

Concern: The RDA could access federal financial assistance and the counties would be subject to any strings attached to these funds.

Reality: If resources are available from the federal government that would help initiate or complete a regionally-supported project, the RDA could – and should – make it a priority to identify these outside funding sources to further leverage local funds.

- a. Yes, the legislation allows the RDA to use local funds to match federal grants and/or loans. (IC 36-7.6-3-2) If these funds originate from the fiscal body, the local elected officials will get to vote on the request.
- b. Each county member of the RDA may appoint a local advisory committee to ensure the channels of communication are open and processes remain transparent. (IC 236-7.6-2-15)