

GOVERNANCE SERVICES, LLC

Attachment # 2
Page 1 of 4

July 31, 2009

Via Electronic Mail

Mr. Ken Morris
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RE: Governance Services 2nd Quarter Stimulus Grants Report

Ken,

Below is an update on the projects we've been working on this quarter for the County on Federal Stimulus grants. It's been a very busy few months as the stimulus program starts to move along and find its footing. We continue to monitor the new grant opportunities which open on a daily basis for possible funding mechanisms for County projects as we remain in contact with those who are "in the know" regarding future grant opportunities.

If you have any questions or would like any additional information regarding any of the projects, please feel free to contact me. We want to thank the County and staff for their continued support in allowing us to be a part of this new and vital area of local government.

Respectfully,

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27

GOVERNANCE SERVICES, LLC

Attachment # 2

Page 2 of 4

Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2

On July 17, the Department of Housing Services submitted a \$10 million HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 grant to acquire, rehabilitate, manage and dispose of a minimum of 100 foreclosed or abandoned properties in key census tracts in the unincorporated areas of Leon County, Florida, as a means to stabilize neighborhoods whose viability is being threatened by negative economic conditions. Consistent with NSP2 objectives, the Department's primary goals are to (1) arrest the decline of our neighborhoods, and (2) stabilize these neighborhoods, positioning them for a sustainable role in a revitalized Leon County economy.

The Department identified areas to target for assistance (census blocks 24.05 and 25.04) based on data provided through HUD on (1) the estimated number and percentage of foreclosures and (2) the combined foreclosure and vacancy rates. All NSP2 funds will be used to provide benefit to persons/families whose income does not exceed 120% of the area's median income, and over 25% of NSP2 funds will be used for the purchase and redevelopment of abandoned/foreclosed properties for housing families whose incomes do not exceed 50% of the area's median income.

Housing Preservation/Rural Communities

On July 10, Leon County's Department of Housing Services submitted a grant pre-application to the USDA's Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program for \$100,000 to assist very low- and low-income residents in the unincorporated rural areas of Leon County through the following housing preservation activities: (1) installation and/or repair of sanitary water and waste disposal systems, together with related plumbing and fixtures, which will meet local health department requirements; (2) energy conservation measures such as insulation and combined screen-storm windows and doors; (3) repair or replacement of roofs; (4) replacement of severely deteriorated siding, porches or stoops.

Based on the HPG-eligible activities the Department proposed to undertake, we estimate we will be able to serve a minimum of 20 very low- and low-income homeowners. Our goal, however, is to serve as many needy homeowners in rural Leon County as possible without minimizing the impact of HPG funding.

Climate Showcase Communities

On July 22, Leon County submitted a \$467,000 EPA Climate Showcase Communities grant for the creation and use of organic compost biofilters to reduce methane gas emissions from County's 160 acre uncapped Subtitle D landfill. Over the three year project period, Leon County will convert an estimated 26,000 tons of yard waste into mulch and compost to create the necessary biofilter materials. These organic

GOVERNANCE SERVICES, LLC

Attachment # 2Page 3 of 4

materials will be spread in a 46 centimeter (18 inch) layer across a significant portion of the 160 acre surface area of the Leon County Landfill. Leon County will furthermore contract with University of Florida Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management to conduct quarterly optical remote sensing measures (ORS, EPA method 0TM-10, U.S. EPA, 2006, 2007) of both covered and uncovered sections of the landfill to document actual methane gas emissions and produce verifiable estimates of the reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG). The proposed project is based on recent studies conducted at the Leon County Landfill: "Mitigation of Landfill Methane Emissions from Passive Vents by Use of Oxidizing Biofilters," conducted through the Florida A&M University/Florida State University College of Engineering (Morales, 2006), and "Use of a biologically active cover to reduce landfill methane emissions and enhance methane oxidation" (J. Stern, J. Chanton, T. Abichou, D. Powelson, L. Yuan, S. Escoriza, and J. Bogner, 2007).

If awarded, during the three year project period, the biofilter should realize an 80% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions, or an actual gross reduction of 2,499 MTCDE (Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent), from 2,819 MTCDE (untreated) to only 320 MTCDE. This is an annual reduction of 1,666 MTCDE, from 1,879 MTCDE (untreated) to 213 MTCDE. Over the 20 year active Stage 3/Stage 4 decomposition period of the landfill, the County can realize a 33,320 MTCDE reduction in greenhouse gases, from 37,580 MTCDE (untreated) to 4,260 MTCDE.

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant program (EECBG)

We continue to be in contact with Jeremy Susac and other staff of the Governor's Energy & Climate Commission to monitor the status of the State EECBG program. 86 Cities and Counties in Florida received direct formula grants from the Department of Energy as entitled communities. The State itself received an allocation of over \$30 million, 60% of which it was required to pass down to non-entitlement local governments to fund local level projects. The State determined it would allocate these dollars through a competitive grant process rather than more formula grants in the hope that it could fully fund a few worthwhile projects rather than offer minimal funding across the board.

After our initial contact with Mr. Susac, Executive Director of the Energy & Climate Commission, we set a meeting for June 15th between Mr. Susac and the County's Sustainability Coordinator, Ms. Maggie Theriot, so she could ask directly any further questions she may have regarding the program. Ms. Theriot wanted to get an idea of what kind of projects the Commission would seek to fund in the upcoming grant and what level of efficiency change they might be seeking. The meeting was very informative and although he was unable to give any definite facts until the grant was

GOVERNANCE SERVICES, LLC

Attachment # 2
Page 4 of 4

released, we believe the County gained valuable information before it was available to most other entities seeking to apply for this funding.

The State has submitted their proposed grant program to the Department of Energy for approval. The Department has 120 days to approve the program, which falls in early September. Once the program is approved, the grant application and guidance should be released soon thereafter.

Clean Cities

On May 28th, the County submitted a "Clean Cities" grant in coordination with Leon County Schools. The application sought approximately \$12 million over 2 years to convert the School Districts vehicles fleet to run on compressed Natural Gas (CNG). The Project sought to construct a CNG refueling site which would also be open to the public, purchase new CNG school buses and retrofit the Districts' remaining buses and vehicles to CNG.

The School District was recently awarded funding on a smaller grant they previously applied for on their own. They received over \$347,000 to purchase 8 new CNG school buses to begin their conversion. We hope that this award will have a positive effect on the Clean Cities grant application.