



# City of Dublin, Georgia

Signature Community  
Creating a Climate for Success



## GRANT\$ AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Office Information:

**Department Head:** Deborah Stanley

**Grant Administrator Coordinator:** Katy Morton

## 2018 Plans, Projects, Events, Awards and Grants

### **EVENT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The City of Dublin, along with Visit Dublin, received a 2017 Event of the Year Award from Sign-A-Rama for the MLK Monument Project. The Award was presented on January 24, 2018 by Pam Smith.

### **AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION PROJECT AWARD**

The office has applied for APWA Project of the Year Award for the MLK Monument Project. The Award recognizes managing agencies, engineers and contractors who work together to complete public works projects.

### **TIRE AMNESTY DAY GRANT & EVENT**

We have applied for grant funding from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) Solid Waste Trust Fund (SWTF) to host a Tire Amnesty Day Event on May 5, 2018 in conjunction with the Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful and the Great American Cleanup. The event will allow for the proper disposal of unwanted tires at no cost to city residents with proper identification. No businesses will be allowed. Local governments are eligible to apply for funding from EPD, in the form of a reimbursement, to remove and recycle scrap tires dumped along city right-of-ways. The grant will cover the cost of transporting and processing these tires.

### **2018 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)**

We are exploring different options for the 2018 round of CDBGs. Sidewalks/curb and gutter, or housing improvements are being considered for the Scottsville community. The CDBG Program provides funding to assist a wide range of eligible activities, including housing improvement projects, public facilities such as water and sewer lines, buildings such as local health centers or head start centers, and economic development projects. All projects must substantially benefit low and moderate income persons. The deadline for submittal of the CDBG application is April 2, 2018.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**

DCA requires that the Regional Commission meet with each local government in our region at least once every two years to update them on state and regional issues and activities and to discuss the current status of their local government’s work program/major activities planned, underway, or recently completed. It is important that the local government staff and/or elected officials be present at these meetings. Participation in the local plan implementation assessment meetings is a required minimum standard Local Government Performance standard. Local governments are evaluated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in accordance with these standards. Preparations for the next Comprehensive Plan update will begin soon.

### **PLANFIRST COMMUNITY RE-DESIGNATION**

We are in the process of renewing our PlanFirst application in order to continue in the program and be re-designated for another 3-year period. The City of Dublin was awarded PlanFirst Community designation by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs in 2016. The PlanFirst program recognizes and rewards local government communities that demonstrate excellence in community planning through successful implementation of their Local Comprehensive Plan. One incentive of the Program allows Communities to apply for CDBG funding consecutively during 3-year program. The City has taken advantage of this benefit and currently has three CDBG projects and will apply for a fourth in 2018.

### **CITY-WIDE URBAN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN**

We are working with the Heart of GA Regional Commission to complete a city-wide Urban Redevelopment Plan. An Urban Redevelopment Plan is a general blueprint for guiding redevelopment of neglected and threatened areas of the community suffering from economic disinvestment, crime, poverty and blight. URPs offers cities broad powers to redevelop blight, guide infrastructure improvements, and encourage private enterprise/public partnerships in support of redevelopment. The URP will focus redevelopment efforts on the Stubbs Park, Scottsville and Southside neighborhoods.

### **BOWEN NATIONAL RESEARCH HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY**

We are consulting with Bowen National Research, Inc. out of Ohio to complete a Housing Needs Assessment Survey. The Assessment will provide the community, local officials and staff with information regarding local housing needs in order to better address them through planning, development and partnerships. The Assessment will evaluate existing housing stock, housing needs, and assist with developing strategies to expand affordable housing and meet the needs of workforce, senior and disabled residents. A neighborhood specific analysis will also be conducted for Stubbs Park, Scottsville and Southside neighborhoods. The Final Report is expected by April 1st.

### **PRITCHETT STREET AREA CDBG HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The City of Dublin received a \$710,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs in 2017 to make housing improvements on Flanders, Pritchett, Chester, Marcus and Roberts Streets. The project will rehabilitate 13 homes, reconstruct 1, and provide acquisition /clearance for 3 properties. Applications are currently being completed and a few inspections have begun.

### **CITY-OWNED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES LIST**

A Master list of residential and vacant lots was compiled and is being maintained by the office. The List includes a description of each city owned parcel, a parcel map and current photo. The Land bank Authority and Visit Dublin are currently reviewing and marketing the list for potential redevelopment projects.

### **GEORGIA INITIATIVE FOR COMMUNITY HOUSING (GICH)**

The GICH Initiative strives to help communities address their housing and neighborhood revitalization needs through partnerships and coordinated action. The GICH designation allows the City to receive technical assistance from various state agencies and apply for CDBG annually while participating in the three-year program. Our GICH committee consists of members from the City, Land Bank Authority, Dublin Housing Authority, Habitat for Humanity, Visit Dublin, Downtown Development Authority, Laurens Baptist Association, Southside Community Association, Dublin Rising, property managers, realtors and local citizens. We meet every other month at different meeting locations throughout the community. The Team will attend an upcoming GICH Retreat in Pine Mountain, GA in February.

### **DUBLIN VETERANS COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PLAN**

The Dublin Veterans Community Revitalization Plan was created as part of our GICH initiative and adopted by Council on Nov 13, 2017 in support of a proposed Veterans' housing development on the Carl Vinson VA Campus. The office partnered with Communities for Veterans, Inc. to develop the Plan, which focuses efforts on meeting the housing challenges facing veterans in the city, and expanding community coordination to ensure that they have access to safe affordable housing solutions. Communities for Veterans is applying to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for state and federal low-income housing tax credits to assist development of the project. The office and GICH team will work with Communities for Veterans, the Carl Vinson VA and other community partners to implement the Plan, if funding is awarded.

### **COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES GRANT (COPS)**

The City of Dublin was recently awarded \$500,000 in funding from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) 2017 COPS Hiring Program (CHP). The grant will provide up to 75 percent of the approved entry-level salaries and fringe benefits for four (4) full-time law-enforcement officers over a three-year period.

### **HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANT**

The City of Dublin was recently awarded \$7,260 in funding from the Historic Preservation Division (HPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) 2017 Grant Program to conduct a Conditions Assessment Report for the Northview Cemetery Mausoleum. The Mausoleum was established in 1915 and is one of the oldest in the Southeastern United States and one of only three municipalities owned and operated in the country. Rehabilitation improvements are needed and can be completed on the structure once the assessment is done. The cost to complete the assessment is \$15,290. The City's match is \$8,030.

### **MARCUS STREET AREA CDBG DRAINAGE PROJECT**

The City of Dublin received a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs in 2016 to make street and flood drainage improvements on Roberts, Marcus, Kingsby, Hamilton, and Mitchell Streets. The project is undergoing construction and should be completed by June. The total project cost is \$826,587. The City's match is \$326,587.

### **GEORGIA CITIES ANNUAL DOWNTOWN RENAISSANCE AWARD**

The City of Dublin received a 2017 Downtown Renaissance Award for Mr. Jim Walters and the \$4 million historical restoration First National Bank "Skyscraper" Project during opening General Session at GMA's Annual Convention in Savannah on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **LIVE, WORK, PLAY AWARD**

The City of Dublin received a 2017 Live, Work, Play City Award presented by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), in conjunction with *Georgia Trend* Magazine, during GMA's annual Mayors' Day Conference in Atlanta on January 22.

### **NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION FOR FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

The City of Dublin has applied for National Register designation for the First African Baptist Church. The First African Baptist Church was established in 1867 and is the oldest African American church in the city. It is also the place where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at 14 years of age, gave his first public speech. The Church was listed on the Georgia Register of Historic Places on March 3, 2017 and is now on its way to the National

Register of Historic Places (NROHP) review in Washington, D.C. We hope to receive notice of its official listing on the NROHP Registry soon.

### **ROADSIDE ENHANCEMENT BEAUTIFICATION GRANT (REBC)**

The City of Dublin, DDA and Visit Dublin are working corporately to implement a REBC grant that awarded June 2016 by the Georgia Department of Transportation. The \$50,000 reimbursable grant will be used to make landscape improvements on Telfair/U.S. 441 and Church Street at the MLK monument site. The City is currently working to complete the Special Encroachment permit approval process. The City will maintain the project upon completion.

### **TOURISM PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT (TPD) GRANT REQUESTS**

For three years, the City of Dublin has partnered with the Dublin-Laurens Tourism Council, Dublin Downtown Development Authority, First African Baptist Church and various other organizations to construct the MLK, Jr. Monument Plaza in commemoration of Dr. King's legacy and speech given in 1944 at First African Baptist Church. The City has provided extensive engineering and administration services to move the vision forward. In 2015 and 2016 the City was awarded \$15,000 in TPD grant funding to install phases 1 and 2 of the project. In 2017, the City received another \$10,000 TPD grant that was utilized, along with private and public donations, to complete construction of the plaza.

### **JOINER STREET AREA SEWER CDBG REHAB PROJECT**

The City of Dublin received a \$500,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs in 2015 to make sewer improvements in the Joiner Street project area. The project is nearly complete. The project's total cost is \$858,237. The City's share is \$358,237.

### **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR CORRIDOR/MADISON STREET ENTERPRISE ZONE PROJECTS**

The MLK Blvd and Madison Street Enterprise Zones will be renewed sometime in April following adoption of the city-wide Urban Redevelopment Plan. Plans are to additionally establish Business Enterprise Zones for the North Jefferson Street/441N and portions of the 441S corridors. An eligible enterprise zone business must make a qualified capital investment and create 5 or more new full-time jobs in the revitalization zone.

- 2018 - A new EZ application maybe forthcoming soon for Roberts Electric on Madison Street.
- 2017 - EZ incentives were approved for Cliff Charnes to renovate the old Fish House on Madison Street into the new Local Yolka! Breakfast, Brunch & Lunch Café. The \$75,000 investment brought 8 full time and 10 part time employees into the downtown district.
- 2015- EZ incentives were approved for Jefferson Towers, LLC to renovate the old First National Bank building into Georgia Military College's new Dublin campus. The \$3.5 million restoration created 60 construction jobs, 22 full time jobs and will bring 200plus students annually into the downtown district.
- 2014 - EZ incentives were approved for Walters Income Properties to renovate the old Suntec building into a new Wound Care Medical Clinic. The \$610,691 restoration created 20 construction jobs and 5 new full time jobs and will bring approximately \$15,000 per year into downtown for appointments.
- 2013 - EZ incentives were approved for Walters Income Properties to renovate the old Cummings building into new office space for Premier Construction. The \$520,000 restoration brought 8 new full time jobs into the downtown district.
- 2012 - EZ incentives were approved for Walters Income Properties to renovate the old Post Office into new office space for Altera Networks. The 725,000 restoration brought 14 full time jobs into the downtown district.



**PREVIOUS GRANT AND LOAN ASSISTED PROJECTS:**

<u>Grant\$/Award</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant Source</u>
\$627,205	Dublin Primary Well Replacement	GEFA Program
\$1,344,404	SR 257/I-16 Industrial Park Water Tank	EDA Grant
\$1,344,404	SR 257/I-16 Industrial Park Sewer Extension	EDA Grant
\$1,344,404	SR 257/I-16 Industrial Park Waterlines	EDA Grant
\$553,000	Dublin Branch Phase 2 Sewer Rehabilitation	CWSRF Program
\$47,883	Smith & Telfair Gateway Landscape	GDOT Gateway Program
\$479,000	Susie Dasher & Saxon Heights Sidewalk Project	GDOT SRS Program
\$500,000	Ray Street Area Waterline Improvements	CDBG Program
\$200,066	Simmons Street Area Water Improvements	CDBG Program
\$872,046	Dublin Branch Sewer Rehabilitation	CWSRF Program (Loan/Grant)
\$1,154,300	Downtown I&I Sewer Rehabilitation	CWSRF Program (Loan/Grant)
\$10,800	Phase One Historic Resources Survey	Historic Preservation Fund Grant
\$15,000	Phase One Carnegie Library Renovation	Tourism Product Develop. Grant
\$399,951	Southside Gateway Streetscape Project	GDOT SAFETEA-LU Program
\$399,951	Bellevue Streetscape Project	GDOT SAFETEA-LU Program
\$279,865	Washington Street Bridge Replacement	CDBG Program
\$50,000	Riverview Heights Sidewalk Construct	Signature City Program
\$487,037	Southside Water Improvements	CDBG Program
\$500,000	Scottsville Area Water Improvements	CDBG Program
\$133,500	Susie Dasher Turn Lane Improvements	TE Fund
\$170,500	Farmers Market & Courthouse Island Improve.	TE Fund
\$318,750	Citywide WIFI	Wireless Communications Grant Program
\$839,130	WWTP Sludge DWS & Screen	GEFA Program
\$10,000	MLK URP & Market Study	Quality Growth Program
\$200,000	Love's/ SR257-I16 Interchange	OneGeorgia Equity Fund
\$65,300	Fred Roberts Hotel	DCA and Georgia Heritage Program
\$15,000	Riverwalk Extension Plan	Quality Growth Program
\$1,160,870	Fred's Distribution Improvements	EIP and GEFA loan
\$10,000	Tree Inventory & Tree Plantings	Georgia Forestry Commission
\$440,400	Airport Road Utility Extension	OneGeorgia Equity Fund
\$6,500	Railroad Park	Local Development Fund
\$250,000	Best Buy Distribution Improvements	Regional Economic Grant
\$871,362	Emerald Pathways ISTEAs Streetscape	TE Program
\$488,988	Alabama Pump Station	GA Emergency Management Program
\$250,000	WWTP/Southeast Paper	EIP Program
\$400,000	Fred Roberts Senior Center Renovations	CDBG Program