

CITY OF HIGH POINT

AGENDA ITEM



Title: 2015 Federal Agenda

From: Jennifer Imo, The Ferguson Group

Meeting Date: November 2, 2015

Public Hearing: N/A

Advertising Date /

Advertised By:

Attachments: Agenda

PURPOSE:

To approve the 2015 Federal Agenda as proposed by Jennifer Imo, the City's lobbyist, with The Ferguson Group.

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Agenda has been reviewed and approved by all city departments and is now ready for City Council approval.

BUDGET IMPACT:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION / ACTION REQUESTED:

Council is requested to approve the 2015 Federal Agenda as proposed by The Ferguson Group.



CITY OF HIGH POINT, NORTH CAROLINA

DRAFT 2015 FEDERAL AGENDA

PROJECT/ISSUE	ACTION ITEM
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Domestic Violence Initiative	<p>Continue to promote High Point's Domestic Violence Initiative, which focuses on controlling the chronic domestic violence offender.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Justice's (DOJ) COPS Hiring Program. • Various grant programs within DOJ's Office of Violence Against Women and Office of Justice Programs.
Fire Equipment	<p>Pursue federal assistance for various equipment needs.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA's Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program (\$1.1M grant for SCBAs awarded on July 10, 2015). • Firehouse Subs (applications due September 4 and December 4, 2015).
Firefighter Health, Wellness and Safety	<p>Pursue federal assistance for an alert system at the fire houses and generators at five fire stations.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEMA's Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program (applications due April 2016). • Firehouse Subs

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
Core City	<p>Pursue federal assistance for targeted revitalization efforts in the Daniel Brooks Housing Community and the Washington Street District.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Promise Zone designation. (High Point not successful in previous round; next application due December 2015.) • Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Clean-Up Grant (to follow up on the \$400,000 brownfields assessment grant secured by the City; applications due December 2015.)
HUD Section 108 Funding Flexibility	<p>Pursue additional Section 108 loan funds for development projects above the current cap, which is five times the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement.</p>
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT	
Weatherization	<p>Work with the State Energy Office and U.S. Department of Energy to get the City of High Point designated as a weatherization provider.</p>
Water and Wastewater Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor opportunities to secure funds for large infrastructure projects under WIFIA. • Secure assistance for stormwater improvements throughout the City. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for stream restoration ○ NCDENR Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund
Compost Facility	<p>Pursue assistance for a compost facility.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCDENR's Organics Recycling Waste Grants program. • The Closed Loop Fund

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Transportation Reauthorization	Support a six year bill that increases local control of federal transportation spending, requires competitive applications for Transportation Alternatives Program funds, increases funding for public transit needs, and funds off-system (local) bridges.
High Point Greenways	<p>Pursue federal assistance to complete the High Point Greenways project.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOT's TAP. • DOT's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program.
Westchester Park	<p>Pursue federal assistance for infrastructure development at Westchester Park.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOT's TAP. • Various foundation grants for parks and recreation.
OTHER PRIORITIES	
Financing	Oppose efforts to repeal tax-exempt municipal bonds as part of comprehensive tax reform.
Online Sales Tax Legislation	Support passage of legislation that would grant state and local governments the authority to collect taxes on internet and mail-order sales.
FY 2016 Budget and Appropriations	<p>Support full funding for the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Development Block Grant • HOME Investment Partnership Program • Byrne Justice Assistance Grants • Land and Water Conservation Fund Stateside Assistance Program
Grants	Pursue relevant federal, state and foundation grant opportunities and secure congressional support for same.