

CITY OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY SEEKING \$5M IN STIMULUS FUNDING TO HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ECONOMY; GRANT NEEDS COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

The City of South Lake Tahoe has the potential to bring \$5 million dollars into the local economy through a grant from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Agency's Neighborhood Stabilization Program/Round 2 funding (NSP2). The program requires funds to be used to stabilize local housing markets through elimination of foreclosed properties and the creation of jobs. The program requires the purchase of foreclosed homes, improving the homes (housing rehabilitation), including the installation of energy efficient appliances and equipment, and then reselling or renting the home to low and moderate income persons or families (those earning less than \$61,150 /person or \$87,350/family of four), which will benefit a majority of Tahoe residents.

"The City Council and City management is committed to helping people find and own quality affordable housing and helping stimulate the local economy," said City Manager David Jinkens. "The City Council's recently adopted and State government –approved housing element is an action document, and this program is one of several to help deliver quality workforce and affordable housing to the community," Jinkens added.

Fierce Competition for Funding, Let's Join Together!

Local governments must competitively apply for the funding, and **must demonstrate community commitment to the program**. HUD recognizes it will "take a community" to implement the program. HUD also recognizes local businesses and service providers will benefit from the funding in the purchasing of homes and the materials to remodel the housing, and the community will benefit by helping to stabilize the market and help low and moderate income families move into quality housing. Therefore, grant applications must provide evidence the business community through leveraging financial support to making the program successful.

Community Commitments

HUD will rank and award grant applications based on the financial level of Community Commitments submitted with the application. HUD is looking for communities willing to make the grant funds stretch as far as possible. For example: Businesses can donate or discount service fees, loan and real estate fees, Energy Auditing fees, materials, supplies, labor and marketing costs and so on. Cash donations from community members, corporations, and foundations are also counted toward community support – every dollar is important for community support.

Act Now! Help bring \$5 Million dollars to the local community! If your business will benefit, submit a Letter of Commitment to the City and help bring stimulus funds into the local economy and help bring jobs to town. Commitment letters are required by **Friday, June 19, 2009**. The City Council is holding a Public Hearing on the matter Tuesday, June 16, 2009. Public comments are encouraged: email Nancy Kerry at nkerry@cityofslt.us or call 530-542-6043.

Attachment: Open Letter to the Business Community and Letter of Commitment example

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