

RESOLUTION NO. R15-08

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE
PROPOSED LARGE GRANT REQUEST PROGRAM AS REQUESTED
BY THE LAUREL URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the City Council created the Laurel Urban Renewal Agency (LURA), pursuant to Ordinance No. 08-09 as codified at Title 18, Chapters 18.02 and 18.04 of the Laurel Municipal Code, to provide input and recommendations regarding the most effective uses of resources gained from the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District; and

WHEREAS, the City Council appointed a LURA Board of Commissioners, pursuant to Resolution No. R08-123, who are responsible for providing guidance and recommendations to the City Council as to the best use of unencumbered available tax increment funds consistent with the Urban Renewal Plan that was additionally adopted by the City Council and codified at Chapter 18.04.020 of the Laurel Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the City Council previously created and approve two programs, the Façade Grant Program and the Technical Assistance Grant Program as recommended by the LURA Board; and

WHEREAS, the LURA Board is recommending a third program be created by the City Council known as the Large Grant Request Program to allow the use of tax increment funds, on an availability basis, as further described in the attached Program Description and Application.

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed the attached Program and Application and finds it is consistent with the goals and objectives contained in the City's Urban Renewal Plan and is in the best interest of the City of Laurel and its citizens.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, that the attached Large Grant Requests Program and Application therefore are approved.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on February 17, 2015, by Council Member Stokes.

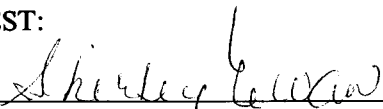
PASSED and ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana, this 17th day of February, 2015.

APPROVED by the Mayor this 17th day of February, 2015.

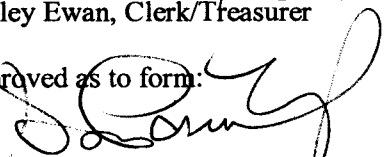
CITY OF LAUREL


Mark A. Mace, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shirley Ewan, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved as to form:


Sam S. Painter, Civil City Attorney

Laurel Urban Renewal Agency

Large Grant Requests Program

Purpose:

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance for developers, property owners and business owners above and beyond the capacity of the Façade and Technical Assistance Grant programs. This program is intended to work cohesively with the current grant funding opportunities in place by the Agency. Applicants who have been awarded Façade or Technical Assistance funds are encouraged to apply for funding through this program if the project exceeds the funding capacity of those programs. Projects that are not eligible for funding through Façade and Technical Assistance are also encouraged to utilize this program so long as the project is allowable under Montana Code Annotated 7-15-4288 and MCA 7-15-4233.

Projects seeking large grants should align with the goals LURA is committed to carrying out. These goals are outlined in the Laurel Urban Renewal Plan:

1. Encourage an economically and culturally vibrant downtown.
2. Create a vibrant and cohesive extension of the core downtown Laurel area.
3. Improve traffic patterns to further enhance the business experience for the owner and consumer.
4. Create a destination place where people will want to repeatedly visit.
5. Have state of the art, updated utilities and infrastructure.
6. Encourage more housing and business choices within the district.
7. Have rational consideration of all neighborhoods and sites for public fund expenditures.

Eligible Projects:

Land Acquisition	Demolition or Removal of Structures	Relocation of Occupants within the District
Improvements of Public Infrastructure	Acquisition of Infrastructure Deficient Areas	Assemblage of Land for Development of Redevelopment
Compilation and Analysis of Pertinent Information to Determine Needs of District	Connection of URA to Existing Infrastructure Outside the Area or District	Improvements Reducing, Preventing, Abating or Elimination Pollution.
Others as Allowable by MCA 7-15-4233 Please Describe:		

Funding Categories

	Funding Limitations	Match Requirement
Option A	\$10,000-\$20,000	1:1
Option B	\$20,001-\$40,000	1:1
Option C	\$40,001-\$50,000	1:1
Option D	\$50,001-\$75,000	1:1

*Awards are dependent upon available funds in the TIFD. An annual allocation of \$75,000 will be earmarked for the Large Grant Request Program.

Release of Funds:

- This is a reimbursement grant. Applicants will receive grant funding after the project is completed and all associated costs have been paid or a letter of credit to be collected on has been submitted to the City of Laurel.
- Funds may only be released after approval from the Laurel City Council.
- In all cases, the decision of the Council is final.

Application Review Process:

This is a competitive Grant. Applications will be reviewed on an annual basis.

- A. Required.** The applicant shall submit to the Planning Director or designee for review and recommendation an application for large grant funds which conforms to the requirements stated in this document.
- B. Application Submittal.** Complete and sufficient applications shall be made to the Planning Office on or before 3:00 pm on the first day of April. The application form is provided in appendix A of this document. The application shall be accompanied by the review fee of \$300.00
- C. Review of Application.** Within fifteen working days, the Grant Review Committee will meet to review the applications. If the application is complete and sufficient the applicant shall be notified of the scheduled date the application will be considered on the LURA agenda.
- D. Staff Review.** The Planning Director shall review the application submittal and create a staff report outlining compliance with the program. The report may include a list of concerns, conditions or recommendations. The report will be sent to the Grant Review Committee 1 week prior to the scheduled meeting. The Grant Review Committee will make a recommendation to LURA and a recommendation for funding shall be made at a regularly scheduled LURA meeting. The Planning Director shall also provide notice of the recommendation in the Laurel Outlook not less than 7 days prior to the scheduled meeting. The notice shall include a brief project description, location, and recommended funding amount.
- E. LURA and Governing Body Action.** LURA will forward a recommendation to the City Council for approval. LURA may choose to delay action for 30 days if more information is requested. Once a recommendation has been made City staff will place the item on an available agenda to be considered by the City Council. LURA's recommendation may include conditions of approval. The applicant or an agent must be present at the LURA and City Council meeting at which the application is considered.

Laurel Urban Renewal Agency

Large Grant Request Program

Application for Funding

Name of Applicant:

Address of Applicant:

Phone Number:

Address of Property:

Legal Description of Property:

Name of Business:

Phone Number:

Is the project located within the TIFD:

If no, please describe how the project provides connection of the URA district to existing infrastructure outside the district:

Please Circle the Category of the Project:

Land Acquisition	Demolition or Removal of Structures	Relocation of Occupants
Improvements of Public Infrastructure	Acquisition of Infrastructure Deficient Areas	Assemblage of Land for Development of Redevelopment
Compilation and Analysis of Pertinent Information to Determine Needs of District	Connection of URA to Existing Infrastructure Outside the Area or District	Improvements Reducing, Preventing, Abating or Elimination Pollution.
Other as Allowable by MCA 7-15-4233 Please Describe:		

Detailed Description of Project. (Please use additional sheets. Plans, drawings, or other supporting materials should be submitted if applicable):

Detailed Budget of Project. (Please demonstrate 1:1 Match and provide a detailed list of all costs associated with project. If more space is needed please use additional sheets):

Total Funds Requested of LURA:

Description of How This Project Aligns with the Goals of LURA and the Urban Renewal Plan:

If Applicable, Does this project comply with the Design Standards Overlay District?