



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Council Session

Item E4

Public Hearing on Grant Application to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for Housing Development

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development Affordable Housing Program is intended to provide funds to eligible recipients for acquisition, rehabilitation, construction and production of affordable housing to increase the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary housing for low—to-moderate income Nebraskans and to provide a mechanism to leverage private investment in the development of affordable housing. The Affordable Housing Program is funded with resources from US Department of Housing and Urban Development Programs (the Community Development Block Grant Program) and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, as well as the state-funded Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF).

The City of Grand Island, Community Projects Department, is preparing a grant application to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for funding to assist in the category of Homeownership New Construction with Infrastructure. This category covers infrastructure and development subsidies as it relates to new construction and down payment assistance.

A public hearing has been scheduled to receive comment relative to the City's submittal of the grant application for development of infrastructure in conjunction with the construction of 115 single family homes in a 23 acre parcel of undeveloped land in the northeast area of Grand Island. The grant funds (\$400,000) will be used for site development, infrastructure development, architect, engineering, and related fees, as well as grant administration. The AHTF, along with other resources such as Community Development Block Grant Funds, and NIFA, will be used to bring the cost of construction of the houses down to affordable sales prices. Without these partnerships, the housing could not be made available to low to moderate income families. As evidenced in the 2001 Housing Study, quality housing for low to moderate income families is needed in Grand Island.

The Department of Economic Development requires a public hearing be held in conjunction with submittal of the grant application. A resolution authorizing the submittal of the grant application has been prepared for Council consideration. It is appropriate at this time to solicit public comment. The action item is contained under Consent Agenda.

Staff Contact: