

March 25th, 2009

Tazewell County Update concerning The American Recovery And Reinvestment Act (Federal Stimulus Package)

Just a quick update concerning the distribution of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Federal Stimulus Package) in Tazewell County. At this time, transportation improvements have been the only section of this act that has been distributed and in the future we may receive more funds for improvements to rural water, energy conservation, ext..

The State of Illinois has allocated \$281 million of the Illinois economic stimulus funds for transportation improvements to the local agencies. Of this \$281 million, Tazewell County will be receiving two different allocations:

- A) Peoria/Pekin Urbanized Area Transportation Study (PPUATS) has been allocated \$5,586,123. Locally this organization covers Tazewell County, the Cities of Pekin, East Peoria and Washington and the Villages of Morton and Creve Coeur. Tentatively, it has been decided to divide up the funds using the same formula as the one used to distribute motor fuel tax money. The final decision on this will come at a meeting on April 1st. Under that formula, below is what our local communities will receive:

Tazewell County:	\$1,186,467
Pekin:	\$ 432,277
East Peoria:	\$ 294,083
Morton:	\$ 212,838
Washington:	\$ 168,113
Creve Coeur:	\$ 69,559

What each of the cities and villages in Tazewell County will use this money for I cannot say, but Tazewell County will be using our portion to:

- 1) Build a turn lane at the intersection of Illinois Route 9 and the Tazewell County Tremont Complex for safety and traffic flow reasons,
 - 2) Resurfacing Dee-Mack Road east of Washington from Business US 24 north to the Woodford County Line.
- B) The county was allocated \$386,397 for the rural municipalities and townships with populations under 5,000. Greg Sinn and John Anderson, representing the Tazewell County Transportation Committee, called a meeting of the communities that could qualify for these funds to discuss what projects are eligible for these funds. The projects were then discussed by the Transportation Committee as a whole and the decision was made to have Mel Stanford, Greg Sinn and John Anderson look at the different projects on the list and determine which were the most pressing. The decision was made to fund the following resurfacing projects:

- 1) In Minier, Minier Avenue from Illinois Route 122 to Chicago Street
- 2) In Delavan, Locust Street from 11th Street to 5th Street
- 3) In South Pekin, 5th Street from Main to the City Limits

In addition to these locally decided upon projects, we also know that IDOT will be spending approximately \$9 million of their allotment of the stimulus funds to overlay 6.7 miles of I-74 from the Village of Morton to the Woodford County Line.

In total, in these sections of stimulus funds, Tazewell County will see \$11,749,734 worth of road improvements paid for by the Federal Stimulus Funds. This is in addition to the regularly budgeted for and scheduled road improvements that each governmental organization was already planning for.

As always, I am proud to work for each and every one of you on the Tazewell County Transportation Committee. If you have any question or comments concerning this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me.

John C. Ackerman
(309) 635-7624
www.JohnCAckerman.com