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Mapping the Path of Stimulus Funding

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To help track the various federal funds flowing from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, a.k.a. "the stimulus program" (a.k.a. "the recovery program"), we have created the [GreenBiz.com Stimulus Funds Locator](#), an interactive map.

In the last few months, the federal government has provided an unprecedented (and at times astounding) amount of money into the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), also known as the stimulus program, investing in everything from weatherization to renewable energy to building energy-efficiency retrofits.

The [General Services Administration](#) (GSA) has received more than \$5.5 billion in funds allocated from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which are designated for construction or renovation of federal buildings such as courthouses and post offices. The emphasis, however, is to convert the buildings into "high performance green buildings," including adding solar panels or small wind turbines, and weatherizing old, leaky structures.

Unfortunately, navigating the process of finding where the recovery funds are going and bidding on projects can be a complex and time-consuming process for business owners. This is where [Strategic Partnerships](#) comes in handy. The Austin, Texas-based business helps contractors of all sizes understand how to begin. The company also does nation-wide market research for large, well known government contractors.

Mary Scott Nabers, president and chief executive officer, said her company's phones have "not stopped ringing" from people who are interested in bidding on projects funded by the stimulus, or are interested in the research her firm provides for particular market segments or regions.

"There is a lot of language and terminology," that can be difficult to decipher, she said, and "dealing with the federal government is different than dealing with local government. It is more sophisticated, less political. So if you are competing to build something locally, the feds are more bureaucratic."

This bureaucracy, while necessary to ensure the competitive nature of the bidding process, can slow down the process of putting cash in the hands of contractors who create local jobs. This is challenging for larger contractors, who often need six months or more to design a proposal, Nabers said.

Based on information provided by the GSA, we created an [interactive map](#) that shows where these recovery funds have been appropriated across the U.S. and its territories.

There are about 250 projects in the Federal Buildings Fund, which span across all 50 states, as well as Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These projects are broken into four categories:

- New construction, including Land Ports of Entry

- Full and partial building modernization
- Limited scope projects
- Small Projects

These projects could turn out to be exactly what supporters of green jobs want the Recovery Act to do: quickly put people to work, improve energy efficiency, increase water and energy conservation and increase our energy independence.

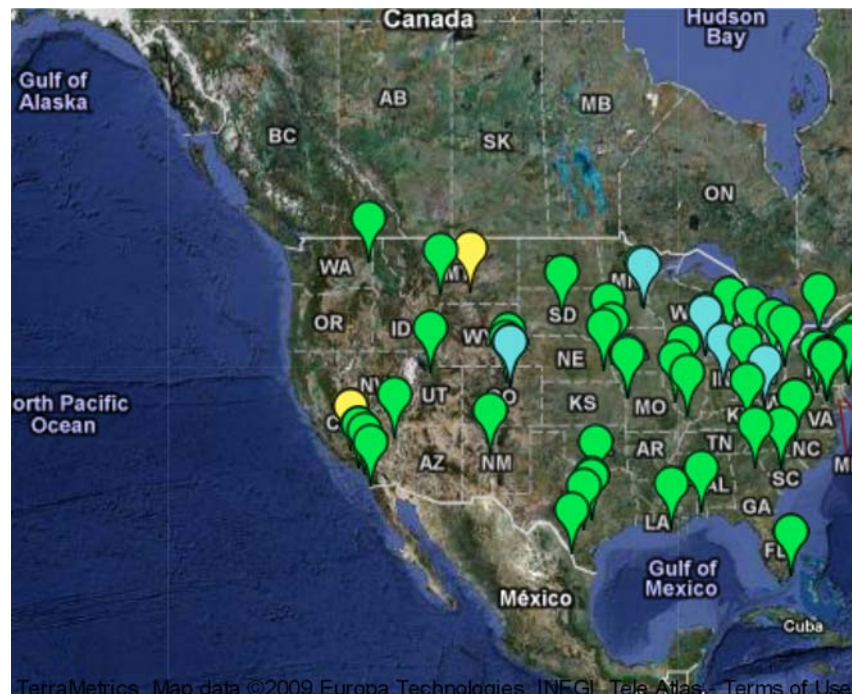
In particular, projects in the High Performance Green Building modernization category were selected based on the ability to concentrate "on energy conservation and renewable energy generation," and can include adding a green roof if a solar photovoltaic array is not appropriate.

Additionally, the limited-scope projects can also include the most common of retrofitting elements, such as installing daylight and motion sensors for lighting control, HVAC upgrades and water conservation projects.

Our interactive Google Map gives you an easy way to see the four types of projects and the city where it is located. By clicking on individual pinpoints, it will reveal the name of the project, the address, and the amount of money appropriated for the project.

For example, in Detroit, the McNamara Federal Building Complex located at 477 Michigan Avenue, will receive \$30,000,000 in recovery funds for Green Building Modernizations.

We've included a miniature version of the map below; if you want to see the full-size map, as well as a legend explaining what each of the categories are, go to <http://tinyurl.com/GreenBizStimulusMap>.



[View a Larger Map](#)

To find out more about specific projects that the GSA-Public Buildings Service is contracting, visit the [Federal Business Opportunities web page](#).

For general information about the GSA's role in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act,

visit [the Recovery page of their website](#).

And to read all of GreenBiz.com's coverage of the federal government's stimulus spending, check out [GreenBiz.com/stimulus](http://www.greenbiz.com/stimulus).

Source URL: <http://www.greenbiz.com/blog/2009/08/10/greenbiz-stimulus-map>

Links:

[1] <http://www.greenbiz.com/stimulusmap>

[2] <http://www.gsa.gov>

[3] <http://www.spartnerships.com/>

[4] <http://tinyurl.com/GreenBizStimulusMap>

[5] <http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&geocode=&q=http://spreadsheets.google.com>

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[6] <https://www.fbo.gov/>

[7] http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA_OVERVIEW&contentId=25761

[8] <http://greenbiz.com/stimulus>