



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, August 09, 2005

Council Session

## Item G17

**#2005-228 - Approving Contract with University of Nebraska-Lincoln for Graduate Assistant Planning Intern**

Staff Contact: Chad Nabity

# **Council Agenda Memo**

**From:** Joni Kuzma, Development Specialist

**Council Meeting:** August 9, 2005

**Subject:** Contract with UNL intern for Community Revitalization Grant

**Item #'s:** G-17

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

## **Background**

In April 2005, the City of Grand Island was awarded a \$7,500 Comprehensive Revitalization grant from the Department of Economic Development to complete a Comprehensive Needs Assessment and a Revitalization Strategy. The Comprehensive Needs Assessment will identify all areas of low and moderate- income concentrations in the city and inventory all types and degree of housing and community development needs within each area. The Revitalization Strategy will identify a one, two and three year action plan to meet the needs of the low- to moderate-income neighborhood(s) selected for investment.

The Assessment/Strategy grant amount award was \$7,500 with local cash match of \$2,500, for a \$10,000 total.

## **Discussion**

The City has an opportunity to hire a UNL Community and Regional Planning graduate student to help gather, compile and interpret data gathered for the Needs Assessment and three-year action plan. Dr. N. Brito Mutunayagam, D.E.D.P. Professor at UNL has been working with the City during the grant planning process and referred two graduate students to the City as candidates.

Both candidates submitted resumes, provided examples of current work and participated in an interview with Chad Nabity, Joni Kuzma and Marsha Kaslon. It is the recommendation of the Planning Department that Veerajaneeya K.C. Nekkanti be hired to provide technical assistance for the Community Revitalization grant. Cost for the

intern will not exceed \$6,223.00, which is available in the grant. There will be no cost to the City for this contract position.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

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

1. Approve the contract for an internship position for the Community Revitalization Needs Assessment and Strategy and award it to UNL graduate student, Veerajaneeya Nekkanti
2. Refer the issue to a Committee.
3. Postpone the issue to a later date.

### **Recommendation**

City Administration recommends that Council approve the contract with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for an Internship position for the Community Revitalization Needs Assessment and Strategy and award it to UNL graduate student, Veerajaneeya Nekkanti.

### **Sample Motion**

Motion to approve the contract with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln an internship position for the Community Revitalization Needs Assessment and Strategy and award it to UNL graduate student, Veerajaneeya Nekkanti.

**AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL SERVICES**

*between*

**City of Grand Island, Nebraska**

*and*

**Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska**

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents, through the Department of Community and Regional Planning, agrees to provide the City of Grand Island a graduate research assistant, Veerajaneeya K.C. Nekkanti, from August 10<sup>th</sup> through November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005, generally corresponding with fall semester 2005.

The student shall perform the services outlined in the Job Description (attached). The City of Grand Island shall provide on-site supervision and the Department of Community and Regional Planning shall periodically monitor the student's performance.

In the event the student does not perform satisfactorily, the Department of Community and Regional Planning will assign a different student to the City of Grand Island or the University will be paid for services provided to the date of the student's dismissal. The University reserves the right to withdraw the student from the agency in the event that the work assigned is not within the general scope of activities agreed to by both parties; in this event the City of Grand Island is responsible for payment for services provided by the student to the date of the student's removal.

The Department of Community and Regional Planning shall perform this agreement according to its own means and methods of work, which shall be in the exclusive charge and control of the Department of Community and Regional Planning, and which shall not be subject to the control of the City of Grand Island except as to the result of the work. The Department of Community and Regional Planning is, for all purposes arising out of the agreement, an independent contractor, and neither shall it nor any students provided by it be deemed employees of the City. It is expressly understood and agreed that neither shall the Department of Community and Regional Planning nor any students provided by it be entitled to any benefits to which city employees are entitled, including but not limited to, overtime, any retirement benefits, worker's compensation benefits, injury leave, or other leave benefits.

The City of Grand Island agrees to pay the amount of **\$5,223.00** for the graduate research assistantship that is to be awarded to the student for this project, as well as maximum expenses of **\$1,000.00** incurred by the graduate research assistant for travel (car and mileage charges only) between Lincoln and Grand Island. The total of these two items, a **maximum of \$6,223.00**, will be paid by the City of Grand Island to the University of Nebraska upon receipt of a statement from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Office of Sponsored Programs at the conclusion of the 2005 fall semester.

Authorized Signatures:

FOR THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Jackson  
Vice Chancellor for  
Business and Finance, UNL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay Vavricek  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gordon Scholz  
Chair, Department of Community  
and Regional Planning, UNL

JOB DESCRIPTION

FIELD EXPERIENCE  
IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING  
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA—LINCOLN

STUDENT NAME: Veerajaneeya K.C. Nekkanti

JOB SITE: Grand Island, Nebraska, City Hall

Agency: City of Grand Island, Nebraska

Address: 100 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Grand Island, NE 68801

Telephone: 308-385-5444, extension 219

Director: Chad Nability, Regional Planning Director

Supervisor: Joni Kuzma/Marsha Kaslon, Community Development

JOB TITLE: Planning Intern

JOB PERIODS, HOURS, AND REMUNERATION DETAILS:

The job period encompasses, generally, the fall semester 2005 (specifically August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005, through November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005). A total of 225 hours of work by the student is required (averaging 15 hours per week for 15 weeks) during the job period.

The details of remuneration and expenses are as follows:

Minimum stipend for fall semester:	\$3,863.00
Tuition remission (28% of stipend):	\$1,082.00
Health insurance for fall semester: (Student share of health insurance is \$74.00)	<u>\$ 278.00</u>
<b>Firm Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$5,223.00</b>
Maximum reimbursement of travel expenses of student (mileage only):	<b><u>\$1,000.00</u></b>
<b>Maximum Grand Total:</b>	<b>6,223.00</b>

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- ? Assist in gathering, compiling and interpreting data for a Comprehensive Needs Assessment and Revitalization Strategy for the City of Grand Island.
- ? Create appropriate computer related documents for data compilation and disbursement.
- ? Assist the City of Grand Island Community Development staff in creation of the Comprehensive Needs Assessment document and three-year action plan.
- ? Assist with other grant-related duties as needed.

RESOLUTION 2005-228

WHEREAS, in April 2005, the City of Grand Island was awarded a \$7,500 Comprehensive Revitalization grant from the Department of Economic Development to complete a Comprehensive Needs Assessment and a Revitalization Strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Needs Assessment will identify all areas of low and moderate-income concentrations in the city and inventory all types and degree of housing and community development needs within each area; and

WHEREAS, the Revitalization Strategy will identify a one, two and three year action plan to meet the needs of the low to moderate income neighborhoods selected for investment; and

WHEREAS, the City has an opportunity to hire a University of Nebraska-Lincoln Community and Regional Planning graduate student to help gather, compile and interpret data gathered for the Needs Assessment and three-year action plan; and

WHEREAS, two graduate students have been referred to the City by a professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, after a review of documentation and an interview of each candidate, it is recommended that Veerajaneeya K.C. Nekkanti be hired to provide technical assistance for the Community Revitalization grant; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the intern will be provided by grant funds; no city funds will be used for this position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the contract with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for an Internship position for the Community Revitalization Needs Assessment and Strategy is hereby approved; and the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute such contract on behalf of the City of Grand Island.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate student, Veerajaneeya K.C. Nekkanti, be authorized to compile data for such study.

- - -

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, August 9, 2005.

Approved as to Form    ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
August 2, 2005         ☐ City Attorney

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk