



FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME II NUMBER 5

JULY-AUGUST, 2002

Five County Association of Governments New Building Update



The Five County Association of Governments has entered into a land purchase agreement that will result in our office relocating from its present leased location into a new facility owned by the Association. On June 24, 2002, FCAOG Executive Director John S. Williams and Kay H. Traveller, owner of K. H. Traveller Development

signed a land purchase agreement which commenced development of the new FCAOG building. The building is located in the new Tonaquint Center business park located at 1600 South on Dixie Drive in St. George. K. H. Traveller Development is preparing the property and developing a completed facility that the Association of Governments will formally acquire later this fall. As of the time this update was prepared, the pad had been graded, underground plumbing and electrical conduit put in place, the floor slab had been poured, framing had commenced and the trusses are in place.

The new office building will have approximately 10,000 square feet of space, an increase from the current 5,000 (approximate) square feet the current leased building contains. Also relocating to the building will be the Washington County Volunteer Center. The building will have improved conference room facilities and is designed to be energy efficient. The staff of the Five County Association of Governments is getting excited as the move to the new building gets closer. Please check on our web site at <http://www.fcaog.state.ut.us> for more information on the project. (John S. Williams, Executive Director)

Community Development Block Grant Program FY 2003-04

Once again it is time to start planning for the next application cycle of the Utah Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. This program funnels allocations of federal Housing and

Urban Development funds through the Utah State Division of Community Development to communities of less than 50,000 and counties of less than 200,000 in population. Since the program's inception in 1982, the CDBG program has injected over \$10.5 million into the region's local infrastructure, community facilities, and urgent health and safety needs. Local projects have included water system improvements, fire stations, sewer systems, senior citizen centers, housing projects, ambulance garages, and rehabilitation of community facilities to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act. CDBG funds have also been used to foster the region's economic growth by capitalizing the regional Revolving Loan Fund, which provides supplemental financing to growing businesses. Finally, the CDBG program allows the AOG to provide extensive planning and technical assistance to eligible local governments trying to cope with community planning and zoning enforcement challenges.

The Steering Committee will be reviewing and approving the rating and ranking matrix at their August meeting. The application cycle, which begins with two "How to Apply Workshops" in September, will be for the 18-month contract period of June, 2003 through December, 2004. Applications will be due in December, 2002. Applications and workbooks will be distributed at the workshops.

As you begin the process, please remember some important points:

- * Projects must meet one of three "national objectives" - benefit to individuals with low or moderate incomes; the alleviation of slums or blight; or urgent health and safety needs.
- * Capital Improvement projects must be included in your community's capital improvement list, as submitted to the AOG.
- * Applications other than local governments must be sponsored by a local government entity.
- * AOG staff is available to assist in the preparation of applications.
- * Communities that are not included on the HUD pre-approved LMI list should contact the AOG as soon as possible to determine if an income survey of residents is necessary. **(CDBG continued on page 3)**

Staff Spotlight:



Janeil Esplin-Jackson joined the staff at Five County Association of Governments seven years ago as a case manager in the Aging unit. She lives in St. George with her husband, James and sons Andrus (4) and Oakley (1).

She was raised in Mount Carmel, Utah. After graduating from Valley High School in Orderville, she attended Southern Utah University. In 1992 she graduated with a degree in Psychology and Business Administration. Afterwards she worked for the State of Utah, Family Services Department in both the Kanab and St. George offices until coming to work at Five County AOG.

When not in the middle of remodeling their “older” home, she enjoys taking family trips, outings at the park, photographing her cute sons and reading.

New Community Health Center

Over the past program year, we have been a partner in the planning and development of the application for a Community Health Center. Actually, this effort first began many years ago as a result of a breakout session held at our annual Public Forum. For over five years we have been part of this same action team (lead by Sheila Finch, who attended our public forum) working toward formation of a Community Health Center. “The formation of the Doctor’s Free Clinic was a spin off of our efforts. It functions independently with support from mainly retired physicians and the Doctor who designed it prefers to provide one time critical need visits rather than providing a medical home for persons in the community” reports Sheila Finch. Our original Action Team members recognized that additional need existed and once again began pursuing a more comprehensive resource such as the Community Health Center. Such a Center would work closely and in support with the Doctor’s Free Clinic.

Planning and development efforts have paid off with the announcement of St. George as one of five new Community Health Center sites nationwide. A.O.G. staff continue their support and involvement in this effort and look forward to increased and improved health care access for persons with low income.

The start up center is called the Southwest Utah Community Health Center. The Center’s mission statement is: “To improve the health status of our community by providing accessible, quality health care

services, regardless of financial, language or cultural barriers.” Initial service began on May 15th. The Center will provide primary health care (including prenatal and delivery), lab services, dental care, and counseling as well as have an on site eligibility worker to help qualified patients get needed resources. Preventive services will also be offered such as immunizations, fluoride, lead screening, cancer screening, family planning, well child/adolescent/adult evaluations. Tracking and follow up of communicable diseases will be coordinated with the Public Health Department staff. The Center has extensive linkages with human services agencies due to the long standing relationships forged over the years to serve high risk families. There will be direct access to the Children With Special Health Care Needs patients via a long standing itinerant clinic of specialists who come from the Utah Department of Health and from University of Utah Medical Center.

Southwest Utah Community Health Center services will temporarily be provided at 285 West Tabernacle in St. George. It is hoped remodeling is completed by August for the permanent location at 168 North 100 East in St. George. The Center serves uninsured patients whose fee is based upon household size and income. They also accept payment from insured clientele. They will be provide care for families with Medicare/Medicaid and CHIPS very soon, however they are still awaiting approval as a Medicare/ Medicaid provider.

Southwest Utah Community Health Center is a subsidiary of and co-located with the Health Department. The Center has its own budget, Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer and Board. 66% of Board members are potential consumers. Other Board members include: a pediatrician, family practitioner doctor, an assistant superintendent over primary education, a nurse and a certified public accountant.

The blending of Public Health and Community Health Center is currently unique to Utah, though there are long standing examples of this model in other states including Montana. To assure clear definition of roles and responsibilities, both entities have negotiated a formal Memorandum of Agreement outlining terms, conditions, limitations, and responsibilities of each party in governing the new health center.

The Center currently has a part time Medical Director, a Family Nurse Practitioner and a total staff of nine employees. The Center is currently recruiting for a full time Family Practice Physician and will add a third provider within the next 18 months.

Planning includes opening up additional Community Health Center sites in other areas throughout the five county region in the future. (Beth Cottam)

Utah's Highway 12 Receives All-American Road Recognition



U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta has added Utah's Highway 12 to the list of America's All-American Roads. "America's Byways are roads to the heart and soul of America," said Secretary Mineta.

"Byways help create a sense of pride in America. They connect us to this country's beauty, history and culture."

Under the National Scenic Byways Program, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation recognizes certain roads as National Scenic Byways or All-American Roads based on their archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.

A panel of experts considered the roads nominated for designation this year. Panel members were chosen based on, among other things, their experience with these six qualities expected of All-American Roads and National Scenic Byways.

To receive an All-American Road designation, a road must possess multiple intrinsic qualities that are nationally significant and have one-of-a-kind features that do not exist elsewhere. The road or highway must also be considered a "destination unto itself." That is, the road must provide an exceptional traveling experience so recognized by travelers that they would make a drive along the highway a primary reason for their trip.

The National Scenic Byways Program, established by Congress in 1991 and administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), was created to preserve and protect the nation's scenic byways and, at the same time, promote tourism and economic development. Participation in the program is voluntary and may encompass any public road or highway. The National Scenic Byways Program emphasizes local involvement.

"The Federal Highway Administration is proud of a program that helps preserve the sites, sounds and resources that exist on these diverse and interesting roads," FHWA Administrator Mary E. Peters said. "Whether you want to travel close to home or plan a drive cross-country, byways provide people with exciting new travel choices. They are the treasured destinations for people willing to wander a little."

In addition to designations, FHWA manages the scenic byways discretionary grant program. Under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), approximately \$25 million is available annually for planning as well as enhancing and promoting the byways.

There are 75 National Scenic Byways and 20 All-American Roads in 39 states, including 9 with portions in more than one state. For additional information or to obtain brochures and maps, call 1-800-4-BYWAYS (1-800-429-9297) or through the National Scenic Byways Program website,

www.byways.org. (Ken Sizemore)

(Continued from Page 1)

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The estimated amount of CDBG funding available for allocation for 2003-04 will be approximately \$900,000 for the Five County District. Last year's CDBG allocation was awarded to the following projects: 1) FCAOG-- Planning & Technical Assistance set-aside; 2) Leeds Town-- Engineering set-aside; 3) Washington County Council on Aging-- Architectural Pre-design for Hurricane Senior Center set-aside; 4) Antimony Town-- Water Improvement Project set-aside; 5) Panguitch City-- Water Improvement project; 6) Tropic Town-- LMI Housing; 7) Iron County-- Ambulance Facility Parowan Valley area; 8) Brian Head Town-- ADA Renovation City Office; 9) Washington County-- Senior Center St. George; 10) Washington County-- Family Support Center; and 11) Hurricane City-- Fire Station Brentwood area.

Projects must be mature - ready for timely implementation within the contract program year with secured funding commitments from other sources. In addition to the above, projects must be prioritized by the local elected officials and the region Rating and Ranking system.

Examples of some of the types of eligible CDBG project activities:

Affordable Housing Projects:

- Acquisition of Property
- New Construction
- Rehabilitation
- Relocation Expenses
- Demolition
- Site Improvements
- Development Hard Costs
- Multi-family, single family, transitional, special needs housing and homeless shelters

Community Development Projects:

- Culinary Water Improvements
- Waste Water Improvements
- Natural Gas Line Accessibility/Expansions
- Road, Street & Emergency Equipment
- ADA Accessibility for Public Buildings
- Flood Control Systems
- Rehabilitation of Slums & Blighted Areas
- Historic Preservation
- Acquisition of Property/Land
- Community & Senior Centers
- Parks, Recreation & Beautification Projects
- Public Services

Economic Development Projects:

- Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program
- Interim/Short-term Financing Program
- Industrial Parks & Commercial Centers
- Stimulate Private Investments

(See Back Page for How-to-Apply Workshop Information)

CDBG HOW-TO-APPLY WORKSHOPS

Monday, September 23, 2002 - 6:30 p.m.
Hurricane City Office, City Council Chambers
147 North 870 West, Hurricane, Utah

Tuesday, September 24, 2002 - 10:00 a.m.
Panguitch Fire Station
40 North 100 East, Panguitch, Utah

Any jurisdiction that is contemplating applying for CDBG funding must assign at least one elected official from their governing body to attend one of the two scheduled workshops, whether you are applying directly, or if you are sponsoring another entity through your jurisdiction. A representative of the "other entity" must also be in attendance with the elected official. A post card will be mailed in the first part of September reminding jurisdictions of the upcoming workshops.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions or to obtain further details. Additional information regarding the Community

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail (dlamoreaux@fcaog.state.ut.us) or in writing to: P.O. Box 1550; St. George, Utah 84771-1550. For other information or services, please call (435) 673-3548 or visit our web site at: <http://www.fcaog.state.ut.us>

Steering Committee Meeting **Schedule:**

Wednesday, August 14, 2002, 1:00 p.m.
Panguitch City Library, Meeting Room,
25 South 200 East; Panguitch, UT

Wednesday, September 11, 2002, 1:00 p.m.
Beaver Co. Admin. Bldg., Conference Room
105 East Center Street; Beaver, UT

FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
906 NORTH 1400 WEST
P.O. BOX 1550
ST. GEORGE, UTAH 84771-1550
