



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, December 06, 2005

Council Session

Item E5

**Public Hearing on Community Development Block Grant
Economic Development Project**

Staff Contact: Joni Kuzma

Council Agenda Memo

From: Joni Kuzma, Community Development

Council Meeting: December 6, 2005

Subject: Community Development Block Grant
Economic Development Project

Item #'s: E-5 & G-12

Presenter(s): Joni Kuzma, Community Development Specialist

Background

The City of Grand Island is requesting \$255,000 to \$505,000 from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development of which \$250,000 to \$500,000 will be loaned to Project Cottonwood (the exact identify of this company is unknown at this time) for activities association with the start up of a transportation - logistics center. The remaining \$5,000 will be retained by the City for audit and administrative expenses associated with the grant. The project will result in the creation of over 100 full-time equivalent positions of which 51% will be held by or made available to low to moderate-income persons. At this time all that is known is this project represents the expansion of an existing company headquartered outside the City of Grand Island. All the CDBG funds will be used for activities that will meet the CDBG national objective of benefiting low-to-moderate income persons.

Discussion

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. Notice of the public hearing was given on November 26, 2005 in the Grand Island Independent.

ALTERNATIVES

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

1. Approve the Economic Development Grant application and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.
2. Disapprove or /Deny the Economic Development Grant application.
3. Modify the Economic Development Grant application to meet the wishes of the Council
4. Table the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the Economic Development Grant and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.

Sample Motion

Motion to approve the Economic Development Grant and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.