

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: January 3, 2012

SUBJECT: Set the Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the 2011 and 2012 Community Development Block Grant Application(s)

PRESENTER: Anthony W. Starr, AICP, Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: None

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Division of Community Investment and Assistance (CI) is opening the 2011 and 2012 grant cycles for Community Development Block Grant Programs (CDBG). Two hearings are required prior to submitting an application to CI. This first hearing is generic and covers all of the categories of CDBG grants offered by CI. The second hearing to be held later will be for the specific purpose of taking public comments on the planned use of a selected grant. The public will be notified of the qualifications for assistance and will be invited to apply. These funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through its Community Development Block Grant program to each state. Five different grant programs are available for consideration.

Scattered Site Housing: Grants are available to address the housing needs of very low income families throughout the County. Subject to funding availability, the County can receive between \$250,000 to \$400,000 for the purposes of rehabilitation, relocation, or reconstruction of qualified homeowner occupied housing units.

Infrastructure Program: This program aims to improve neighborhood infrastructure with the installation of new public sewer or water lines, repairing existing lines, or improvements to water or sewer treatment plants. Location of project must benefit low and moderate income persons. Maximum grant amount is \$750,000 and there is a required 5% local match.

Small Business and Entrepreneurial Assistance: This program is selected on a competitive basis to assist the small business community. \$150,000 to \$250,000 is awarded to support eligible job creation activities such as the purchase of land, infrastructure improvements, or construction improvements. Eligible activities must be tied to the creation of at least six jobs.

Infrastructure Hook-Up Program: This program aims to assist low income families with connection of water or sewer infrastructure. Possible assistance also includes waterline repair, and removal of septic tanks or cap wells. Maximum possible grant award is \$75,000.

NC Catalyst Program: This is a new program that that consolidates several activities such as housing development and community revitalization. Activities include construction of public facilities, investment in multi-family rental developments, single family housing development, and slum and blight removal. Minimum grant amounts depend on desired activity with a maximum grant of \$500,000.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Planning Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners schedule a public hearing to receive citizen input on the 2011 and 2012 CDBG grant programs for Monday, February 6, 2012, at 5:30 P.M.

Suggested Motion: I move that the Board schedule a public hearing to receive citizen input on the 2011 and 2012 CDBG grant programs for Monday, February 6, 2012, at 5:30 P.M.