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Dear Community Leader:

AIA Cincinnati, the southwest Ohio chapter of the American Institute of Architects received an update from AIA National on a new funding opportunity through Section 50131 of the bipartisan Infrastructure Reduction Act (H.R. 5376).

Department of Energy's Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) issued a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). Technical assistance grants will be available for the adoption and implementation of the latest model energy codes, zero energy codes, building performance standards, and innovative codes that achieve equivalent energy saving to the latest model and zero energy codes.

An <u>informational webinar</u> will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 11:00 am PT. The full DOE FOA can be found at <u>DOE's Infrastructure</u> <u>Exchange</u> (FOA number DE-FOA-0003056).

While states must be the primary grantee, DOE is encouraging partnerships with local governments and other jurisdictions. These new grant programs are potentially game-changing opportunities for municipalities and states to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve resilience, and provide billions of dollars in energy bill savings for families and business owners by significantly improving building energy efficiency.

On March 1, Ohio will implement changes to the Ohio Building Code that includes updates to energy code requirements. The state is offering <u>training</u> on these updates.

AIA Cincinnati is a resource to our community by providing information updates and opportunities for southwest Ohio. If you have questions, comments, or would like to speak to the AIA Cincinnati advocacy team, please reach out to us info@aiacincinnati.org.

Sincerely,

Zoë A. Gizara, AIA President

Chris Patek, AIA Local Advocacy Chair