



City of Reidsville Press Release – Release Date April 22, 2020

City receives CDBG Grants for infrastructure, revitalization

The City of Reidsville is the recipient of two Community Development Block Grants totaling over \$2.6 million for infrastructure improvements and neighborhood revitalization.

The largest award provides \$1,999,298 to either rehabilitate or replace some 7,800 linear feet of deteriorated eight-inch sewer line in the City. The area encompassing parts of Hart Street, Washington Avenue, Circle Drive and Terry Street and Wray Street has experienced issues over the years due to its aging sewer lines. These lines are some 100 years old, constructed originally in the 1920s.

Councilman Donald Gorham is credited with helping make this project happen. He went door-to-door with Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) officials to make residents in these neighborhoods aware of the importance of taking part in the survey, which was part of the pre-application process.

The second CDBG grant of \$692,828 is for neighborhood revitalization in Reidsville's Historic Districts. Of those monies, \$525,000 will go towards revitalization of privately owned dwellings. City staff had identified an inventory of eligible homes. To qualify, homeowners must live on the property and be low to moderate income.

The remainder of the funding is specified for a neighborhood facility. The City plans to use those funds to construct a shelter in the "Depot District" area off Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The shelter will incorporate architectural elements from the former train depot that once stood nearby before being razed in the 1990s.

The City originally applied for \$750,000. Due to the \$57,172 reduction, Reidsville City Council at its April 14th meeting approved making up the difference. However, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Chris Phillips informed Council there is a chance the City could be re-allocated the remainder of its request if other recipient cities do not obligate all of their projects' monies.

"We are thrilled to receive these CDBG grants," said Mayor Jay Donecker. "Even faced with the emergency situation we have found ourselves in with COVID-19, securing these grants shows that the City is still making plans for the future as we seek to rebound as quickly as possible once this healthcare crisis is over."