

761—163.9(315) Local development projects.

163.9(1) General provisions. The following provisions are applicable to local development projects:

a. Local development projects may be located on primary roads, secondary roads, city streets, state park roads or county conservation parkways.

b. There is no limit on the number of applications per county or city that will be considered for RISE funding.

c. Counties and cities may apply for single-year or multiyear funding. Multiyear funding is to be limited to funding commitments from no more than three program years' allocations.

d. Applicants may use staff from other counties or cities, areawide planning organizations, areawide economic development organizations, or other jurisdictions to prepare application materials or administer projects.

e. An adequate transportation justification for the roadway project is to be provided. The proposed improvement need not be designed prior to project application, but the concept is to generally be reasonable from a transportation planning and engineering standpoint and detailed enough to enable project cost estimates to be developed.

163.9(2) Contents of applications. Each application for a local development project is to contain the following:

a. General information, including the applicant's name, contact person, mailing address, telephone number, local economic development program and history of efforts in the area, and other information of a general nature about the project proposal and the associated economic development activity.

b. Cost information, including the estimated total capital investment involved with the associated economic development activity, the estimated total cost of the roadway project, the amount of RISE funds requested for the roadway project, and the amount of non-RISE funds to be used to match or supplement RISE funding. Itemized breakdowns (showing the item, cost and funding source) are to be included for the total capital investment, the total roadway project cost, the RISE funds requested, and the non-RISE funds to be used to match or supplement RISE funding.

c. Data showing the impact of the associated economic development activity, including the number of direct jobs created or retained. Jobs created as a result of jobs being displaced elsewhere in the state are not to be considered direct jobs created for the purpose of evaluating the application.

(1) To expedite the review, the applicant is to provide the following data for each business included in the project justification: a list of in-state competitors; a list of in-state suppliers; the percentage of out-of-state sales; the effect on import substitution; long-range growth potential; and a list of all current and anticipated employment positions, both full- and part-time, the hourly wage for each, and the turnover rate.

(2) The applicant is to certify that each business will give hiring preference to residents of the state or local area, except for out-of-state employees offered a transfer to Iowa.

d. A preliminary project concept statement for the roadway project, including maps showing site characteristics such as zoning, platting, subdivision boundaries, and corporate limits; a sketch plan; and a justification for the transportation improvement. In most cases, a sketch plan should include a simple plan and profile defining the horizontal and vertical geometrics and a typical roadway cross section defining pavement, shoulders, foreslope, and backslope or border treatment. The transportation justification should address topics such as the current condition of existing roadways or bridges, the relationship of the project to connecting roads, and ingress to and egress from the site, as well as the current flow of traffic on the development site, anticipated total traffic and large truck traffic, proposed major design features of the proposed improvement, the intended roadway function, how the proposed improvement is consistent with other local plans, and the reason the proposed alternative was selected over other alternatives. The department may request completion of a traffic impact analysis to supplement the transportation justification before it is reviewed.

e. A time schedule for the total development, including the roadway project and the associated economic development activity.

f. A formal resolution passed by the governing body of the jurisdiction responsible or to be responsible for the road or street to be constructed or improved. The resolution is to state that the project will be adequately maintained and dedicated to public use for a minimum of 20 years after completion of

the project and that land provided access by the proposed improvement will be developed according to rule 761—163.2(315). The resolution is to also certify that any business assisted by the project that acquires or merges with an Iowa corporation within three years following the RISE application intends to make a good-faith effort to hire the workers of the merged or acquired company.

g. A summary showing that necessary arrangements have been made for nonroadway factors (e.g., zoning, sewer, water, police and fire protection, financing, and permits) essential for the proposed economic development activity.

163.9(3) *Submission of applications.* Applications are to be submitted on a form provided by the department.

a. Applications may be submitted at any time. However, in order to be considered in the current round of programming, complete applications are to be received by the department or postmarked no later than February 1 or September 1.

b. Once an application has been submitted, no further information concerning that application is accepted by the department from the applicant unless specifically requested by the department. Applications may be withdrawn by the applicant and resubmitted at any time. Resubmitted applications are to be dated accordingly.

163.9(4) *Incomplete applications.* An applicant is to fully complete the official application form and provide all other information identified in this chapter before the application will be considered by the commission. An applicant is to be notified if an application is incomplete.

163.9(5) *Verification of application materials.* Complete applications are reviewed to verify the figures or statements in the applications. This may include site visits. If inaccuracies, omissions, or errors are found, the commission may rescind the commitment of funds or reevaluate the application based on the correct information. If an applicant loses funding through this process, the commission has complete discretion concerning the disposition of those funds, including awarding them to other applicants or carrying them over to the next programming cycle.

163.9(6) *Rating factors.* The following factors and potential rating points are to be used in assessing applications for local development projects. Assessment of these factors is to be the responsibility of the department.

a. *Development potential.* This factor measures the degree of certainty involved in the economic development activity to be supported by the proposed RISE project and the potential for future job growth. Maximum points: 35.

b. *Economic impact.* This factor measures the economic impact of the development activity to be supported by the proposed RISE project, including the number of direct jobs assisted, investment leveraging, the percentage of out-of-state sales and in-state suppliers, the impact on competition and diversification, and the quality of job factors. Maximum points: 20.

c. *Local commitment and initiative.* This factor measures the level of effort being put forth by the applicant to attract economic development and the adequacy of the supporting infrastructure. Maximum points: 35 (includes 5 points for the remediation or redevelopment of a brownfield site).

d. *Transportation need.* This factor measures the condition and quality of existing road or street service. Maximum points: 4.

e. *Area economic need.* This factor measures the economic condition of the area. Maximum points: 6.

163.9(7) *Review and funding of applications.*

a. The staff of the department reviews and rates complete local development project applications and may consult with other organizations with economic development responsibilities. As part of the review, the staff evaluates the effect of the proposed project on the state economy using the following factors: consistency with the state economic development plan; diversification of the state economy; the impact on in-state suppliers, competitors, and import substitution; percentage of out-of-state sales; the quality of employment positions; and the record of law violations. Complete applications are to be forwarded to the commission for a funding commitment action within a reasonable period of time after the application deadline. An application considered but not funded in one programming cycle is not to be considered in a subsequent cycle without resubmittal by the applicant.

b. The commission may fund all or any part of an application and may make a funding commitment conditional upon adherence to a specific time schedule, realization of a development prospect, or fulfillment of other agreements.

[ARC 9008C, IAB 3/19/25, effective 4/23/25]