



DATE: January 12, 2026

TO: Finance & Personnel Committee
Members of City Council

FROM: Scott Sanders, Director of Public Works

RE: **DCEO Rebuild Downtowns & Main Streets Award Acceptance and Commitment of Local Funds**

The Public Works Department has received notice that the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) has awarded a grant to the City in support of the Madison Street project, Phase 2. The objective of this program is to support improvements and encourage investment in commercial corridors and downtowns, particularly in communities hardest-hit by the COVID-19 public health and economic crisis. Through this program, DCEO is looking to fund capital projects that make these commercial areas in Illinois more attractive for private investment, generate short-term and long-term employment opportunities, and improve quality of life in the community through high-quality infrastructure and amenities.

Staff is proposing acceptance of the \$2,000,000 Grant Award for Phase 2 of the Madison Street Corridor project in downtown Rockford. If accepted, these funds would cover the entirety of the estimated Water Main Replacement costs. The remaining project funds will be paid for using the 1% Infrastructure Sales Tax. Those same funds will also be used in support of the 25% match required by the grant award. The grant term is from 1/1/26 through 12/31/27.

A resolution authorizing and accepting these Grant Funds and the commitment of local funds (i.e., local match) is required by DCEO and is to be submitted to them as soon as possible. The draft resolution is attached for your review and consideration.

Please contact Scott Sanders, Public Works Director, if you have any questions.

Date: January 12, 2026

**RESOLUTION APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD AND
REIMBURSEMENT TO DEVELOPER**

Resolution No: _____

WHEREAS, the City of Rockford, Illinois has been selected by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to receive funds for Madison Street Corridor Improvements (Phase 2); and

WHEREAS, the grant has been awarded for the purpose of supporting an encouragement of investment in commercial corridors and downtowns; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockford, Illinois will receive \$2,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockford intends use the funds to reimburse construction costs of the Madison Street Corridor Improvements Project (Phase 2); and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be in full force and effective immediately upon its adoption.

The above and foregoing Resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Rockford, Illinois, this _____ day of January 2026.

Thomas P. McNamara, Mayor
City of Rockford, Illinois

ATTEST:

Angela Hammer, Legal Director and
Ex Officio Keeper of the Records and Seal of the
City of Rockford, Illinois

Rockford, Illinois

Date: January 12, 2026

RECOMMENDATION FOR RESOLUTION

TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKFORD:

Council Members:

The Committee on Finance and Personnel having received a request hereby begs leave to report recommending Approval and Acceptance of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) Rebuild Downtowns and Main Streets Grant Award for Phase 2 of the Madison Street Corridor project in the amount of \$2,000,000.00. The Legal Director shall prepare the appropriate resolution.

Kevin Frost (Chair)

Jonathan Logemann (Vice Chair)

Frank Beach

Dawn Granath

Chad Tuneberg

Committee Action Taken:

Frost:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Logemann:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Beach:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Granath:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___
Tuneberg:	Ayes:___	Nays:___	Absent:___