GOVERNANCE SERVICES, LLC

Attachment # 2
Page 1 of 5

April 30, 2010

Via Electronic Mail
Mr. Ken Morris
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RE: Governance Services End of Year Stimulus Grants Report

Ken,

Below is a summary on what we have worked on this year regarding Federal Stimulus grants.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to work with you on these exciting and new projects as well as congratulate the County on the recent Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant award. If any opportunities arise in the future in which we may be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Audrey H. Moore, Esq.
Grants Coordinator
Governance Services, Inc.

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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, 2009, 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 would have converted an estimated 26,000 tons of yard waste into mulch and compost to create the necessary biofilter materials. These organic materials would have been spread in a 46 centimeter (18 inch) layer across a

significant portion of the 160 acre surface area of the Leon County Landfill. The proposal called for the County to 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 was 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).

The biofilter proposal, which was not awarded to the County, would have realized 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.

State Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant program (EECBG)

Through the EECBG grant, 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 discussions with the County's Sustainability Director, Ms. Maggie Theriot, we made several contacts on the County's behalf with the then Executive Director of the governor's Energy Office. The Energy Office was the agency charged with administering the EECBG program at the State level. In March, we set a meeting with Mr. Susac and Ms. Theriot so that she could ask her questions directly. Ms. Theriot planned to submit an application and wanted to have as much lead time as possible to create her application.

At the end of 2009, the grant program officially opened and applications were submitted through February. The County's application was selected for an award of $1.17 million.

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.

Federal Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grants (EECBG)

At the end of October, the Federal EECBG Grant was announced. This grant sought to make strategic investments to meet the Nation's long-term goals for energy independence and leadership in climate change by reducing fossil fuel emissions, reduce total energy use, improve energy efficiency, create jobs and stimulate the economy. The program is divided into two programs; one is only open to formula eligible local governments, while the second is open to non-formula eligible local governments (like Leon County).

Economic Development Administration Summary

Our firm gathered information on the Global Climate Change Mitigation Incentive Fund. This program was created to bolster economic Development through growth in the "Green Economy" and falls under the Economic Development Assistance program grants. Our office gathered information on this program at the request of the County's Sustainability Office.

Homestar

We were asked to research a possible Federal program which gives financial incentives for those who make energy efficient purchases. The program would reimburse homeowners for residential energy upgrades such as air sealing, insulation, new light bulbs and new appliances. Homeowners would be eligible to receive up to $2,000 for implementing at least two upgrades from a list of qualifying measures, or up to $3,500 for at least four qualifying measures. Higher incentives would be available to homeowners who achieve energy savings of at least 20 percent. Weatherization projects that reduce energy consumption by 20 percent would be eligible to receive up to $4,000 in incentive money, plus $1,500 for every additional 5 percent reduction in energy consumption.

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USGS

The County also asked our office to research the USGS National Map Recovery Act Program. It offers funding for the collection of "orthoimagery and elevation (lidar) data." It was later determined that coastal counties were the preferred applicants for this program.

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