

KITITITAS COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

AGENDA DATE: September 17, 2013

ACTION REQUESTED: Consider a Resolution to Award the Distressed County Sales & Use Tax Funding for 2014.

BACKGROUND: In 1999 Legislature passed RCW 82.14.370 Sales & Use Tax for Public Facilities in rural Counties. These funds are for the purpose of financing public facilities in rural counties. The Conference of Governments (COG) has been charged with the review and scoring of the applications and submitting their recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. On August 7, 2013, the C.O.G met to review the applications submitted and is including their recommendation attached as Exhibit "A".

Upon sale of the Hubbell Building, the City of Ellensburg agrees to reimburse the Distressed Sales and Use Tax fund in the award amount of \$172,000.

INTERACTION: Public Works; Conference of Governments

RECOMMENDATION: Move to Approve & Sign Resolution to Award the Distressed Counties Sales & Use Tax Funding for 2014 as recommended by the Conference of Governments.

HANDLING: Return 1 original to Public Works

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution; Exhibit "A"

LEAD STAFF: Kirk Holmes
Director of Public Works

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF KITTITAS
STATE OF WASHINGTON

R E S O L U T I O N

NO. _____

**TO AWARD THE 2014 DISTRESSED COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX FUNDS
AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS**

- WHEREAS:** The 1999 Legislature did pass RCW 82.14.370 Sales and Use Tax for Public Facilities in rural counties; and
- WHEREAS:** These funds are for the purpose of financing Public Facilities which are defined as bridges, roads, domestic and industrial water facilities, sanitary sewer facilities, earth stabilization, storm sewer facilities, railroad, electricity, natural gas, buildings, structures, telecommunications infrastructure, transportation infrastructure or commercial infrastructure and port facilities in the state of Washington.
- WHEREAS:** The COG as directed, met on August 7, 2013, to review the applications to consider if they met the economic development needs of the county and communities within the county; and
- WHEREAS:** The COG is presenting the results and their recommendations for the funding as shown in Exhibit 'A'; and;
- WHEREAS:** The requested 2014 Sales and Use Tax Funding will be available on January 1, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Board of County Commissioners, after due consideration, does hereby accept the Conference of Government's recommendations to distribute the 2014 Sales and Use Tax for Public Facilities in Rural Counties in accordance with RCW 82.14.370 as shown in Exhibit 'A'.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Public Works Department will manage the Public Facilities Account.

DATED this 17th day of September, 2013, at Ellensburg, Washington.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

ATTEST:

Obie O'Brien, Chair

Paul Jewell, Vice-Chair

Clerk of the Board

Gary Berndt, Commissioner

Kittitas County ◦ City of Cle Elum ◦ City of Ellensburg ◦ City of Kittitas ◦ City of Roslyn ◦ Town of South Cle Elum

KITTITAS COUNTY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS

September 3, 2013

Board of County Commissioners
205 W. 5th Avenue
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Dear Commissioners,

The Conference of Governments (COG) convened on August 7, 2013, to consider the merits of funding of five (5) applications competing for approximately \$700,000 of Distressed County Sales & Use Tax for the purpose of improving a community's infrastructure in hopes of creating a more positive economic development climate. The table reflects the project name, the amount requested and the COG recommended funding.

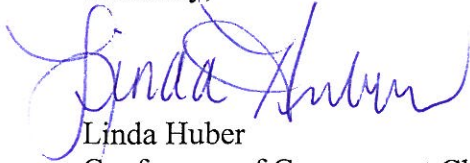
Project Name	Requesting Agency	Sales & Use Tax Funding Requested	Sales & Use Tax Funding Received
Main Street Illumination Project	City of Kittitas	\$100,000	\$100,000
Finance of Personnel Per RCW 82.14.370(3)(a)	Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce	\$60,000	\$60,000
Roof Replacement Roslyn Community Center	City of Roslyn	\$216,000	\$168,000
Hubbell Building Renovation	City of Ellensburg	\$282,000	\$172,000*
Yakima River Canyon Scenic Byway Interpretive Center	Kittitas Environmental Education Network	\$200,000	\$200,000

*The City of Ellensburg agrees to reimburse the Distressed County Sales and Use Tax fund in the award amount of \$172,000 upon sale of the Hubbell Building.

The COG reviewed all the applications and applauds each applicant for the thoroughness of each of the submittals. The above list represents what the COG felt would have immediate economic impact on the individual communities. The COG took the position that once these funds were expended there should be a tangible project that either immediately improves economic development or provides a design that leads to construction. These projects are worthy candidates for economic development dollars but the application and project scope need to lead to a completed project.

Thank you for the opportunity to play a critical role in the evaluation and application of funds that will assist in improving the economic development picture for the entire Kittitas Valley community and we recommend you approve the funded projects as submitted.

Sincerely,



Linda Huber
Conference of Government Chair

Cc: All Applicants
All COG Members
Stephanie Mifflin, Clerk