## THE ERWIN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 2021 REGULAR WORKSHOP MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M. ERWIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING BOARD ROOM

### **AGENDA**

1.	MEETI	NG	CALI	ÆD T	ΓO (	DRDER
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- A. Invocation
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS /APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- 3. **OLD BUSINESS** 
  - A. Erwin Depot
- 5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Old Business Item 3A

# **Erwin Board of Commissioners**

# REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION

To: The Honorable Mayor and Board of Commissioners

From: Snow Bowden, Town Manager

Date: October 25, 2021

Subject: Erwin Depot

In order for the Town to borrow money, we will have to get approval from the Local Government Commission. There are a number of steps that we have to take to get this process started. I have continued to look for grant opportunities when I have the time as well. We cannot use the funds from the American Rescue Plan for this project.

At the moment, the current USDA interest rate is 2.125% which would be a fixed rate for the life of the loan. With the proper documentation, USDA could offer a 30-year term loan. The annual payment on a one million dollar loan would be \$45,450.00. That annual payment breaks down to \$3,787.50/month.

Please keep in mind these costs are just to take the loan and complete the building. This does not include the annual operating costs for the building. A safe estimate to operate this building (insurance, utilities, etc..) would be \$20,000. With the potential loan from USDA, and the annual operating expenses of the building I would estimate you are looking at needing to raise an additional \$65,450.00 a year for this project.

The Town collects \$2,172 a month in rent from the cell tower. This rent does go up every year but it is not guaranteed income. At any moment, the company that is on that tower could decide to pull off that tower, and the rent payments would stop. Their buyout option is still on the table they offered \$435,000 to buy the contract out. But if you take that option you are losing any revenue that would exceed that amount. Our current lease with American Tower goes until 2069. If the lease continued until 2069 the estimated revenue would be 2.7 million dollars.

#### Attachments:

- State and Local Government Finance Guidelines on Debt Issuance
- Erwin Train Station Revenue Costs
- Bank Accounts
- USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Guidelines

STATE TREASURER OF NORTH CAROLINA
DALE R. FOLWELL, CPA

GREGORY C. GASKINS
DEPUTY TREASURER

## STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

### September 4, 2019

Guidelines on Debt Issuance (Revised)

The Local Government Commission (LGC) is authorized to adopt rules and regulations and to issue memoranda, statements and other publications intended as guidelines, all in order to carry out its powers and duties, and to assist units of local government and public authorities (a unit) in complying with North Carolina General Statutes (G.S.) Chapter 159. In an effort to assist applicants in receiving timely approval of financing requests by the LGC, the staff has prepared these guidelines and suggestions. These are intended to indicate steps applicants may take to expedite approval and to point out pitfalls that may delay or complicate the approval process and are to be avoided. The items are divided into two broad categories, A. Fiscal Management and B. Debt Management and the Project and are generally related to the statutory findings required of the LGC, as found in G.S. Chapter 159.

### **LGC Consideration of Unit's Fiscal Management**

- 1) Adequate and timely responses to issues raised in a unit letter sent by LGC staff must have been received. All concerns regarding the financial management of the Unit must be addressed, such as low General Fund balance (below eight percent (8%) of the prior year's expenditures), low tax collection rate (below 90%), receipt of a qualified audit opinion, habitual violations of G.S. Chapter 159, Article 3, (The Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act), inadequate internal controls, weakness in an enterprise fund or an enterprise fund that is not self-supporting and similar concerns. Although LGC staff may perform a site visit, this visit does not eliminate the requirement for the unit to provide a written response to the concerns identified in the unit letter. In addition, depending on the issues identified, LGC staff may determine that a site visit must be completed prior to the targeted LGC meeting date. The results of the site visit may result in the consideration of the debt application being postponed and all results will be made available to LGC members for their consideration in advance of the targeted meeting date.
- 2) The Unit should be operating under a legally-adopted budget which includes the project to be financed preferably through a capital project ordinance for multi-year projects.
- 3) Current audited financial statements must be available on a timely basis. For units of local government, this would mean that the audited financial statements have been received by October 31. For public authorities with a calendar year or fiscal year not ending on June 30, audited financial statements should be received within four months of year-end. Financing applications for LGC approvals after October 31 will require the audited financial statements of the immediately preceding fiscal year, and the audited statements should be submitted at least three weeks prior to the targeted LGC meeting date to allow adequate time for staff review and Unit follow-up.

Appendix A Guidelines on Debt Issuance SLG-POL-2004-SLG, original March 27, 2007

Revised April 9, 2018

Revised September 4, 2019

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### STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

4) If a power agency is involved, it must comply with the policy approved by the governing body of the Unit regarding transfers from the electric system to the General Fund.

### LGC Consideration of Unit's Debt Management and the Proposed Project

- 1) The Unit should make a point of discussing its capital improvement plans with the LGC staff as they are being developed. Ideally, this will be at the initial determination of required/desired improvement needs and opportunities. The plans may be based on preliminary project and financing cost estimates and historical financial information to allow the staff to assess the financial capacity of the unit and any other possible issues. Please be aware that the LGC must approve retained professional members of a financing team if one is used. Early notification of the staff will allow any related options or concerns to be addressed. Follow-up meetings or phone calls are encouraged when major changes occur.
- 2) LGC staff should be contacted very early in the planning stage regarding the proposed debt issuance. This early contact is necessary to make sure the process gets off to a good start. Having to "back up and restart" can significantly delay the process. This is especially important if an innovative financing is contemplated which may require consideration of unusual covenants, special justifications of necessity or cost, private activity usage, special interlocal agreements, unusual amortization schedules and other innovations.
- 3) The Unit should have a reasonable debt burden. A heavy debt burden may be evidenced by a ratio of General Fund Debt Service to General Fund Expenditures exceeding 15%, or Debt per Capita or Debt to Appraised Property Value exceeding that of similar units. (See Local Government Commission "Analysis of Debt" available on the DST website under Local Fiscal Management, Financial Analysis Tools, under Reports for "County and Municipal Debt Analysis").
- 4) The request to borrow must be for capital expenditures, not operating expenses.
- 5) The project must be "ready." Construction bids required major permits and Phase I Environmental Studies should be received before the approval or, at the latest, before the sale of the debt. Other required sources of funding must be committed.
- 6) Any threat or existence of litigation related to the project or the financing must be satisfactorily resolved. Litigation could affect either the marketability of the debt or the borrower's ability to repay the debt.
- 7) Community support for the project is important, especially for non-voted debt. Lack of community support may be evidenced by comments at meetings of the governing body or public hearings, correspondence, newspaper articles, etc.

STATE TREASURER OF NORTH CAROLINA
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## STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

- 8) The repayment plan presented must be complete and consistent regarding the maturity of debt, life of assets financed, terms of related agreements, etc. In addition, the repayment plan must be consistent with the financial projections provided by the Unit. Amortization of principal should be level for all general fund projects. Use of level principal and interest payments for an enterprise fund may be appropriate.
- 9) Financial projections should be presented that demonstrate feasibility and are clearly reasonable in comparison to prior financial performance. Appraisals, feasibility studies and comfort letters (if required) must be prepared by parties that are both independent to the transaction and possessing adequate expertise.
- 10) There should be no outstanding concerns or unresolved matters relating to a prior bond issue, such as incomplete or late filing of rebate reports, failure to meet continuing disclosure obligations, violations of covenants in other obligations, or other matters of concern. Such unresolved matters may prevent or delay the issuance of future debt.
- 11) Documentation must be provided showing that covenants in outstanding obligations will be satisfied if the proposed debt is issued, i.e., additional debt tests, restrictive covenants regarding additional debt, etc.
- 12) The ability to secure an investment grade rating should be documented. Enhancements including letters of credit, bond insurance, a parent guarantee, etc., should be considered.
- 13) A complete application should be filed four weeks prior to the LGC meeting date when the item is to be considered (the LGC meets the first Tuesday of every month), including documentation of all required resolutions being adopted by the governing body. This provides adequate time for staff review of the application and for compiling any additional information that may be necessary.
- 14) Bond or loan documents must be in substantially final form before presentation at the LGC meeting.
- 15) If a refunding is contemplated, the present value of the savings should exceed three percent (3%) of the refunded bonds. Generally, the term of the original debt should not be extended when bonds are refunded.
- 16) The sale date should be requested as early as practical. This provides some flexibility in selection of a date that should not compete with another previously scheduled sale or a bond market holiday. This assures that the most favorable interest rate is obtained for each issuer.

**Project name** 19-036 Erwin Depot

Labor rate table Standard

Equipment rate table Standard

Job size 2867 sf

Report format Sorted by 'Location/Group phase/Phase'

'Detail' summary Allocate addons

Item		Description	Takeoff Qty		Total Amount	
Existing De	epot					
2.200		DEMOLITION				
2.205		Gen. Demolition Sub General Demolition Gen. Demolition Sub	1.00	ls	11,250 11,250	
2.875	10	Remove Misc. Lead Paint Removal And Abatement Remove Misc. 128.00 Labor hours 96.00 Equipment hours	1.00	each	18,000 18,000	
		DEMOLITION  128.00 Labor hours  96.00 Equipment hours	3		29,250	
5.000		STEEL				
5.510	10	Stair Railing Stair Railing Stair Railing 135.333 Labor hours 67.67 Equipment hours	406.00	Inft	44,406	
		STEEL  135.333 Labor hours 67.67 Equipment hours	;		44,406	
6.000		WOOD & PLASTICS				
6.100 lab		Rough Carpentry Carpentry Labor Rough Carpentry 1.00 Labor hours 0.50 Equipment hours	1.00	mh	7,500 7,500	
6.145	10	Misc Small Framing Exterior Decks and Ramp Misc Small Framing 68,185.20 Labor hours 34,092.60 Equipment hours	1,704.63	sf	29,832 29,832	
6.210 ply5		Plywood Subfloor SUL Underlayment 5/8" Plywood Subfloor 114.00 Labor hours 28.50 Equipment hours	2,280.00	sqft	2,850 2,850	
6.230	12	Plywood Sheathng Plywood Wall Sheathing 1/2" Plywood Sheathng 111.00 Labor hours 37.00 Equipment hours	2,220.00	sqft	3,552 3,552	
6.235		Roof Sheathing 2 x 6 T & G Wood Roof Deck	3,564.00	sqft	11,275	-

					Total
Item		Description	Takeoff Qty		Total Amount
		Roof Sheathing			11,275
6.410	10 10	Wood Siding Wood Siding Decorative Brackets and Trim Wood Siding 186.17 Labor hours 558.50 Equipment hours	2,220.00 14.00	sqft ea	10,989 2,310 13,299
6.418	10	House wrap Tyvek Vapor Barrier wrap House wrap 12.00 Labor hours 1.50 Equipment hours	3.00	roll	1,200 1,200
6.428	10	Finish Carpentry Carpentry Sub (Interior) Finish Carpentry	1.00	Isum	10,500 10,500
6.801	10	Fastners & Misc Fastners & Misc Fastners & Misc	1.00	each	1,200 1,200
		WOOD & PLASTICS 68,609.37 Labor hours 34,718.60 Equipment hours			81,208
7.000		THERMAL-MOIST PROTECTION			
7.120	10	Waterproof /Dampproof Crawl Space Vapor Barrier System Waterproof /Dampproof	1.00	ls	6,000 6,000
7.201 sub		Insulation Spray Foam Insulation Insulation	1,935.00	Isum	6,095 6,095
7.210	10	Batt Insulation R38 Batt Insulation - Floor Batt Insulation 38.00 Labor hours 12.67 Equipment hours	1,900.00	sqft	2,584 2,584
7.215 		Board Insulation 4" Nail Base Insulation Board Insulation	3,564.00	sqft	11,583 11,583
7.404	60	Gutters Gutters and downspouts - Sub Gutters	1.00	ls	5,400 5,400
7.821	10	Fiberglas Shingles Fiberglass Roof Shingles Fiberglas Shingles 76.00 Labor hours 25.333 Equipment hours	38.00	sq	13,300 13,300
7.835	10	Roofing Felt Roofing Felt Roofing Felt 9.50 Labor hours 3.17 Equipment hours	38.00	SQ	<u>534</u> 534
7.920 sub		Caulking & Sealants Caulk & Sealants	1.00	Inft	2,750

Item		Description	Takeoff Qty		Total Amount
		Caulking & Sealants			2,750
		THERMAL-MOIST PROTECTION			
		123.50 Labor hours			48,246
		41.17 Equipment hours			
8.000		DOORS & WINDOWS			
8.150		Misc Door Items			
		Refinish and Rehang Rolling Doors	4.00	each	4,500
		Misc Door Items			4,500
8.610		Wood Windows			
	10	Wood Windows	8.00	each	6,750
		Wood Windows			6,750
		32.00 Labor hours 16.00 Equipment hours			
					44.050
		DOORS & WINDOWS  32.00 Labor hours			11,250
		16.00 Equipment hours			
9.000		FINISHES			
9.860		Resilient Tile & Carpet			
0.000	10	Commercial Carpet	1,900.00	sf	5,985
		Resilient Tile & Carpet			5,985
9.922		Paint Beams			
	10	Clean and Seal Existing Beams	1,900.00	sqft	7,500
		Paint Beams			7,500
9.950	70	Paint Subcontractor	1 000 00	la	7 600
	70	Paint Subcontract - Lump Sum Paint Subcontractor	1,900.00	IS	7,600 7,600
		FINISHES			21,085
15.000		MECHANICAL			
15.010		HVAC			
-	10	HVAC Subcontractor	1.00	sqft	35,000
		HVAC			35,000
15.300		Sprinkler			
	05	Sprinkler System - Sub	2,640.00	sf	5,940
		Sprinkler			5,940
		MECHANICAL			40,940
16.000		ELECTRICAL			
16.001		Electrical			
sub		Electrical	1,900.00	sqft	24,000
		Electrical			24,000
16.175	40	Install Fire Alarm System	4.00	00.51	7.040
	10	Install Fire Alarm System	1.00	each	7,619

10

					Total
Item	Description		Takeoff Qty		Amount
	Install Fire Alarm Sy 2.00	stem Labor hours			7,619
	ELECTRICAL 2.00	Labor hours			31,619
	Existing Depot				308,004
	<b>1,900.00</b> 69,030.20 34,939.433				
New Build	ing				
3.000	CONCRETE				
3.020 sub	Lump-Sum Concrete S Lump Sum Concrete S Lump-Sum Concrete	Slab & Foundations	967.00	sf	<u>5,802</u> 5,802
	CONCRETE				5,802
6.000	WOOD & PLAST	ics			
6.100	Rough Carpentry				
sub	Framing (Sub)  Rough Carpentry		1,452.00	sf	4,356 4,356
6.110	Wall Framing 2x4 Interior Wall Framing Wall Framing 2x4		780.00	lf	3,510 3,510
6.115	Wall Framing 2x6 Exterior Wall Framing		1,770.00	sf	7,965
6.125	Wall Framing 2x6 Wood Trusses				7,965
3.720	10 Wood Trusses (all size Wood Trusses	Labor hours	1.00	each	2,350 2,350
6.130	Truss Bracing 10 2 x 4 x 16 Truss Bracin Truss Bracing	ng	75.00	ea	1,670 1,670
6.235	Roof Sheathing 58 Roof Sheathing 5/8" Roof Sheathing 19.84 6.613	Labor hours Equipment hours	1,984.00	sqft	1,107 1,107
6.410	Wood Siding  10 Wood Siding  10 Decorative Brackets a  Wood Siding  105.25  315.75		1,248.00 15.00	sqft ea	6,300 3,975 10,275

3,330.00 sqft

9,600

Interior Paneling
10 1 x 6 T&G Bead Board

6.430

						Total
Item		Description		Takeoff Qty		Total Amount
		Interior Paneling				9,600
		166.50 La	bor hours uipment hours			
0.004			, a., p			
6.801	10	Fastners & Misc Fastners & Misc		1.00	each	2,150
		Fastners & Misc				2,150
		WOOD & PLASTICS				42,983
			bor hours Juipment hours			
7.000		THERMAL-MOIST PR				
7.210	40	Batt Insulation		2 247 00	64	4.004
	10	Batt Insulation  Batt Insulation		2,347.00	sqft	1,994 1,994
			bor hours			1,994
		15.65 Eq	uipment hours			
7.404		Gutters				
	60	Gutters and downspouts - S	Sub	1.00	ls	1,750
		Gutters				1,750
7.821	10	Fiberglas Shingles		22.00		7 700
	10	Fiberglass Roof Shingles Fiberglas Shingles		22.00	sq	7,700 7,700
			bor hours			7,700
		14.67 Eq	uipment hours			
7.835		Roofing Felt				
	10	Roofing Felt		22.00	SQ	309
		Roofing Felt 5.50 La	bor hours			309
			uipment hours			
7.920		Caulking & Sealants				
sub		Caulk & Sealants		1.00	Inft	1,100
		Caulking & Sealants				1,100
		THERMAL-MOIST PRO				12,853
		96.44 La 32.15 Eq	bor hours Juipment hours			
8.000		DOORS & WINDOWS				
		Doored Windows				
8.116		Wood Doors				
		Wood Doors		9.00	each	13,050
		Wood Doors				13,050
8.610	10	Wood Windows Wood Windows		10.00	each	4,750
	10	Wood Windows		10.00	CaUII	4,750
		40.00 La	bor hours			,
		20.00 Eq	uipment hours			
		DOORS & WINDOWS	h an h ar			17,800
		40.00 La 20.00 Eq	bor hours uipment hours			
			r			
9.000		FINISHES				

					Total
Item		Description	Takeoff Qty		Amount
9.130		Acoustical Ceilings	007.00	1.	4.005
s-ls		Lump sum - subcontractor	967.00	ls	4,835
		Acoustical Ceilings			4,835
9.330		Drywall Sub	2 220 00	of	E 77E
sub		Drywall Sub	3,330.00	sf	5,775
		Drywall Sub			5,775
9.700		Ceramic/Marble	000.00		0.400
Isum		Lump Sum Ceramic Tile	200.00	ls	2,400
		Ceramic/Marble			2,400
9.860		Resilient Tile & Carpet			
		Flooring Allowance	967.00	sub	4,835
		Resilient Tile & Carpet			4,835
9.950		Paint Subcontractor			
	70	Paint Subcontract - Lump Sum	967.00	ls	3,385
		Paint Subcontractor			3,385
		FINISHES			21,230
40.000		SPECIAL CONDITIONS			
10.000		SPECIAL CONDITIONS			
10.160		Toilet Partition			
10.100	20	Toilet Partition  Toilet Partitions (Solid Plastic)	2.00	each	1,800
	20	Toilet Partition	2.00	odon	1,800
		5.00 Labor hours			,,,,,,
		1.67 Equipment hours			
10.810		Lump Sum Toilet Accessory			
	10	LS Toilet Access	16.00	each	1,200
		Lump Sum Toilet Accessory			1,200
		384.000 Labor hours			
		128.00 Equipment hours			
		SPECIAL CONDITIONS			3,000
		389.000 Labor hours			
		129.67 Equipment hours			
15.000		MECHANICAL			
15.001		Plumbing			
	10	Plumbing Subcontractor (fixture count)			15,400
		Plumbing			15,400
15.010		HVAC			
	10	HVAC Subcontractor	1.00	sqft	11,604
		HVAC			11,604
15.300		Sprinkler			
	05	Sprinkler System - Sub	1,452.00	sf	3,267
		Sprinkler			3,267
		MECHANICAL			30,271
16.000		ELECTRICAL			
		LLEGINIOAL			
16.001		Electrical			
sub		Electrical	967.00	sqft	10,500

Item	Description	Takeoff Qty	Γotal Amount
	Electrical		10,500
16.175	Install Fire Alarm System		
	10 Install Fire Alarm System	1.00 each	3,878
	Install Fire Alarm System		3,878
	2.00 Labor hours		
	ELECTRICAL		14,378
	2.00 Labor hours		
	New Building		148,317

967.00 sf

821.030 Labor hours 588.093 Equipment hours

### Site Work

2.000		SITEWORK				
2.002		Site Demolition				
		Demo Exitsting Curb & Gutt	er	1.00	sub	3,200
		Site Demolition				3,200
2.003		Site Grading				
	10	Site Grading - Sub		1.00	ls	7,500
		Site Grading				7,500
2.011		Bulk Fill				45.400
	10	Bulk Fill		1.00	IS	15,100
		Bulk Fill				15,100
		0.033 Lal 0.033 Eq	or nours uipment hours			
2.025		Asphalt Paving				
	05	Asphalt Paving - Sub		356.00	sy	7,476
		Asphalt Paving				7,476
2.027		Concrete Curb				
	20	Concrete Curb - Sub		460.43	lf	6,906
		Concrete Curb				6,906
2.036		Parking Lines				
Isum		Parking Lines		1.00	ls	1,100
		Parking Lines				1,100
2.040		Site Utilities				24 ==2
		Site Utilities - Water Site Utilities - Sewer		1.00	ls	21,750
	10			1.00	ls	6,000
		Site Utilities				27,750
2.112	10	Site Furnishings		2.00	each	750
	10	Site Furnishings - Bench Trash Receptacles		1.00	each each	750 500
	10			1.00	each	1,500
	10	Site Furnishings		1.00	Caoii	2,750
2.115		Termite Treatment				
sub		Soil Poisioning		2,934.00	sqft	294

						Total
Item		Description		Takeoff Qty		Amount
		Termite Treatment				294
2.140		Landscaping				
sub		Landscaping & Irrigation	n	1.00	ls	15,500
		Landscaping				15,500
2.190		Site Concrete				
		Site Walks		5,608.79	sf	28,885
	20	Concrete Dumpster Pa	d	100.00	sf	750
		Site Concrete				29,635
2.195		Site Electrical				
		Site Lighting		1.00	ls	10,000
		Site Wiring		1.00	ls	9,500
		Site Electrical				19,500
		SITEWORK				136,711
		0.033	Labor hours			
		0.033	Equipment hours			
10.000		SPECIAL CONDI	TIONS			
10.350		Flagpoles				
	10	Flagpoles		2.00	each	13,000
		Flagpoles				13,000
			Labor hours			
		2.00	Equipment hours			
		SPECIAL CONDITION	DNS			13,000
			Labor hours			,
		2.00	Equipment hours			
		Site Work				149,711
						-,

2,867.00 sf

6.033 Labor hours2.033 Equipment hours

# **Estimate Totals**

Description	Amount	Totals	Hours	Rate			
	606,033	606,033					
Buildina Permits	3.636			0.420 %	Т	1.268 /sf	0.42%
Builder's Risk Insurance	1.645			0.190 %	T	0.574 /sf	0.19%
General Conditions	70.000				L	24.416_/sf	8.09%
	75,281	681,314				237.640 /sf	8.70
Overhead	68.131			10.000 %			
	68,131	749,445				261.404 /sf	7.87
Profit	37.472			5.000 %			
Contingency	78.692			10.000 %	T	27.447 /sf	9.09%
Total		865,609					

# Bank Account(s) August 2021 approved at our October Town Board Meeting

Account	Amount
CASH MANAGEMENT	\$1,967,203.61
BB&T CASH IN BANK	\$111,679.38
FIRST FEDERAL BUSINESS MONEY MARKET	\$856,877.71
FIRST FEDERAL MONEY MARKET	\$136,591.42
TOTAL	\$3,072,352.13

# Restricted Funds August 2021 approved at our October Town Board Meeting

Account	Amount
BB&T STATE FORFETIRURE	\$4,246.64
BB&T CAPTIAL RESERVE/COMMUNITY	\$193,389.81
ENHANCEMENT	
FIRST FEDERAL CAPTIAL RESERVE	\$2,349,686.42
BB&T HEALTH RESERVE HRA	\$17,199.42
PRIEBE FIELD ACCOUNT	\$11,248.44
AL WOODALL PARK IMPROVEMENTS PARTF	\$349,440.85
AMERICAN RELIEF FUND	\$821,602.01
TOTAL	\$3,746,803.59

# Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant

# What does this program do?

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial, or business undertakings.

# Who may apply for this program?

### Eligible borrowers include:

- Public bodies
- Community-based nonprofit corporations
- Federally recognized Tribes

### What is an eligible area?

Rural areas including cities, villages, townships, and towns including Federally recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest <u>U.S. Census Data</u> are eligible for this program.

### How may funds be used?

Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, to purchase equipment, and to pay related project expenses.

Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Healthcare facilities such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes, or assisted living facilities
- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars, or street improvements
- Community support services such as child care centers, community centers, fairgrounds, or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles, or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries, or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment

 Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, or greenhouses

For a complete list see Code of Federal Regulations 7 CFR, Part 1942.17(d) for loans; 7 CFR, Part 3570.62 for grants.

### What kinds of funding are available?

- Low interest direct loans
- Grants
- A combination of the two above, as well as our <u>loan guarantee program</u>.
   These may be combined with commercial financing to finance one project if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met.

### What are the funding priorities?

Priority point system based on population, median household income

- Small communities with a population of 5,500 or less
- Low-income communities having a median household income below 80% of the state nonmetropolitan median household income.



# Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant

#### What are the terms?

Funding is provided through a competitive process.

### **Direct Loan:**

- Loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes, the applicants authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less.
- Interest rates are set by Rural Development, contact us for details and current rates.
- Once the loan is approved, the interest rate is fixed for the entire term of the loan, and is determined by the median household income of the service area.
- There are no pre-payment penalties.
- Contact us for details and current interest rates applicable for your project.

### **Grant Approval:**

Grant funds must be available.

Applicant must be eligible for grant assistance, which is provided on a graduated scale with smaller communities with the lowest median household income being eligible for projects with a higher proportion of grant funds. Grant assistance is limited to the following percentages of eligible project costs:

Maximum of 75 percent when the proposed project is:

- Located in a rural community having a population of 5,000 or fewer; and
- The median household income of the proposed service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 60 percent of the State nonmetropolitan median household income.

Maximum of 55 percent when the proposed project is:

- Located in a rural community having a population of 12,000 or fewer; and
- The median household income of the proposed service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 70 percent of the State nonmetropolitan median household income.

Maximum of 35 percent when the proposed project is:

- Located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer; and
- The median household income of the proposed service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 80 percent of the State nonmetropolitan median household income.

Maximum of 15 percent when the proposed project is:

- Located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer; and
- The median household income of the proposed service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 90 percent of the State nonmetropolitan median household income. The proposed project must meet both percentage criteria. Grants are further limited.

### Are there additional requirements?

- Applicants must have legal authority to borrow money, obtain security, repay loans, construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities
- Applicants must be unable to finance the project from their own resources and/or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms
- Facilities must serve rural area where they are/will be located
- Project must demonstrate substantial community support
- Environmental review must be completed/acceptable

### How do we get started?

Contact your <u>local RD office</u> to discuss your specific project. Applications are accepted year round.

### Who can answer questions?

Contact your local RD office.

### What governs this program?

- Direct Loan: 7 CFR Part 1942, Subpart A
- · Grant: 7 CFR Part 3570, Subpart A

NOTE: Because citations and other information may be subject to change, please always consult the program instructions listed in the section above titled "What Governs This Program?" You may also contact your local office for assistance. You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at rd.usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.