific, capped amounts for qualified property. New provisions raise the total allowed credit to 30% for 2009 and 2010, and technology-specific caps for qualified property are replaced with a \$1,500 total cap on installations that may qualify for credit. Referenced efficiency levels have also been updated.			IRS Web site for official updates, information and guidance on tax provisions to be administered through this Act.			<p><i>U.S. Green Building Council has long-standing relationships with federal, state and local governments as the early adopters of green building and sustainable design. Leadership by the public sector has been fundamental in the widespread demand for high performance green buildings. Governments now further play the role as facilitators and enablers of innovation in green building design, construction, operation and maintenance, and through several tax credits and bonds mentioned here provided by the American Economic Reinvestment and Recovery Act, innovation and leadership - even in a down-economy - can continue. Public investment in leadership by the private sector in energy efficiency and renewable energy does much to advance several of the tenets of USGBC's mission.</i></p>	<p>Babylon, NY: innovative policies and programs that are effectively addressing residential energy efficiency with immediate benefits and little or no up-front costs.</p> <p>REAL Model Home - This LEED Gold home is designed to beat the national home energy consumption average by 46%.</p> <p>Solar FIRST: Berkeley, CA - a premiere innovative policy example for financing residential renewable energy systems.</p> <p>Pleasant Hill Home - This success story from Maine is a LEED certified green home that successfully integrated renewable energy into the project plans.</p> <p>LEED as a Tool for Performance Strategies for a list of potential building renovation and retrofit work areas that could benefit from specific guidance and performance benchmarks via the various LEED rating systems.</p> <p>Green Choice Program - Learn more about customer choice programs to receive electricity from renewable sources.</p>	<p>IRS Statement on Tax Provisions in Stimulus Package for official information on how the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act may affect you.</p> <p>USGBC's Green Home Guide for one-stop-shop for information on federal and state incentives for green building and energy efficiency.</p> <p>American Council On Renewable Energy for more information on renewable energy technologies and policy in the U.S.</p> <p>Consumer's Guide to Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy for consumer-friendly resources and information from U.S. Dep't of Energy.</p> <p>Greenbuild 365 course catalog for easy-to-find educational offerings focused in and around green building.</p>
Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit: Extended			Extends the production tax credit for wind facilities by three years to 2013, and for solar, biomass, geothermal, landfill gas, trash combustion, hydropower, and marine and hydrokinetic to 2014.								
Advanced Energy Investment Tax Credit: 30%			Creates a new 30% tax credit—to be awarded through a competitive process—for investment in facilities that manufacture “advanced energy property,” for example, technologies for producing renewable energy, conserving energy, transmitting renewable energy, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, among other purposes determined by the Secretary of Treasury.			The Secretary of Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, is directed to establish a program to evaluate and award certification for investments eligible for tax credits.					
Clean Renewable Energy Bonds: Increases authorization by \$1.6b			Provides \$1.6 billion in additional authorization for clean renewable energy bonds. CREBs are used to finance facilities that generate electricity from clean and renewable sources.								

<p>Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds: Increases authorization by \$2.4b</p>	<p>Increases authorization for qualified energy conservation bonds from \$800m to \$3.2b. These bonds may be issued by states, localities, and tribal governments to support activities targeting the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, including the financing of building retrofits. Additionally, the Act clarifies that such bonds may be used to support grants and loans for “green community programs.”</p>
<p>Economic Recovery Zone Bonds: \$10b (Recovery Zone Economic Bonds); \$15b (Recovery Zone Facility Bonds)</p>	<p>For 2009 and 2010, the Act establishes a new category of tax credit bonds—economic recovery zone bonds—to promote investment in areas that have experienced significant employment decline and economic distress. Recovery Zone Economic Bonds, which are limited to \$10 billion nationally, may be issued by states and localities to support economic development expenses in designated recovery zones, including those related to property, public infrastructure and facility construction projects, and job training. Recovery Zone Facility Bonds, which are capped at \$15 billion nationally, may be issued to finance the purchase, renovation, or construction of business property in economic recovery zones following their designation as such.</p>
<p>New Markets Tax Credits (NMTC): \$1.5b increase in available credits annually for 2008 and 2009</p>	<p>The New Markets Tax Credit Program provides tax credits for qualified equity investments in designated Community Development Entities (CDEs). CDEs are corporations, partnerships, or government entities that provide investment and redevelopment opportunities for low-income communities and are certified through the Department of Treasury’s Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI). The Act increases the credits available annually from \$3.5 billion to \$5 billion for 2008 and 2009.</p>

>> [USGBC Resources for Economic Recovery](#)

[USGBC Carbon Reduction Webinar Series](#) for introductory and in-depth information on how to begin cutting carbon in your buildings through the carbon inventory and reduction process.

[Greensburg, KS](#) - learn about how a tornado-ravaged town turned tragedy into opportunity.

[Urban Development and Climate Change](#) - a review of research reveals the importance behind urban transportation issues in addressing GHG reduction.

[Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency](#) for a list of relevant tax credits on U.S. EPA and U.S. DOE's Energy Star Web site.

[HUD RC/EZ Initiative](#) for information on HUD's tax incentives for both Renewal Communities and Urban Empowerment Zones.

[CDFI Fund Mapping System](#) for determining if an address is within a census tract or county meeting the CDFI Fund's distress criteria.