**Many municipalities have had questions related to the December 29, 2016 memo regarding the status of available funding for the Local Capital Improvement Program.  We thought it might be helpful if we provided some answers to the most frequently asked questions.**

**1.) What does this mean for my projects already approved by OPM?**

Projects approved by OPM, as of December 22, 2016 are not impacted.  Reimbursement Requests for such projects will be accepted by OPM.

**2.) How does this impact my town’s “Available Entitlement” amount?**

The amount that appears in the “Available Entitlement” column on the [**LoCIP Project Summary Report**](http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/igp/grants/locip/projectsummaryreportalltowns122116forweb.pdf) is frozen until bond authorizations increase.  The current available entitlement amount is not being rescinded or reduced, but frozen.

**3.) When will OPM begin accepting LoCIP Project Authorization Requests again?**

OPM will begin accepting New LoCIP Project Authorization Requests when bond authorizations have been increased to a level sufficient to support the authorization of new projects. Towns will be notified when they can begin submitting their requests.

**4.) If I have a project that has already been approved by OPM and I want to close it out and it has an unexpended balance, can I get a project authorization for a new project based on that unexpended amount?**  Yes.  It is important to note, however, the following:

* Once a project has been closed out, no future reimbursements may be sought under that project number.
* The request to close out a project(s) and to request a new Project Authorization MUST be submitted at the same time.
* If you close out a project and only request that a portion of the unused project balance be applied to a new project, the balance of that unused portion will revert to the town’s available entitlement account, which balance will be frozen.

To initiate a project close out you must use the prescribed form which can be found by clicking [**HERE**](http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/igp/grants/locip/locip_project_close_out_form.docx).

**5.) If I have a project that is LoCIP eligible, but it wasn’t approved by OPM prior to this freeze, will I still be able to seek project authorization and related reimbursements at a later date, once OPM begins approving new projects again?**  Yes, as long as the project comports with LoCIP guidelines, the amount does not exceed the town’s available LoCIP funding, and the level of bond authorized LoCIP funds remains sufficient.

**6.) Even though no new projects are being authorized against the frozen available entitlement amounts, can we submit new Project Authorization Requests now so there won’t be a delay once OPM starts accepting them again?**  Do not submit any new Project Authorization Requests related to your town’s frozen available entitlement amount until OPM advises you to do so.  Any new Project Authorization Requests received subsequent to the December 22, 2016 Project Authorization List will be returned to the town, unless they are requests as outlined in #4 above.

**7.) What created this situation?**

The difference between the amount of entitlements credited to towns and the amount of bond authorizations dates back to 2004 when the General Assembly passed Public Act 04-1, entitling towns to be credited an additional $30 million in the LoCIP program for each year of the FY04-05 biennium, without increasing the aggregate bond authorization to fund this entitlement. In addition, the General Assembly decreased the aggregate bond authorization by $5 million in FY05.