



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Council Session

Item G11

#2006-184 - Approving Certified Community Program

Staff Contact: Gary Greer

Council Agenda Memo

From: Gary D. Greer, City Administrator

Meeting: June 27, 2006

Subject: Economic Development Certified Community

Item #'s: G-11

Presenter(s): Marlan Ferguson, President Grand Island Economic Development Corporation

Background

The Nebraska Diplomats statewide economic development group has established a program to certify communities concerning their economic development efforts. The group developed standards for communities which are geared to create efficient and effective economic development organizations across the state. There is a specific checklist that is used to determine if a community has the elements of a strong economic development effort. The Grand Island Economic Development Corporation has been involved in an effort to meet the standards of the program and thereby, meet the standards to become an Economic Development Certified Community.

Discussion

It is beneficial to review a community's economic development program on a regular basis. It is also beneficial to follow efficient and effective standards to assure the efforts are targeted to achieve success. Over the years Grand Island has developed an economic development program that meets the highest standards and it is important to continue such economic goals.

As part of the review process it is required for the Council to pass a resolution of support and for the Mayor to sign a letter endorsing the program for the community. Attached are both the resolution and the sample letter.

Alternatives

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

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve resolution #2006-184 and authorize the Mayor to sign a letter endorsing the inclusion of Grand Island in the Economic Development Certified Community Program.

Sample Motion

Motion to approve resolution #2006-184 and authorize the Mayor to sign a letter endorsing the inclusion of Grand Island in the Economic Development Certified Community program.



*Working Together for a
Better Tomorrow. Today.*

(Section One – Item 1a)

June 7, 2006

Linda Black
Nebraska Diplomats, Inc.
NE Dept. of Economic Dev.
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94666
Lincoln NE 68509-4666

Re: NE Economic Development Certified Community – Grand Island

Dear Ms. Black,

As Grand Island's economy continues to be bolstered by a diverse array of economic drivers, the region is ideally poised for an era of prosperity and growth. To lead our robust, diversified economy is the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corp. and its President, Marlan Ferguson. The agency is located on the fourth floor of the Downtown Center conveniently located close to City Hall, the Hall County Courthouse, and Chamber of Commerce.

Since its formation in 1957 the mission of the Economic Development Corporation is to facilitate the creation of jobs and economic opportunities for the regional trade area and an outstanding job that their staff accomplishes.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jay Vavricek
City of Grand Island

RESOLUTION 2006-184

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Diplomats has established a Certified Community Program providing the opportunity for each individual community to become an Economic Development Certified Community; and

WHEREAS, the certified community program has been designed to:

- (1) Provide communities with a specific checklist of items that define proactive communities
- (2) Identify communities with meaningful economic development agendas and capabilities increasing their opportunities for success
- (3) Recognize community organizational infrastructure readiness and ability to respond to existing and prospective business and industry needs
- (4) Encourage strategic cooperation among Nebraska's economic development organizations

WHEREAS, the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation's mission was formed to facilitate the creation of jobs and economic opportunities for the regional trade area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island supports the efforts of the Board of Directors and the staff of the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the City Council of the City of Grand Island supports the City of Grand Island becoming a Certified Economic Development Community.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, June 27, 2006.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
June 22, 2006	☐ City Attorney