

Cumberland County Community Development Program

Projects Selected for Funding - 2008

Total Funds - \$1,458,560

County Program Administration - \$134,032

\$116,217 for 2nd year administration; \$17,801 for reimbursement for pre-award development costs

Program Grants - \$650,000 (includes \$29,000 from 2007 funds)

Regional Projects \$350,000

Community Projects \$271,000

Funding by project type:

Housing Rehabilitation \$260,000

Public Facilities \$125,000

Downtown Revitalization \$135,000

Social Service \$115,000

Planning \$ 15,000

Project & Funding Recommendations

Freeport Housing Rehabilitation/Replacement Program \$40,000

This project would continue work begun in 2007 to rehabilitate and replace aged, sub-standard mobile homes, most at a mobile home park owned by the Freeport Housing Trust. It is anticipated that four projects will be completed.

Regional Housing Rehabilitation – PROP \$180,000

This would continue the Regional Housing Rehabilitation program PROP currently operates. It is projected that between 12 and 15 homes would be improved. Level funded from 2007.

Regional Homeless Services – PROP/Preble Street \$115,000

This grant would continue the case management services program for homeless persons and those on the brink of homelessness. The program serves residents within and from the 23 communities of the Cumberland County community development program. Increase of \$9,000 from 2007 funding level.

Regional Housing Planning – GPCOG \$15,000

The proposed planning study would develop an affordable housing strategy for the region.

Steep Falls Library Renovations – Standish \$31,000

Critical improvements to the historic Steep Falls Library will include repairing the slate roof, electrical upgrades, repair to the front granite stairs and reconstruction of two chimneys.

Community Center – Naples \$50,000

Essential renovations and improvements to the historic Grange Hall in Naples Village, now owned by the Town will include: installation of sprinkler system, handicap access ramp, foundation repairs, new heating system, new fire-proof doors, water filtration system, and kitchen upgrades. Without these improvements the facility will continue to remain unusable.

Food Pantry Building – Gorham \$44,000

This project will establish a permanent home for the Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry. The Town is providing the building, a 24'X60" portable classroom type structure. Grant funds will pay for building renovations, slab foundation and electrical & plumbing hook-ups.

Regional Handicap Access Ramp Program – Alpha I \$40,000

The program will provide ramps for handicap adults to facilitate access to their homes. A similar program is currently operated by Alpha I with funds provided by the State CDBG program, but that program is not available to residents participating in Cumberland County's community development program. The City of Portland will also be funding a similar activity.

Downtown Revitalization – Gray \$135,000

This is a multi-faceted program to inaugurate a comprehensive downtown revitalization effort in Gray. The project includes building façade improvements, new sidewalks, streetlights and development of a small park.

III. Bridgton & South Portland Programs

The programs and activities conducted in the two set-aside communities of Bridgton and South Portland are integral components of the Cumberland County Community Development program. While not participants in the application competition, their projects, activities, funds, planning, administration and regulatory compliance are all part of the County's program.

Town of Bridgton \$218,336

Wayside Sewer Leach Field Reconstruction \$192,468

The reconstruction and expansion of the Wayside Sewer Leach Field is a critical component of Bridgton's ongoing Downtown Revitalization initiative. The septic field has deteriorated extensively and must be reconstructed to retain sanitary sewer service in the downtown neighborhood. The Wayside Field serves the low/moderate income downtown community development target area. This is Phase I of a multi-year plan to improve sanitary sewer service in Bridgton's Downtown. No construction occurred during 2007. With two years of funds now saved for the project, construction will begin this summer.

Program Administration \$25,868

Building and sustaining administrative capacity in Bridgton is an important component of their long-term Downtown Revitalization and Community Development program.

City of South Portland \$485,192

The City of South Portland and its new Community Development Director Erik Carson continue to operate their CDBG program, much as they did prior to relinquishing HUD Entitlement status. Coordination between South Portland and the County, particularly on administrative matters occurs on a regular and on-going basis.

Housing Programs \$ 28,754

The City operates a housing rehabilitation program projecting to complete 3 projects this year.

Public Facilities/Infrastructure \$328,441

South Portland will complete 10 facilities/infrastructure projects including: Ferry Village sidewalks; Waterman Drive improvements; Mill Creek crosswalks, Mill Creek gazebo, Knightville bus shelter, City Hall accessibility improvements.

Public Services \$72,719

Funds will be provided to five programs funded in 2007 – recreation scholarships; Boys & Girls Club; Center for Therapeutic Recreation; English as a second language (ESL) program and; fuel assistance. Three new programs are added this year – bus passes; home energy efficiency and PROP's Senior Companion program.

Program Administration \$61,776

The funds pay salaries, benefits and basic office supplies, phone and technology required for the activities of South Portland's Community Development Office.

Planning \$15,000

The City will conduct two planning studies, one for the Redbank neighborhood and one for Mill Creek Park.