



Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

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RE: FY 2007 Local Government Planning Assistance

The State and Local Planning section of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) was appropriated \$200,000 by the 2006 Legislature. The intent of these funds is to assist with local government planning projects. Grants for Fiscal Year 2007 will be administered through GOPB based upon recommendations developed by the State and Local Planning section, the Utah Quality Growth Commission, and its Planning Assistance Subcommittee. The purpose of this letter is to provide notice of the availability of these funds and associated technical assistance.

In Utah, land use planning is a local responsibility. Therefore, state funding and assistance is available for local land use planning projects if any of the following apply:

- o Produce plans that are regional in nature, and/or
- o Produce plans that will support a Quality Growth Communities application submitted to the Utah Quality Growth Commission, and/or
- o The intended outcome would provide "lessons learned" that can be applied in other areas of the State

GOPB's State and Local Planning Section, with support from the Utah Quality Growth Commission, has developed a suite of toolkits to support local planning efforts in the areas of *Quality Growth Communities, Critical Lands Planning, County Resource Management Planning, digital planning scenario analysis, and other important local planning needs*. GOPB and the Quality Growth Commission are excited to provide these easily accessible planning tools--along with complimentary staff support and technical assistance, as well as financial aid--to counties and communities throughout Utah.

This letter is notice that these tools, staff support, and funding are available. The emphasis of this assistance is to provide a package of services and funding that include: 1) staff support, 2) technical assistance & expertise, 3) on-line toolkits, and 4) small planning grants to assist communities with targeted planning needs.

To begin a request for assistance, applicants must review the enclosed checklists and determine which category their specific planning need falls under. The applicants must then contact GOPB to discuss the planning resources that are available in the context of their local needs. The applicant will then work closely with Planning Section staff to determine their planning needs, with an emphasis on County Resource Management Planning, Critical Lands Planning, and Quality Growth Communities. Together, the applicant and staff will be able to determine the appropriate and necessary level of funding and technical support to allow for a successful planning process.

GOPB does not intend to fully fund any planning process. The planning grants offered here require matching funds and are intended to be small, "first dollar in" or "gap funding." They will be available to reimburse eligible expenses. Matching requirements are based on County or City Classification according to the following guidelines:

- Cities of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class (greater than 30,000 population) and Counties of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Class (greater than 12,000 population) require a 50% minimum match of which half may be in-kind contribution.
- Cities of the 4th Class or less (less than 30,000 population) and Counties of the 5th Class or less (less than 12,000 population) will be required to match a portion of the project costs at a level as negotiated by need with GOPB staff.

THIS IS A COMPETATIVE PROGRAM WITH LIMITED FUNDS

Grants will be awarded in two cycles. The first grants will be awarded in August of 2006. Interested parties are encouraged to submit a letter of interest by June 16th. If funding is still available, a second round of grants will be awarded in October.

Full information and application materials are available on the Internet at www.planning.utah.gov or www.qualitygrowth.utah.gov. Contact any member of the Planning staff with questions or concerns at 801-538-1027.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hansen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Hansen, AICP
Governor's Office of Planning and Budget