

11 Lake infrastructure projects seek state grants

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Eleven projects in Lake County, whose organizers seek a combined \$2.4 million worth of grants and loans from the Ohio Public Works Commission, have cleared the first hurdle.

The projects approved Tuesday morning by Lake County's Local Integrating Committee involve a mix of sewer improvements, waterline replacements and road projects.

Lake County Engineer James R. Gills said the 11 projects will be scored today against projects from other counties in the OPWC's District 7, which consists of Lake, Ashtabula, Geauga and Portage counties.

Each integrating committee is comprised of representatives from all levels of government. The committee evaluates and scores applications using locally developed methodology based on the Ohio Revised Code.

The local committee consists of Gills, county Commissioners Daniel P. Troy and Robert E. Aufuldish, Mentor City Manager Ken Filipiak, Mentor-on-the-Lake Administrator Kip Molenaar and Leroy Township Trustee Chuck Klco.

Two additional projects could be eligible to receive money if more funding becomes available because of

Projects up for funds

Projects that will move on for further consideration are:

■ Willoughby Hills — Maple-grove Road pavement improvements \$195,000 total cost, grant \$97,500

■ Mentor — Hoose-King Memorial resurfacing and culvert \$565,000 total cost, grant \$282,400

■ Eastlake — Erieview Drive improvements; \$687,500 total cost, grant \$229,000

■ Painesville Township — Road repairs within the township; total cost \$545,900, grant \$343,750

■ Lake County Engineer's Office — McMackin Road in Madison Township culvert replacement and safety improvements, grant \$327,500

■ Lake County Utilities Department — Sewage pipeline replacement on Fairport

Nursery Road in Painesville Township total cost \$1,066,400; \$449,900 grant, \$50,000 loan

■ Willowick — East 330th Street waterline replacement and street resurfacing Phase 1, total cost \$788,000, \$236,000 grant, \$150,000 loan

■ Mentor — Route 306 concrete repair, total cost \$299,800, \$49,900 grant, \$50,000 loan

■ Willoughby — Interstate 90 sanitary sewer replacement \$375,000 total cost, \$137,500 grant, \$50,000 loan

■ Kirtland — Route 6 drainage Phase 2, \$399,800 total cost, \$199,900 grant

■ Fairport Harbor — High Street storm sewer and sanitary improvements, \$186,000 total cost, \$93,000 grant

low bids for projects across the state, said county Chief Deputy Engineer Bruce Landeg.

The historically popular program, commonly referred to as "Issue 2 funding," was first approved by Ohio voters in 1987 and has been reauthorized twice.

The program is used to help fund a variety of infrastructure improvements across the state, such as roads, bridges, culverts, water supply systems, wastewater systems, stormwater collection systems and solid waste disposal centers.

A cumulative score, or the project's priority ranking, is

based on several categories, including district needs, effort and ability to help financing, generation of user fees, age and condition of infrastructure and readiness to proceed.

Committee members, by a majority vote, also can award discretionary points to a subdivision's score.

The committee sometimes awards these points if there is money left under the funding cap, or if a subdivision makes an extraordinary appeal for its project.

However, no discretionary points were awarded this year.