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Strategic Partnerships launches community resources division

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Government relations consulting firm **Strategic Partnerships Inc.** has launched a new community resources division aimed at helping government entities find and capture new funding for special initiatives.

The division is designed to assist local governments in Texas that are facing budget shortfalls and being forced to postpone or eliminate special initiatives in light of the economic slowdown.

"Because of the current economy and historic population growth, demand for new initiatives that involve construction, infrastructure, and schools continues to increase. But, local government entities are hard-pressed to find the resources to pay for them," says Mary Scott Nabers, president and CEO of Austin-based Strategic Partnerships.

According to Nabers, the state last year awarded more than \$2.5 billion in grant funding while the federal government allocated more than \$100 billion.

"The funds are available, but many communities lack the resources to compete effectively for the funding," Nabers says. "We plan to remedy that."

The Strategic Partnerships team comprises former elected officials, city managers, economic development experts, political strategists and experienced researchers in Austin and Washington, D.C.

John Breier, a 25-year veteran of economic development, will lead Strategic Partnership's funding efforts in Austin. He will be joined by a Washington veteran of 25 years, Rich Leidl, who has helped clients capture more than \$100 million in federal funding in the past few years.

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