

Jacques L. Blanchette

From: Lonnie Hunt <lhunt@detcog.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2018 12:32 PM
To: Allison Harbison; Daryl Melton; Doug Page; Jacques Blanchette; Jim Lovell; John Lovett; Judge Paul Price; Mark Allen; Mike Perry; Samye Johnson; Sydney Murphy; Wes Suiter
Subject: Re: Request for In-Kind Contribution for EDA Grant

All, Mark asked about how much space. I was thinking if each county offered a minimum of a 200 SF of space, that would be adequate to meet our required match.

Lonnie

On Jan 11, 2018 11:34 AM, "Lonnie Hunt" <lhunt@detcog.org> wrote:
Judges,

I've been at home sick all week and will not be able to join you tomorrow for your luncheon. However, I have something very important I'd like to ask of you.

EDA is offering DETCOG a 2-year grant to fund a Disaster Recovery Coordinator Position. While this position will be mainly focused on disaster recovery in the 7 counties under the Presidential Disaster Declaration, it is not restricted to those counties only, and could be a valuable asset to us in all 12 of our counties to promote economic development.

They are offering \$85,000 a year, with a 25% local match required. The local match can be In-Kind. I'm proposing that we ask each of our 12 counties to allow DETCOG to use office space in your courthouse or other county building to meet the In-Kind match. Basically, you would provide a space that a DETCOG employee could use when needed -- we would not ask to use it at any time you needed the space for some other county function. Some of you already provide space like this for some of our other programs, and that space could be used for this agreement. The space could even be inside an empty courtroom -- we're not picky and honestly I don't know how often the space would be used. But we need to document that you are making it available to us in order to qualify for the In-Kind Match.

EDA has been talking about funding this position since shortly after Hurricane Harvey hit, but we just got the word from them that it was a "go" on Jan. 3rd and we have to submit our application by tomorrow.

Does this sound like something everyone would be willing to do? I believe it would need to be approved by your Commissioners Courts, but we can submit the application before that is done. I just don't want to submit this as our In-Kind match proposal if you think there are any issues with it.

If any of you simply have no space available, we'd probably ask your city if they would provide space for us, but it's much simpler to me if we can just deal with the counties.

Please look at the attached draft form and let me know your thoughts ASAP.

Thanks,
Lonnie