

Memorandum

To: Bill Rich, Hyde County Manager

From: Reed Whitesell, AICP
Community Development Manager
Holland Consulting Planners, Inc. 

Re: Current Status of Hyde County Grant Projects Managed by HCP, Inc.

Date: April 9, 2013

Bill – I thought it would be useful to provide you with a short written summary of our current project status in Hyde County prior to our meeting tomorrow afternoon:

Hyde County FY09 CDBG Community Revitalization Project (Lake Swamp Road): This CDBG project consisted of rehabilitation/reconstruction of six units on Lake Swamp Road and installation of an upgraded waterline and ESD sewer force main and STEP pumps to serve the improved structures. We also elevated one structure and built a new home with local option funds. The project has been completed for several months and the county has held the required closeout public hearing. We are awaiting final monitoring by the Division of Community Assistance (DCA) prior to sending in the Certificate of Completion in May 2013. The county will de-obligate approximately \$60,000 of the \$850,000 grant due to the dropout of one owner who did not wish to participate.

Hyde County FY10 CDBG Scattered Site Housing Project: This \$400,000 project involves the reconstruction of four housing units at scattered locations throughout the county. Three units have been completed to date. The county submitted an amendment to complete a fourth alternate unit, which has been approved. That unit, a single-wide manufactured home, should be completed within 45 days and the project should be closed out before 6/30/13.

Hyde County CDBG Contingency Project (US 264 Sewer Extension): The county was granted an extension by DCA to obtain release of funds for this \$600,000 CDBG Contingency project due to an environmental concern. The Division of Water Quality had an objection to adding 44 new customers on US 264 west of Engelhard to the ESD collection system due to the poor condition of ESD's sewage treatment facility. The county entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (attached) with ESD and agreed to provide planning assistance to obtain funding for the replacement/upgrade of the treatment facility. The county hired Hobbs Upchurch (with CDBG funds) to prepare a Special Order by Consent for ESD, which is currently under review by DWQ in Raleigh. Upon submittal of the SOC, DWQ released its objection to the project and release of funds should be received by April 15th. The project will be bid in May and warded in June. The county must complete the project by December 16, 2013. I have some concerns related to the engineering required for this project which I will share with you tomorrow.

Hyde County FY12 CDBG Infrastructure and Catalyst Applications: DCA is reviewing two potential projects for possible award this spring. The Infrastructure project would provide funds to install new waterlines on two roads in Scranton. The Catalyst project would provide funds to allow the MidEast Housing Authority to rehabilitate the Hycienda Heights rental complex in Engelhard.

Hyde County FY11 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Elevation Program: This \$430,000 project originally consisted of the elevation of eight (8) residential structures at various locations throughout the county. Two structures were improved with the local option CDBG funds described above. Two other structures are too deteriorated to elevate. We have completed the bidding and award of the remaining four structures. Two owners have deposited their 25% contribution with the county finance officer and those two units are under construction. One unit is being re-bid this month in an attempt to reduce the cost. Negotiations are underway with the fourth owner to convince them to participate financially.

Hurricane Irene HMGP Elevation Grant: I expect that the county will finally obtain a Hazard Mitigation Grant this summer to elevate six homes damaged during Hurricane Irene. I am keeping in close contact with the Division of Emergency Management concerning this issue.

I have attached an HCP brochure for your review – we also provide a wide variety of planning and GIS services which are available to the county upon request.