

## CSI News: Wisconsin Clean Energy Roadshow

February 1-2, 2010

The [Center for State Innovation](#), working with a coalition including the [Clean Economy Network](#), [Change to Win](#), [Sierra Club](#), [LiUNA!](#), [Conservation Services Group](#), [Blue Green Alliance](#), along with the Department of Energy and other local partners, recently hosted the Wisconsin Clean Energy Roadshow. Focusing primarily on the residential and small-scale commercial retrofit sectors, the Roadshow travels the country to highlight strong business, labor, and community support for action and to promote various state-based strategies around energy efficiency building retrofits.

Read more about the Roadshow Collaboration at the [Event Website](#)

## Spotlight on State Innovation

### Drive to Excellence



January 28, 2010

Minnesota estimates that state and local governments will save \$250 million on goods and services purchased through July 2011 as a result of [Governor Tim Pawlenty's Drive to Excellence reform initiative](#). The reforms, which include cost savings, improved customer service and quality improvement, are detailed in the [Drive to Excellence 2009 Annual Report to the Governor](#). Initiated in 2005, the Drive to Excellence includes 14 specific projects for improving quality and customer service. Examples of innovations emerging from the program include the ["Strategic Sourcing" program](#), which lowers the cost of state procurement through product standardization, contract negotiations and emphasis on pricing in evaluating proposals from vendors, and the ["Lean Thinking" initiative](#), under which 15 agencies improved service delivery in a range of programs, from Veterans Home admissions procedures to state-issued dairy and food licenses and water quality testing, among others.

### Higher Efficiency, Lower Costs

January 29, 2010

Michigan [Governor Jennifer Granholm](#) outlined an agenda aimed at making Michigan's government more efficient, effective and less costly. The governor's plan includes steps to further reduce the structural deficit, facilitate local government and school district cost-cutting, enhance accountability in government, and modernize the budget process. Specific proposals to streamline services and reduce costs include reducing the state workforce through retirement incentives, eliminating lifetime health care benefits for legislators, shifting to a two-year state budget cycle, auditing state contracts annually, and implementing pay-as-you-go budgeting.

### New Budget Disclosure Form

January 28, 2010

In an effort to increase transparency in state budgeting, [New Jersey Governor Chris Christie](#) added new details to the State's budget offering statement. The new language is intended to provide a clear, accurate snapshot of New Jersey's current fiscal environment, and includes full year budget deficit numbers for FY 2010, Transportation Trust Fund Authority revenues and the status of the State Unemployment Compensation Fund. The disclosure update represents a first step toward fulfilling a campaign pledge to be transparent about New Jersey's fiscal and economic conditions and the process with which the administration aims to close the budget gap, restructure spending and prepare for next year's budget.

### Interactive Capital Budget Map

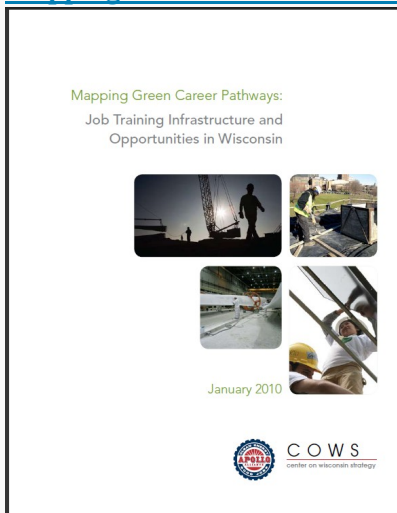
January 29, 2010

Maryland [Governor Martin O'Malley](#) announced the launch of an online [interactive map](#) that outlines most of the major Capital Budget projects for Fiscal Year 2011. The map categorizes capital projects and separates expenditures by project and by jurisdiction, and is part of the O'Malley Administration's ongoing efforts to make Maryland's government more transparent, accountable and fiscally responsible. StateStat, Maryland's nationally-reputed performance-measurement and management program, maintains the website.



## Recent Publications

### [Mapping Green Career Pathways: Job Training Opportunities and Infrastructure in Wisconsin](#)



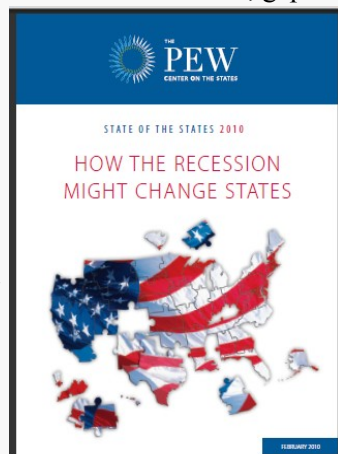
January 2010

[COWS](#) and the [Apollo Alliance](#) released a joint report that identifies components of Wisconsin's workforce development infrastructure that can be better integrated and scaled up to support the state's emerging green economy. The report recommends strengthening Wisconsin's existing training infrastructure in technical colleges and apprenticeship programs to build workers' skills and create green career pathways. Many of these jobs will be in construction and manufacturing, sectors currently in decline but projected to account for the majority of new jobs in clean energy industries. The new study also charts existing training programs - apprenticeship, technical college and community-based pathways - that represent key elements of a greener workforce development system. While many of these elements thrive in Wisconsin, gaps between them must be minimized if the state is to build career pathways to serve Wisconsin workers and employers.

### [State of the State 2010 - How Recession Might Change States](#)

February 2010

The current economic downturn, the worst since the Great Depression, has forced states to consider new ways to save money and budget cuts that could have far-reaching implications. The [Pew Center on the States](#) report "State of the States 2010" examines state fiscal health in light of record-high budget gaps, changes in the size of government, service delivery, and resources. It also includes a 2010 Elections Guide and breakdown of federal stimulus dollars.



*If you have a program or report you'd like other states to know about, something you think we should include in the newsletter, or other questions or comments, please contact us:*

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