**Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission (LCRPC)**

**Spring 2025 “Assistance with Specific Know-How” (ASK) Grant Program**

The Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission (LCRPC) plans to award 5 ASK Grants this spring for a municipal and/or community project in need of specific technical assistance, such as preliminary engineering/design, economic research, and architectural or environmental planning, for example, that will help solve a municipal issue or complete an important town project.

**The minimum award amount is $250 and the maximum award amount is $5,000.**

**Proposals are due by Wednesday, March 26, 2025**. Towns are encouraged to work with other towns on a joint project, should this be an effective and practical approach to a common issue.

**The funding priorities remain the same as in previous ASK opportunities**:

1. A town public infrastructure or facility.
2. Business attraction or retention.
3. Local health and safety issues.

**Examples of technical assistance**:

* Engineering or design recommendations on issues related to ADA, fire safety, or a culvert, for example.
* Assistance writing an RFQ/RFP for a municipal project.
* Targeted economic research.
* Structural or site evaluation or preliminary design for a public building or property.
* Town road inventory and capital planning.
* Brochure design to promote a town or area.
* Wayfinding plans.
* Municipal energy project feasibility assessment.

**Benefits of ASK support**:

* Access to appropriate expertise in a timely manner, when other funding is not available.
* Improved decision-making for subsequent phases of a project.
* Insight into viable alternatives to address and solve problem.

**Application Criteria**:

Please complete the application form below and attach additional required information as requested. We ask that you keep your responses within the space provided.

Additional review criteria includes:

* Urgency of the situation (What’s at risk?)
* Timeliness of assistance (Why now?)
* Probability of future steps and implementation

A realistic budget for most projects, from our experience, will likely require more than the ASK grant. *Please be sure you have additional funds, in-kind resources, and/or possible partnerships to help your project succeed*.

During the review process, we’ll call and talk with you about the application and may visit the project site. Towns who received an ASK Grant in previous years are eligible to apply if the previous grant is complete and final project reports have been submitted by the March 26, 2025 deadline.

**Applications can be emailed or mailed to the LCRPC, 297 Bath Road, Wiscasset, ME 04578**

Please give the office a call to talk through a proposal – a few minutes answering questions or identifying other helpful resources could improve the application and save you time.

**Phone**: 207-882-4271 **Email**: erabbe@lcrpc.org

**Spring 2025 “Assistance with Specific Know-How” (ASK) Grant Application Form**

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| **Applicant’s Municipality/Organization Name:** |  |
| **Lead Point of Contact for Application – Name/Title:** |  |
| **Tel:** |  | **E-mail:** |  |

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| **Is this the community’s first application to the ASK Grant Program?** | [ ]  **yes** [ ]  **no** (If yes, skip the rest of this section.) |
| **Does your community have an active ASK Grant from a previous round?** | [ ]  **yes** [ ]  **no**  |

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| **Describe the specific municipal issue or problem.** |
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| **Briefly describe how the problem developed, any previous town efforts to solve or address it, if known, and why this needs to be solved now.** |
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| **Explain or list the steps and tasks planned for the ASK funds.** |
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| **Identify the town officials, key town employees, or consultants who will be involved. Please describe their roles.** |
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| **If this is part of a larger town project/problem, please say how this short-term technical assistance will help address the larger problem.** |
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| **List any current or potential resources (town funds, pro-bono assistance, volunteers, and town equipment, for example) that would be part of the overall budget for this project.** |
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| **Discuss the town’s plans to take action following this project.** |
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| **Please include the additional requested information below. Check the boxes to confirm that the materials are attached, or are submitted simultaneously to this application.**  |
| [ ]  | Please attach a cover letter signed by the Town Manager, Town Administrator, or Chair of the Selectboard acknowledging/supporting the application. |
| [ ]  | Attach an extra page with a sketch, map, or photo, where appropriate. |