

FORSYTH COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**BRIEFING
DRAFT**

MEETING DATE: September 26, 2016

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 9

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE COUNTY MANAGER'S
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOLDEN LEAF FOUNDATION COMMUNITY
BASED GRANT INITIATIVE PROJECTS
(BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT)**

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

The Golden LEAF Foundation has announced that the Community Based Grants Initiative (CBGI) has been activated in the Piedmont Triad Region Prosperity Zone. Each county within the region is invited to submit up to three projects requesting no more than \$1.5 million of total Golden LEAF funds. County Management and the Board of County Commissioners are required to review and endorse each officially submitted project before it is considered by the Golden LEAF Board. Projects must be submitted by noon on September 30, 2016. Once projects are submitted, this action will provide County Manager direction regarding which projects to submit for consideration.

ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

SIGNATURE: _____

COUNTY MANAGER

DATE: _____

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE COUNTY MANAGER'S
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOLDEN LEAF FOUNDATION
COMMUNITY BASED GRANT INITIATIVE PROJECTS
(BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT)**

WHEREAS, the Golden LEAF Foundation Community Based Grants Initiative has been activated in the Piedmont Triad and Southwest N.C. regions, allocating \$20 million with a maximum of \$1.5 million being available for each County in the two regions; and

WHEREAS, projects that are 'shovel-ready' will be considered with a focus on action, rather than planning processes; and

WHEREAS, Forsyth County has solicited project Letters of Inquiry for review by County Management and the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, no more than three projects totaling up to \$1.5 million in Golden LEAF funds will be selected for submittal; and

WHEREAS, priority areas for Golden LEAF funds should focus on Economic Development, Education, Workforce Development, Physical Infrastructure, and Agriculture;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts and approves the recommendations of the County Manager to submit the following projects to the Golden LEAF Foundation Community Based Grants Initiative:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Adopted this 26th day of September 2016.

Golden LEAF Community Based Initiative

1. Introduction

The Golden LEAF Foundation Community Based Grants Initiative has now been activated in the Piedmont Triad & Southwest NC regions. A total of \$20 million has been allocated for this round, with a maximum of \$1.5 million being available for each County in the two regions. The turnaround time for these grants from application to project commencement is relatively quick. As a result, only those projects that are 'shovel-ready' will be considered with a focus on action, rather than planning processes. Forsyth County will be soliciting project Letter's of Inquiry for consideration over the coming weeks for review by County Management and Commissioners before official submittal to the Golden LEAF Board for consideration. No more than three (3) projects totaling no more than \$1.5 million in Golden LEAF funds will be selected for submittal. **The primary point of contact for this process will be Lyden Williams, Budget & Management Analyst, (336) 703-2898, williarl@forsyth.cc.**

2. Elements of a Competitive CBI Project

The below elements come directly from Golden LEAF and should be considered by organizations seeking funding for their projects. How project proposals meet these elements will be the primary consideration when selecting projects for submittal to Golden LEAF.

1. Priority Areas: Economic Development, Education, Workforce Development, Physical Infrastructure, Agriculture
2. 'Shovel Ready' Timely use of grant funds.
3. 'Do the most good for the most people.' Large impact on County/Region and be sustainable.
4. Focused on action, rather than planning.
5. Leverage additional funds, minimum 25% match of Golden LEAF funds.
6. Community support from local citizens and businesses (letters of support, partnerships in funding, etc.).
7. Applicant must be designated 501c3 organization or governmental entity.

3. Grant Timeline

Friday, September 9th – Draft Project LOI & Budgets due for initial review and comment. Although this is the deadline for LOI's, it is strongly advised to contact staff before submitting any project to ensure project meets minimum requirements for consideration. Projects will be reviewed as soon as possible, with any proposed changes submitted back to organization for comment.

September 15th, 22nd, & 29th – Staff briefs County Commissioners on submitted projects for comment and consensus on which projects to submit for consideration.

Friday, September 30th – Deadline for project submittal to Golden LEAF.

Wednesday, October 19th – Golden LEAF staff conduct initial review of LOI's. There will be a limited opportunity for clarification from applicants on select projects.

Thursday, December 1st – Golden LEAF Board of Directors votes on LOI's for which to request full grant proposals.

Friday, January 20th – Full grant proposal packages due to Golden LEAF.

4. Attachments –Digital versions can be requested from Lyden Williams - williarl@forsyth.cc

1. Letter of Inquiry Form – This form is required to be completed in Microsoft Word for all projects to be considered.
2. Project Budget Form – This spreadsheet is required to be completed in Excel for all projects to be considered.