

Hyde County Office of Economic Development & Planning

November 2014 Department Report

Revolving Loan Fund to offer larger loans

The Hyde County Revolving Loan Fund is currently being restructured to offer local entrepreneurs more loan options. The new Hyde County Golden LEAF Revolving Loan Fund, which is the result of a \$500,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation, will provide an alternative to the county's existing program. The most exciting difference between the two options is the Golden LEAF Revolving Loan Fund will allow for larger loans.

County Manager Bill Rich is working closely with OPED's Kris Noble to finalize the new system's lending structure and requirements; expect full details by the end of the year. For more information contact Rosemary Johnson, (252) 926-4474

Kris Noble shares OPED's goals with Secretary of Commerce Sharon Decker

NC Secretary of Commerce Sharon Decker visited mainland Hyde County on September 12, 2014. Secretary Decker began her tour in Engelhard at the Hyde County Airport where Kris Noble highlighted the current state of Hyde County's economy, OPED's ongoing projects, and strategic goals. Decker spoke at the historic Mattamuskeet Lodge, expressing great interest in Hyde's tourism industry including the future of the lodge.



OPED's Kris Noble with NC Representative Paul Tine & long time waterfowl enthusiast Sydney Britt on the Mattamuskeet Lodge observation tower, photo credit: Natalie Wayne



Secretary Decker speaks at Mattamuskeet Lodge, photo credit: Melissa Joyner



The Hyde County Office of Planning & Economic Development continually strives to improve the infrastructure of the county to support small business and industry development. The quality of infrastructure directly affects a county's economic growth potential and the ability of businesses to engage effectively.

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Rosemary Johnson joins OPED

We are pleased to announce that Rosemary Johnson joined the Office of Planning and Economic Development in August as Planning Assistant. Prior to her new position, Rosemary worked for East Carolina Bank for 27 years where she gained ample experience in credit review and lending.

As the Planning & Economic Development Director's Assistant, Rosemary is instrumental in providing administrative support and carrying out the day-to-day tasks of the office. She is an approved map review officer and can assist with revolving loan fund inquiries.

OPED staff to attend 2014 NC Rural Assembly

OPED staff along with Hyde County PIO, Sarah Johnson, will attend the 2014 Rural Assembly in Raleigh on October 30th. Sponsored by the NC Rural Economic Development Center, the event will feature discussions from top industry professionals, workshops, and a resource fair with various funding agencies.

Coastal Resources Commission

Planning & Economic Development Director, Kris Noble, recently attended the Coastal Resources Commission held in Wilmington. Noble serves as a Coastal Resources Advisory Committee appointee. Governor Pat McCrory attended as well, making him the first sitting governor to attend a CRC meeting. McCrory shared his vision for coastal NC.

Infrastructure Update

OPED is continuing to assist the Engelhard Sanitary District (ESD) with finding solutions to their lagoon. ESD is considering viable replacement or repair options and funding sources.

In partnership with the NC Coastal Federation, we are also working on shoreline upgrades at the Engelhard Marine Industrial Park (EMIP). The improvements are funded through a NOAA grant.

OPED is assisting the elevation of homes on mainland Hyde through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Four homes are under contract and construction with the fifth awaiting approval from FEMA. If you are interested in having your property elevated, please contact our office.

NC Catch gains recognition, represents Hyde's commercial fishermen across the State

NC Catch, an umbrella organization of several eastern NC catch groups including Outer Banks Catch and Ocracoke Fresh, is gaining significant recognition across the state. In September the State Farmer's Market in Raleigh celebrated Seafood Day for the first time with the help of NC Catch. As a founding member of NC Catch, Kris Noble was in Raleigh that day to help educate customers about wild NC seafood.



NC Catch billboard on Hwy 64W leaving Dare County, photo credit: John Aydlett



NC Catch at 2014 State Fair, photo credit: nccatch.org

NC Catch also commanded a strong presence at the State Fair this year in the Got To Be NC tent. Catch members and fishing families manned the booth with educational materials and delicious samples for the crowd. In addition to special events that help garner media coverage and publicity for NC's seafood industry, NC Catch also provides consumers with buying guides and authentic seafood recipes. More info at www.nccatch.org