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City of Nevada City

c/o Nevada County Public Health 500 Crown Point Circle, Suite 110 Grass Valley, CA 95945 • 530.265.1732

December 21, 2009

Gene Albaugh, City Manager
City of Nevada City
317 Broad Street
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Gene,

Live Healthy Nevada County (LHNC) and FREED are very pleased that Nevada City intends to apply for grants under the California Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and applauds you for requesting suggestions from the community as to how these funds could best be applied to housing and community improvement projects. We would like to offer you our assistance in this endeavor and would be very willing to assist in writing the grant or to provide letters of support as required.

We reviewed the outcome of the November 17th Walkability Workshop and have identified several downtown projects that we feel are worthy of consideration by the City. We added one related to Sacramento Street that is outside the area considered at the meeting, as it is a safe crossing issue that was raised by a number of local residents, including the County's Health Officer.

In reviewing the proposals from the workshop we realized that you may be continuing the curb cut improvements that you have underway, however we included those that had a high number of votes during the "Next Steps" phase of the workshop.

As was noted in The Union, several of our projects have already been submitted, but they are included here since we felt that you would want to take into account the number of times a project has been suggested.

- Shared space on Commercial from Main St to N Pine St. This would be accomplished by raising the street level to the same level as the sidewalk and by providing for parking on one side only. Included would be the removal of sidewalk obstacles up to York St. We feel that this would result in a very people friendly area for all ability levels. Towns that have implemented this concept have observed that people stay longer and business increases.



Below are a few links regarding shared space that you may find informative:

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2008/0912/p07s03-woeu.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRKWi5beywQ&feature=related>

http://seedmagazine.com/content/article/where_the_sidewalk_ends/

- Curb cuts as appropriate at the following streets:
 - Washington and Coyote
 - Cottage and Pine
 - Coyote, across from the Chamber of Commerce
- Bike racks at suitable locations. Initial suggestions are: Parking lots, Robinson Plaza, Junction of Spring St & Pine St, Bonanza Market, Junction of Broad St & Commercial St.
- A safe crossing from Clark St across Sacramento St. There are many children who live in the Piety Hill area that need a safe way to get to Pioneer Park and the lack of visibility of cars coming down Sacramento make even automobile crossing quite hazardous.
- Make connections to local trails and recreation areas easily accessible from downtown for people of all ability levels.

Although not all of the above may be appropriate for the block grant, no matter which project is selected, we will be very pleased to work with you to help win the grant.

Sincerely,



Ana Acton

Executive Director

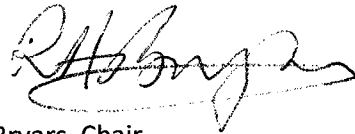
FREED Center for Independent Living



Galen El-Askari, MPH

Health & Wellness Program Manager

Nevada County Public Health Department



Ray Bryars, Chair

LHNC Walkability Action Committee



Bill Haire

Trails Coordinator

Nevada County Land Trust

Department of Housing and Community Development

CDBG Program—Planning and Technical Assistance Grants

Links to program publications are shown following the program description.

PURPOSE

Provide funds for small cities and counties for planning and evaluation studies related to any CDBG-eligible activity.

ASSISTANCE TYPE

Grants

TERMS

Up to \$70,000 per year per jurisdiction. No more than \$35,000 under the General/Native American Allocation and a maximum of \$35,000 under the Economic Development Allocation.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Studies and plans for housing, public works, community facilities, and economic development activities that meet CDBG national objectives, and provide principal benefit to low-income persons.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Counties with fewer than 200,000 residents in unincorporated areas and cities with fewer than 50,000 residents that are not participants in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement program.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications are invited through an annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). Applications will be accepted from July 30, 2008 through April 2, 2009, on a continuous basis. Jurisdictions will be notified when all PTA funds have been awarded by or before April 2, 2009, whichever date occurs first.

CONTACT

Program Administration: (916) 552-9398

PROGRAM PUBLICATIONS

- [Award Package Announced for CDBG Planning and Technical Assistance Allocation](#)
- [Quick Access](#)
- [About State CDBG](#)
- [CDBG Information](#)
- [NOFAs & Applications](#)
- [Grant Management Manual & Reporting Forms](#)