

S O U T H C A R O L I N A

Community Development Block Grant Program

South Carolina
Association of
Regional Councils
November 23, 2009

D E P A R T M E N T O F C O M M E R C E

Building Communities in Tough Times

- ❖ Critical infrastructure lacking or deficient
- ❖ Neighborhoods declining
- ❖ Affordable housing scarce or substandard
- ❖ Vacant, abandoned buildings
- ❖ Downtown businesses closed
- ❖ Scarce resources to respond to challenges



Develop an Action Plan

- ❖ Conduct a Needs Assessment
 - Involve residents, businesses
- ❖ Develop a plan
 - Goals and Strategies
 - Investment priorities
 - Timelines
- ❖ Identify partners and resources to help implement



Community Investment Strategies

- ❖ Promoting sustainability
- ❖ Building strong infrastructure
- ❖ Seeking regional solutions
- ❖ Retooling the local economy
- ❖ Educating our workforce



Sustainable Development

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs...

United Nations, World Commission on the Environment, 1987



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Sustainable Communities

- ❖ Attractive physical appearance
- ❖ Open space, natural, cultural or historical assets
- ❖ Mix of land uses- live, work, shop, play, learn
- ❖ Range of housing opportunities and choices
- ❖ Sociable and liveable neighborhoods



Building Strong Infrastructure

- ❖ **Safe and healthy communities**
 - Water, sewer, drainage,
- ❖ **Accessible communities**
 - Transportation
- ❖ **Availability of public facilities & services**
 - Police and fire protection, schools, health care, recreation



Regional Solutions

- ❖ Planning
- ❖ Infrastructure
- ❖ Services
- ❖ Economy
- ❖ Transportation



Retooling the Local Economy

- ❖ Liveable communities attract more business
 - Revitalized downtowns
 - Community based small businesses
- ❖ Eliminate obstacles to economic competitiveness
- ❖ Get products ready – sites, buildings
- ❖ Invest in technology and energy



Workforce Development

- ❖ Human Infrastructure
- ❖ Invest in our best resource
 - Provide skills training opportunities
 - Promote problem solving
 - Create culture of lifelong learning
- ❖ Make education a priority



CDBG is a Resource

*Building stronger communities and enhancing
the lives of residents*

- ❖ Safe and affordable housing
- ❖ Suitable living environments
- ❖ Economic opportunities

*Primarily for low and moderate income persons
and families*



Community Development Program



Conway River walk



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Community Infrastructure

- ❖ Eligible activities:
 - Water, sewer, roads and drainage
- ❖ Max grant: \$500,000
- ❖ 10% match

Bluffton, SC
Sewer



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Community Enrichment

- ❖ Max grant: \$500,000
- ❖ Match: 10%



Gayle Mill
Clearance
Chester, SC



Community Enrichment Priorities

- ❖ Workforce development
- ❖ Healthy communities
- ❖ Obstacles to economic competitiveness



Downtown
Elloree, SC

Quick Jobs Development Center

Colleton County



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Village Renaissance

- ❖ Comprehensive neighborhood revitalization
- ❖ Low and moderate income neighborhoods
- ❖ Eligible activities
 - Infrastructure, police or fire substation, sidewalks, security lighting, wireless access, demolition, housing
- ❖ Max grant: \$500,000 10% match
 - Up to \$1 million depending on performance



“Ready to Go” Public Facilities

- ❖ Max Grant - \$500,000 10% match
 - Waiver up to \$1 million may be requested
- ❖ CDBG for construction costs only
 - Activities leading up to bidding must be complete prior to application submission
 - Project design, environmental review, acquisition, permits
- ❖ Open application cycle



Return on Investment

- ❖ Target limited resources on priorities
- ❖ Investments serve as catalyst
- ❖ Leverage public dollars with private investment
 - Be willing to invest in yourself first
- ❖ Be careful not to create unexpected new tax burdens



State of South Carolina Department of Commerce

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