





DA: September 21, 2009

SU: Community Development Block Grant Recovery (CDBG-R)  
Green Job Training & Water Saving Low Flow Toilet Programs  
Funding Allocation

TO: Mayor & Commission  
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government

THRU: Alan Reddish, Manager   
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government

FR: W. Keith McNeely, Sr., Director   
Human & Economic Development

In February 2009, the Federal Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) granted the Athens Clarke County Unified Government (ACCUG) \$395,575 in Community Development Block Grant Recovery funds (CDBG-R). CDBG-R funds are part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) signed into law on February 17, 2009. CDBG-R funds are targeted to provide economic stimulus within communities by funding projects and/or activities that maximize job creation and retention that benefit persons of greatest need. CDBG-R funds can be used for all eligible CDBG activities and projects.

At the June 2, 2009 Regular Voting meeting, the Mayor and Commission (M&C) approved the below noted use of CDBG-R funds. HUD regulations allow local governments to use up to 10% of its CDBG-R funds for eligible planning-administrative costs directly related to CDBG-R funded projects and/or activities. ACCUG administrative cap is \$39,558. The remaining 90% (\$356,017) of CDBG-R funds are to be used for program implementation.

- 1. Administration and Planning .....\$39,558
  - a. HED General program management, oversight, coordination, monitoring & evaluation of ARRA CDBG-R program (10% cap)
- 2. Housing.....\$206,017
  - a. Rehabilitation & Preservation activities:  
Retrofitting of water-saving low-flow toilets for eligible low income homeowners;.....\$50,000
  - b. Clearance & Remediation activities:  
Demolish, clear/remove & remediate properties identified as dilapidated or slum & blighted structures;.....\$156,017
- 3. Economic Development.....\$150,000
  - a. Establish Green Job Skills Training program.....\$100,000  
Job creation and retention of jobs within existing &/or start up Businesses;
  - b. ACC Growth Fund.....\$50,000  
Small business gap financing to stimulate job creation and retain existing jobs within local economy;
- TOTAL APPROVED ARRA CDBG-R EXPENDITURES.....\$395,575

**Human & Economic Development**

HED released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) on July 26, 2009 for both the Green Job Training (\$100,000) and Water Saving Low Flow Toilet (\$50,000) programs. Applications were accepted from July 26, 2009-August 24, 2009. On September 14, 2009, HED decided, based upon competitive evaluation criteria, which organization proposes the best use of the funds. The Manager's office was notified of HED's decision on September 21, 2009. CDBG-R funds must be obligated by award letters to organizations selected for funding no later than September 30, 2009 with contracts executed by no later than December 29, 2009.

Six (6) organizations made application for the Green Job Training program; Action Inc., (Action), Athens Area Habitat for Humanity, (Habitat), Complete Resource Building & Repair, Inc., Economic Justice Coalition, Inc., (EJC), Leco Mechanical, & Athens Technical College (ATC). Please note that Action, EJC, and Leco Mechanical also applied for the Water Saving Low Flow Toilet Program.

Four (4) organizations made application for the Water Saving Low Flow Toilet Program; Action, EJC, Leo Mechanical, and Charles F. Scheid III D/B/A Green John Solutions. Proposed activities, total amount requested, and projected outcomes by agency are provided in the below table.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Green Job Training</b>	<b>Water Saving Low Flow Toilet</b>	<b>Total Agency Request</b>	<b>Green Job Training Projected Outcome(s)</b>	<b>Water Saving Low Flow Toilet Projected Outcome(s)</b>
Action	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$150,000	150 people trained with 90% projected training completion rate; 30 jobs created	175 toilet replacements; 20 jobs created
Habitat	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	80 people trained; no job creation cited	n/a
Complete Resource Building & Repair	\$21,600	\$0	\$21,600	48 people trained; no job creation cited	n/a
Economic Justice Coalition	\$109,100	\$40,900	\$150,000	100 people trained; 75 jobs created	40 toilet replacements

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Green Job Training</b>	<b>Water Saving Low Flow Toilet</b>	<b>Total Agency Request</b>	<b>Green Job Training Projected Outcome(s)</b>	<b>Water Saving Low Flow Toilet Projected Outcome(s)</b>
Leco Mechanical	\$99,937	\$50,000	\$149,937	45 people trained;	100 toilet replacements; 5 jobs created
Athens Technical College	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	50 people trained per year; 250 total over 5 years; 90 jobs created	n/a
Charles F. Scheid, III DBA Green John Solutions	\$0	\$49,770	\$49,770	n/a	220 toilet replacements; no job creation cited

CDBG-R applications required project specific activities to be identified for funding. HED used a competitive set of criteria to evaluate applications based on the merit of each proposed project and/or activity. HED proposes allocating CDBG-R funds to organizations that propose the best use of funds to identify and implement strategies for job creation, job retention, and economic benefit for those of greatest need. Organizational Capacity and Project Management, Realistic Performance Measures and Fiscal Responsibility are critical elements reviewed in determining the best use of funds. HED has approved funding for both the Water Low Flow Toilet and Green Job Training Programs that, in staff's professional opinion, best meet the evaluation criteria.

HED has approved funding (\$50,000) to Action, Inc to implement the Water Low Flow Toilet Program. Action proposes to install 175 water-saving low-flow toilets in place of non low flow toilets in owner-occupied homes within Athens-Clarke County. The program scope of work includes client outreach, client intake and eligibility determination, file maintenance and record keeping, recruitment and selection of sub-contractors, monitoring the removal and disposal of non low flow toilets and installation of new low flow toilets. Action projects a total of twenty (20) long term jobs to be created to monitor and install 175 water-saving low flow toilets in place of non low flow toilets.

HED also approved funding (\$100,000) to Athens Technical College to implement the Green Job Training Program. Athens Technical College proposes to offer two new Technical Certificates of Credit (TCC); Photovoltaic System Installation and Repair and Green Technology Systems. The curriculum for both TCC is developed and approved by the Technical College System of Georgia. The TCC will provide program participants specialized job training in Green Energy Technologies. Athens Technical College projects ninety (90) long term jobs to be created in electrical applications; solar panel installation, inspection, and repair and alternative energy fields that include solar and wind power, bio-fuel and fuel cell technology.

A synopsis of the approved activities and associated amounts are provided below:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Green Job Training Award</b>	<b>Water Saving Low Flow Toilet Award</b>	<b>Total Agency Award</b>	<b>Projected Outcome(s)</b>
Action	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	175 toilet replacements; 20 jobs created
Athens Technical College	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	50 people trained per year; 250 total over 5 years; 90 jobs created
<b>Total Approved Funding Award and Outcomes</b>	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$150,000	175 toilet replacements; 250 people trained; 110 jobs created

Copy: Bob Snipes, Deputy Manager  
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