



# **City of Grand Island**

**Tuesday, September 28, 2004**

**Council Session**

## **Item E1**

**Public Hearing for a Nebraska Department of Economic  
Development Planning Grant**

**Staff Contact: Joni Kuzma**

# **Council Agenda Memo**

**From:** Joni Kuzma, Development Specialist

**Meeting:** September 28, 2004

**Subject:** Public Hearing for a Nebraska Department of Economic Development Planning Grant

**Item #'s:** E-1 & G-7

**Presenter(s):** Joni Kuzma, Development Specialist

## **Background**

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development is offering a second cycle of funding for a CDBG Planning Grant. There are funds available from NDED for the second cycle between October 1st and the 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The City of Grand Island is eligible for those funds as an incorporated municipality under 50,000 population. The City will apply under the Planning activity of “community strategic planning” for a needs assessment of homeless and homeless housing needs in Grand Island, the area served by Hope Harbor (Hall, Hamilton, Howard and Merrick Counties, and the tri-city area). Because of multi-county involvement, the City may apply for a grant up to \$40,000. Inter local agreements with Hall County, Hamilton County, Howard County, Merrick County, Kearney County, Buffalo County, the City of Hastings and the City of Kearney are required for the Planning Grant.

A public hearing is required prior to submission of an application to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to solicit public comment and input into the proposed project and grant application.

## **Discussion**

Homelessness and homeless housing are an on-going issue in Central Nebraska. Hope Harbor provides housing and services to the majority of homeless persons in this area and works closely with other homeless service providers. On occasion, homeless housing is not available in Grand Island so clients are referred to the Hastings homeless facility. The study will address both local and tri-city homeless needs. A Planning Grant would fund a feasibility study to determine the needs of homeless persons and homeless housing needs in the Hall County homeless service area for the next 5 years. The study supports the

Nebraska Department of Economic Development priority of ending chronic homelessness in Nebraska in the next 5 years.

The City will enter into an inter local agreement with Hamilton County, Howard County, Merrick County, Hall County, Kearney County, Buffalo County, the City of Hastings and the City of Kearney. The inter-local agreement identifies the City as Grant Administrator on behalf of all involved entities. The City will apply for and administer a \$40,000 Planning Grant, of which \$2,800 will fund General Administration. Hope Harbor will provide the \$9,300 required match.

Notice of the public hearing was given in the September 18, 2004 Grand Island Independent.

### **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Approve the Planning Grant application, inter local agreements and give approval for the Mayor to sign all related documents.
2. Disapprove or /Deny the Planning Grant application and inter local agreements.
3. Modify the Planning Grant application and inter local agreements to meet the wishes of the Council
4. Table the issue

### **Recommendation**

City Administration recommends that public comment be solicited regarding the proposed application and that Council gives approval to the Planning Grant application and gives approval for the Mayor to sign all related documents.

### **Sample Motion**

Approve the submission of the proposed application and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN A PLANNING GRANT  
FROM THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
BY AND BETWEEN  
THE COUNTY OF BUFFALO  
AND  
THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND**

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, by and between the County of Buffalo, a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the state of Nebraska. herinafter referred to as the "County", and the City of Grand Island, a municipal corporation, herinafter referred to as the "City", for the administration of a planning block grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Neb. Rev. State §13-801, et.seq. provides that units of local government of the State of Nebraska and Nebraska state agencies may enter into agreement for the joint and cooperative exercise of powers, privileges, or authority capable of being exercised by either agency; and

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. §13-801 provides that any one or more public agencies may contract with any one or more public agencies to perform any governmental service, activity, or other undertaking which each public agency entering into the contract is authorized by law to perform; and

WHEREAS, the County and the City are public agencies as defined by Neb. Rev. Stat. §13-801; and

WHEREAS, the County and the City are authorized by state law to receive, administer and expend Community Development Block Grant Funds for planning development; and

WHEREAS, Community Development Block Grant must be administered through an individual who has been certified by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development; and

WHEREAS, the County currently utilizes the services of Hope Harbor for their homeless and near homeless residents and wishes to be included in the planning grant to identify future services for homeless and near homeless residents in their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties mutually covenant and agree as follows:

1. The City shall apply for a planning block grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development in the amount of \$40,000 to be used to pay for the creation of a plan to address homelessness and homeless housing issues in the City of Grand Island and the Hope Harbor service area.
2. The City will provide properly certified staff to administer the grant funds.
3. The parties agree that an administrative fee from the grant of \$2,800 represents a fair, reasonable and appropriate value for the administrative service to be provided by the City of

Grand Island. The City through its staff shall provide the services hereunder at no cost to Buffalo County. The Administrative fee provided in the grant shall be used by the City solely for purposes of the grant.

4. It is the expressed intent of the parties that this Agreement shall not create an employer/employee relationship between the County and the City's staff, who shall be directed and supervised by the City. The City shall not receive compensation of any sort for services rendered except as specifically set forth in this Agreement.
5. This Agreement may be modified by mutual agreement of the parties hereto.
6. This Agreement shall have a term of two (2) years from the date of the final award of grant to the City. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice mailed or delivered to the other party.
7. This Agreement shall become effective immediately upon lawful approval and execution by the parties and shall remain in full force and effect until such time as it is amended or terminated pursuant to the provisions herein. Provided, however, it is expressly understood and agreed by the parties that this agreement and the obligations, duties, and responsibilities expressed herein are contingent upon the receipt by the County of the above-described grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. If said grant award is not made, this Agreement shall be null and void and of no effect.
8. There shall be no separate legal entity created through this interlocal cooperation agreement. Said agreement shall be jointly administered by the City of Grand Island and the County of Buffalo.
9. Any property acquired or made available by any party to this agreement for the purposes of this agreement shall remain the property of the party acquiring or making such property available and shall be disposed of by such party as provided by law, regulation or ordinance governing the same.
10. This Agreement shall be financed by funds available to the parties hereto, including, but not limited to grant funds awarded by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.
11. Pursuant to the Inter local Cooperation Act, any party to this agreement, in the party's sole discretion, may appropriate funds and may sell, lease, give or otherwise provide assistance, including personnel and services, as may be within the party's legal power to furnish.

EXECUTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

City of Grand Island, Nebraska

County of Buffalo

by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jay Vavricek, Mayor

by: \_\_\_\_\_

[attest]

[attest]

\_\_\_\_\_  
RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
, County Clerk

Approved as to form:

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Walker, City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
, Buffalo County Attorney