

# COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Presentation to New Castle County  
Council

March 2012



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County Executive

# Objectives

- Support local governments', and community development and small business associations' capacity to create jobs and revitalize communities.



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- Encourage partnerships amongst businesses, nonprofits, community groups and organizations to develop a sustainable economic development plan with measurable outcomes.



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- Emphasize job creation for low-income persons; provides access to credit for community development that promotes long-term and social viability; and empower economically disadvantaged persons to achieve greater economic opportunity.



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- Support transit-oriented development and smart growth, and encourage redevelopment of vacant and abandoned properties.



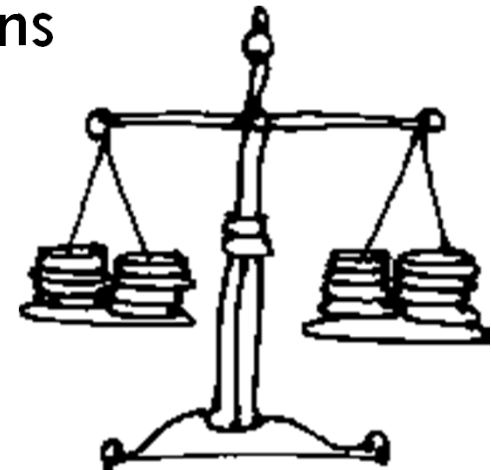
# Available Funds

- ❑ \$50,000 grant account, funded through the Office of Economic Development & Department of Community Services
- ❑ \$15,000 maximum grant award
- ❑ New Castle County may elect to award partial grant awards
- ❑ Entities that have received New Castle County Grants within the last year are ineligible to apply



# Funding Match Requirement

- NCC Grant awards may fund up to 50% of project costs.
- Applicants required to match NCC grant funds through cash and in-kind support.
- In-kind support may include staff time, donated land, services, and other contributions
  - ▣ Must be documented in application at fair market value



# Eligible Applicants

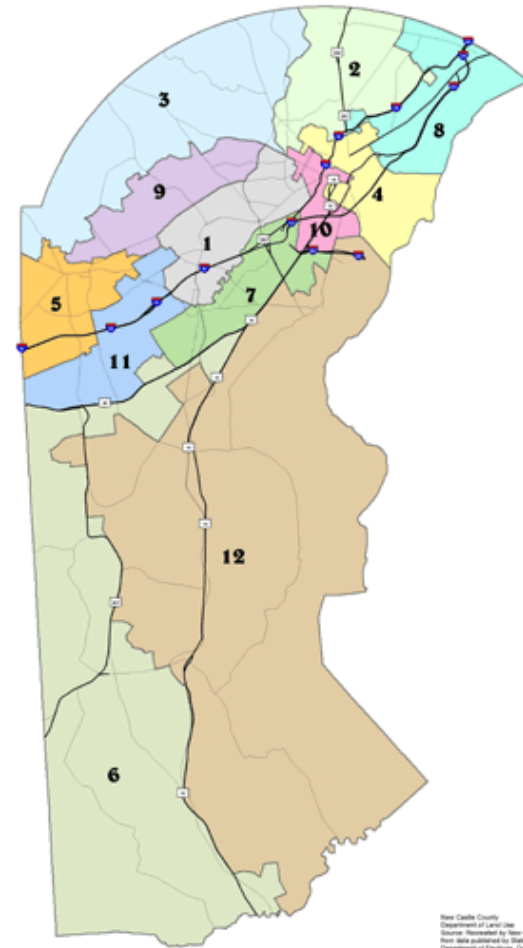


- ❑ Nonprofit 501c3 charitable organizations.
- ❑ Entities that apply in partnership with a nonprofit 501c3 fiscal sponsor
- ❑ 501c6 business league and trade organizations
- ❑ Towns, villages and communities in New Castle County with populations under 10,000
- ❑ Evaluation system provides extra points based on the applicant's need for funds to complete the project and its partnerships



# Grant Award Geographic Distribution

- Limit of one grant per Council District
  - ▣ Grant selection committee may approve multiple projects per district if requests are under \$2,000.



# Project Examples

- Consulting, capacity building, and technology assistance for development/expansion of a local business association
- Developing small business incubator space
- Small business façade improvement program
- Funding to undertake Feasibility Studies of commercial or office corridors (examples)
  - ▣ Adaptive reuse for vacant shopping center
  - ▣ Market analysis for an area's access to supermarkets, banks and other services

# Project Examples

- Development of local marketing program
- Development and implementation of community events, such as festivals, attractions, restaurant weeks, and other events that attract visitors and create a positive local identity
- Employment training program



# Grant Evaluation

<b>Soundness of approach</b>	<b>30 points max</b>
The project and its objectives and strategies are clearly explained	10
Establishes partnerships and effectively leverages resources	10
Describes project benefits and methodology to evaluate program success	5
Describes sustainability of project	5
<b>Provides clear understanding of problems and issues, and explains the need for the project and use of grant funds</b>	<b>30 points max</b>
Provides quantitative and qualitative data as a basis for project need	10
Identifies how program coordinates with organization's strategic plan or business model.	5
Description of clients benefitting from the program	5
Demonstrates need for grant funding	10
<b>Ability to meet objectives established by New Castle County</b>	<b>25 points max</b>
<b>Organization's Capacity and ability to successfully implement program</b>	<b>15 points max</b>
General Stability and track record of organization	10
Demonstration of strong fiscal management and controls	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

# Proposal Submission Instructions

- Applicants are encouraged to include documents that provide greater detail about the project, communities served and demonstrate organizational capacity. This can include:
  - Budgets
  - Reports
  - Maps
  - Pictures and plans
- Submit 1 printed application and 1 digital copy (can be emailed, burned on CD or flash drive)
- All proposals must be received by 5:00pm by May 31, 2012

# Additional Terms

- Projects must be completed within 2 years
- Semi-annual grant reporting required

