

STAR FUND

CITY OF WILLISTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FEBRUARY 9, 2010

TOTAL PAGES: 4

STAR FUND SUPPORTS 18 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT / MARKETING PROJECTS

The Williston City Commission gave their approval of \$50,000 in STAR Fund Community Enhancement / Marketing funds to eighteen projects on Tuesday February 9, 2010.

"Williston and the communities in our trade area have a wonderful opportunity at this time to bring new people seeking jobs into our communities. Like housing availability and good schools, quality of life is becoming a bigger and bigger part of the overall package needed to convince prospective employees to move into the region."

"While we are always looking at job creation, the Community Enhancement / Marketing portion of the STAR Fund is intended to 'enhance the quality of life' in our trade region and to make our communities more enjoyable to live in," says Mayor Ward Koeser.

"We spent a day reviewing 29 prospective projects; we ranked them and selected the 18 that best fit our criteria. Projects funded were in Crosby, Froid, Medicine Lake, Watford City and Williston," says Chris Brostuen, President of the Williston STAR Fund Board.

"Projects that have raised a lot of their own funds tend to rank highly. Our \$50,000 will be matched by \$303,801 of additional money that these civic minded groups have raised to bring these 18 projects to fruition," says Mayor Ward Koeser.

The Williston STAR Fund was created in 1991 after the one-cent city sales tax was voted into existence. In 1995, the voters earmarked \$50,000 to be dedicated for community enhancement projects that would improve the quality of life in our trade region. In 1999, the Marketing & Community Enhancement funds were combined, since improving a community's future is also tied into their marketing efforts to bring in businesses, create jobs & enhance the quality of life for their citizens.

There will be \$50,000 available in 2011 for Community Enhancement funds. The deadline for applying will be December 15, 2010. Any parties interested in receiving application forms should contact the Williston Economic Development office at City Hall, call 701-577-8110 or e-mail TomR@ci.williston.nd.us.

-30-

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: TOM ROLFSTAD AT 701-577-8110

2010 Williston Star Fund Community Enhancement Projects by City

WILLISTON

- **Band Day Committee.** The Band Day Committee is requesting funds to be used for travel stipends to help offset the cost for bands having to travel long distances to attend the event. The Star Fund portion is \$3,500. The total cost of the project is \$17,500. Local contact is Amy Krueger at 701-774-9041.
- **Boys Scouts of America 100th Anniversary Project at Spring Lake Park.** The Great Plains District Boys Scouts are requesting funds to replacement of the roof and windbreak of the east pavilion at Spring Lake Park in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouts. As part of the project signage will be added to the pavilion in dedication to 100 years of scouting. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$5,000. Local contact is Ken Fuchs at 701-577-5141.
- **Entertainment Inc.** Entertainment Inc. is requesting funds to help defray production and operational expenses for their organization. The Star Fund portion is \$3,000. The total cost of the project is \$61,786. Local contact is B. Michael Quale at 701-577-3179.
- **Hometown Williston.** The Hometown Williston Committee is requesting funds to assist in covering general expenses for the Independence Day Celebration to be held July 3rd at Harmon Park. The Star Fund portion is \$3,000. The total cost of the project is \$10,645. Local contact is Jim Yockim at 701-572-0223.
- **The James Memorial Preservation Society.** The James Memorial Preservation Society is requesting funds to assist in funding a condition facility assessment of the James Memorial Library building. The assessment will be used to prioritize maintenance needs, to determine appropriate allocation of resources for building improvements and to understand issues that could be addressed concurrent with any expansion or remodeling. The Star Fund portion is \$3,000. The total cost of the project is \$7,000. Local contact is Kimberlee Madsen at 701-774-3601.
- **Little Muddy Rec. Inc.** Little Muddy Rec. Inc. is requesting funding to assist in the completion of a fence, landscaping around the picnic shelter and the installation of parking posts at the Little Muddy Bridge located on East Broadway. The Star Fund portion is \$3,000. The total cost of the project is \$7,500. Local contact is Gerald Fleck at 701-774-8132.
- **Mentors and Friends for Youth, Inc.** Mentors and Friends for Youth, Inc. is requesting funds to assist in promoting mentoring in the Williston area and to enhance the existing services for the area youth. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$11,900. Local contact is Marlys Wilder at 701-572-9505.
- **Mon-Dak Gymnastics.** Mon-Dak Gymnastics is requesting funds to assist in covering the expenses of removing the drop ceiling and smoke eliminator of the building they purchased in December 2006 when the building they were renting was sold. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$6,000. Local contact is Pat Buck at 701-572-6113.

- **Spring Lake Park Holiday Committee.** The Spring Lake Park Holiday Committee is requesting funds to assist in paying for eight additional electrical pedestals to be installed at Spring Lake Park where currently there is no electricity. The Star Fund portion is \$3,500. The total cost of the project is \$46,000. Local contact is Amy Krueger at 701-774-9041.
- **Williston Area Builders Association.** The Williston Area Builders Association is requesting funds to assist in starting a Parade of Homes / Home Show event in Williston. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$10,000. Local contact is Ken Callahan at 701-572-1620.
- **Williston Basin Indian Club.** The Williston Basin Indian Club is requesting funds to assist in covering expenses for the annual Pow-Wow. Star Fund portion is \$3,500. The total cost of the project is \$37,250. Local contact is Krystal Johnson at 701-770-0015.
- **Williston Boys Baseball Committee.** The Williston Boys Baseball Committee is requesting funds to cover the \$2,500 guarantee required to host the 2010 14 Year Old Midwest Plains Babe Ruth Regional Tournament to be held in Williston on August 6-11, 2010. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$17,500. Local contact is Larry Grondahl at 701-577-5141.

CROSBY

- **Divide County Museum and Historical Society Inc.** The Divide County Museum and Historical Society Inc. is requesting funds to assist in the purchasing of preservation and security materials. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$13,700. Local contact is Donna Haslett-Nelson at 701-641-0346.
- **Meadowlark Arts Council – Dakota Theater.** The Meadowlark Arts Council – Dakota Theater is requesting funds to assist in covering heating costs for this winter. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$6,500. Local contact is Cecile Wehrman at 701-965-6088.

FROID

- **Froid Public School Music Department.** The Froid Public School Music Department is requesting funds to assist in covering expenses for the musical programs planned for Froid's centennial event in July 2010. The Star Fund portion is \$3,000. The total cost of the project is \$4,500. Local contact is Mark Miller at 406-766-2342.

MEDICINE LAKE

- **Medicine Lake Centennial 2010.** The Medicine Lake Centennial 2010 committee is requesting funds to assist in covering the expenses of Medicine Lake's centennial event. The Star Fund portion is \$3,000. The total cost of the project is \$53,000. Local contact is Kathy Berntson at 406-963-2322/406-765-8236.

RAY

- **Ray American Legion Post #9.** The Ray American Legion Post #9 is requesting funds to assist in purchasing an infantry monument and grave cover to create a Veterans' Memorial Park. The Star Fund portion is \$1,500. The total cost of the project is \$13,395. Local contact is Jerry Engel at 701-568-3578.

WATFORD CITY

- **Watford City Park Board.** The Watford City Park Board is requesting funds to assist in covering the costs to replace a 30 year old park shelter with newly constructed park shelters in the Watford City Tourist Park. The Star Fund portion is \$2,500. The total cost of the project is \$27,400. Local contact is Robin Arndt at 701-570-3677.

-30-

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: TOM ROLFSTAD AT 701-577-8110