

Discussion Points

1. The Governor's budget incorporates an estimated \$5.183 billion over two fiscal years in federal stimulus funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. According to a table on page 42 of the Governor's abbreviated budget, the State will use \$3.074 billion (\$854 million in FY 2009 and \$2.220 billion in FY 2010) from ARRA for budget relief. In addition to these funds which will offset revenue shortfalls, \$2.109 billion will be used for new or expanded programs or initiatives. The ARRA allocates funds to states both by formula and by competitive awards. Most executive departments anticipate stimulus funding in either FY 2009, FY 2010 or both.

- **Question:** Please itemize the federal stimulus funding, other than portions of the \$3.074 billion allocated for budget relief, included in the department's budget, by fiscal year and federal program, setting forth program goals and eligible uses together with the amount for state administrative expenses and the amount for allocation to local public and private recipients, respectively. Please identify intended and actual recipients and the process by which the department determines recipients and funding awards. Are there ARRA funds that flow through your department for which the State has no discretion? Please also set forth the timetable for obtaining federal approval of funding, obligation and allocation of funding to recipients, and use by recipients. Could any of this funding be used to offset other State appropriations, and if so, what programs and in what amount? What additional positions, if any, have been and will be hired with these funds? If this money is being used for new or expanded activities, will the new or expanded activities be continued in FY 2011? If so, how will they be funded?
- **Question:** In addition to funding incorporated in the FY 2010 budget, what specific competitive grant opportunities has the department identified that it is eligible to pursue, has applied for, and has been awarded, respectively?

Answer:

The Department does not anticipate receiving any federal stimulus funding. As part of our Lead Safe Model Cities initiative, however, we are applying for outreach grants from the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These grants would help ensure that sufficient resources are made available for community training and outreach for our Model Cities.

Additionally, through our Model Cities program we have provided significant assistance to towns in identifying and applying for grants from foundations and government sources. For example, Newark recently was awarded a \$1.5 million grant from the Kresge Foundation due, in part, to our efforts. The grant will be used principally to build lead-free "safe housing" where families can temporarily reside while their homes are being lead abated. Moreover, Model Cities staff assisted most cities in identifying and applying for grants from DCA to purchase new lead-identification equipment for code enforcement officers to use when conducting housing inspections. Also, our program recently provided free weeklong training to Model Cities to cross-train staff to become certified lead inspectors. To make this possible, we assisted DHSS in identifying and providing funding for the weeklong training.