

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Otsego County Aerospace Diversification Planning Project

Economic and Community Development

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Pre-Application

PLANNING PRE-APPLICATION

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM
MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND

PRE-APPLICATION ATTACHMENT REQUIREMENTS

Please use this checklist to ensure all components of the Pre-Application are included.

- Attachment 1 (Pre-Application Form).
- Attachment 2 (Project Budget).
- Preliminary cost estimates (Question 6c).
- Documentation of the availability and commitment for all matching funds (Question 7).

PRE-APPLICATION SUBMISSION

The completed and signed Pre-Application should be mailed to the address below. Incomplete Pre-Applications will result in delays in processing.

Michigan Strategic Fund
c/o Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Community Development Block Grant
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

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PROJECT INFORMATION AND DESCRIPTION

1. Provide the history of the problems associated with this project and explain how this project will help alleviate those problems.

Otsego County is a rural county of 23,000 residents in the northern tip of Michigan's lower peninsula. This county boasts a total of 526 square miles, equating to only 44 persons per square mile. This location makes the community and its economy distant from major markets and reduces the number of opportunities to capture new manufacturing companies although, in the past, the northern Michigan lifestyle induced a fair number of small, privately-held manufacturers – primarily in the auto industry – to locate in northern Michigan. The late 1980s and early 1990s introduced the exploration and production of natural gas, which created additional growth and development in this area. The development of year-round destination tourism resorts offering world-class golf, skiing and other outdoor recreational activities added to the economic engine of this rural, regional economy.

Compared to other regions of Michigan, this region of northern Michigan has long been an area of high unemployment and low incomes. Over the last few years, the situation has worsened. Otsego County lost its two largest manufacturing employers - which were not automotive - in 2006 and 2007, resulting in the loss of 430 high wage jobs in Otsego County, which was quickly followed by the 2008 global recession. Since 2005, out-migration increased as the highest skilled unemployed found work outside the area; Otsego County's unemployment rate has nearly doubled, and has increased 209% from ten years ago. The median household income dropped nearly 9% between 2000 and 2008, and the poverty rate increased by 20% over five years. In an industry overview of 2009 data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average wage per job in Otsego County was 28% less compared to data for the State of Michigan.

The proposed project is designed to develop a manufacturing diversification strategy focused on the aerospace sector that will build off of the community's manufacturing and location strengths.

2. Describe the objectives of the planning project.

The objectives of the planning project will be to:

- increase manufacturing activity in a sector other than the auto industry
- build on long-term investments in the airport and local /regional manufacturing base
- create a market for existing small- and medium-sized manufacturers in the area

In following the State of Michigan's diversification model, the Alliance determined that a focus on the aerospace industry could meet those goals. The first step identified in this process is to engage a consultant and undertake a study that will investigate the feasibility of this effort. The ultimate goal is a project that will be designed to benefit the small- and medium-sized manufacturers in Otsego County and potentially the region, depending upon the nature of the

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identified project.

3. Describe the specific project activities and tasks.

- Step 1: Research and Identification by the consultant of Innovative Sustainable Aerospace and Defense Concepts and Niche Projects
- A. Review strengths and weaknesses (SWOT) of the airport and community from meetings and existing documents
 - B. Identify local and regional priority strategic opportunities and assets through focus groups, private interviews
 - C. Benchmark similar airports in North America
 - D. Validate and research world market trends, niche projects and opportunities
 - E. Prepare and present first draft of three concepts/niche projects
 - F. Validate the chosen project with industry leaders and strategic partners and present final scope of the project
- Step 2: Steering Committee and Project Refinements
- A. Meet, mobilize and bring together industry leaders and strategic partners
 - B. Gather consensus for the project and create the Steering Committee
 - C. Define Steering Committee's objectives and leadership
 - D. Identify, test and define project parameters
 - E. Manage Steering Committee meetings and assess major industry partners' involvement
 - F. Present the updated scope of the project and potential starting projects and investments

4. Describe the local and regional impact the planning project will have. Include the following:

- a. Identify the development value and expected impact that the planning project will have on the community in six months, two years, and five years.

| Development Value | 6 Months | 2 Years | 5 Years |
|-------------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Jobs (Direct) | 0 | 50 | 100 |
| Wages | 0 | \$ 2,000,000 | \$ 4,000,000 |
| Investment | 0 | \$ 2,200,000 | \$ 4,402,000 |
| Taxes | 0 | \$ 62,000 | \$ 124,000 |

- b. Explain how the proposed planning project supports related local, regional and state community and economic development strategies.

Locally the proposed planning project supports the Otsego County Economic Development Alliance goal to retain, expand and attract base industry through collaborative efforts. Regionally, the proposed planning project supports the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to develop a supportive environment throughout the region for innovation and entrepreneurial development and the goals to create or retain permanent jobs that increase the tax base or have other public benefits and develop, retain, attract, and re-attract talented entrepreneurs and skilled workers. At the state level, the proposed project builds on the diversification strategy of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

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5. Provide a project timeline that includes the anticipated start and completion dates for the planning project.

| Task | Start | Complete |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Environmental Review | 9/12/2011 | 9/16/2011 |
| Hire Consultant | 9/19/2011 | 11/30/2011 |
| Step 1 | 12/1/2011 | 3/31/2012 |
| Step 2 | 4/1/2012 | 3/31/2013 |

6. Complete the project budget, including:

a. Attachment 2 (Project Budget). Include all funding sources and identify all project activities. There must be separate line items for administration and planning.

b. Does the proposed project involve administrative costs using CDBG funds?

No.

Yes. Detail the basis for determining the proposed costs:

c. Attach cost estimates.

7. Identify the sources of matching funds necessary to complete the project. Provide documentation of the availability and commitment for all matching funds, both local and other matching funds. Documentation must be a signed letter from the funding source. The letter should specifically state the amount of funds, the source of the funds (local water/sewer/general fund, etc.), the anticipated date of availability of funds and the commitment of funds to the proposed project.

Matching Funds will come from the following sources:

USDA: \$47,000

Otsego County: \$8,000

Otsego County Economic Alliance: \$5,000

Documentation from each source is attached.

8. Identify any CDBG Program Income from previously awarded CDBG grants (i.e. Local CDBG Revolving Loan funds) to be included in the proposed project.

Otsego County has no CDBG Program Income from a previously awarded CDBG grant.

9. List the type and dollar amount of any local, state or federal incentives associated with this

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project including grants, loans, tax abatements and tax increment financing. These financial incentives should NOT be included on the project budget.

Incentives that will be made available to potential new companies locating to Otsego County as a result of this project or expansion of existing local companies include PA 198 industrial facilities tax abatements or location to the Georgia-Pacific Redevelopment Renaissance Zone.

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE (AREA BENEFIT PROJECTS ONLY)

10. Describe how the project will meet the National Objective of benefitting low and moderate income persons. Include how the planning grant will benefit the entire community or project area and the low and moderate income percentage for the entire community or project area.

N/A

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE (FUTURE JOB CREATION PROJECTS ONLY)

11. Describe how the project will meet the National Objective of benefiting low and moderate income persons. Include how the planning project will lead to future job creation and how the 51% low and moderate income requirement will apply to the future job creation.

The project is designed to develop a strategy that will ultimately result in the creation of new jobs that will be available for low and moderate income persons in the area. The project envisions either the location of new employers to the area or increased business for the small and medium sized manufacturers in Otsego County and potentially the region depending on the nature of the identified project. Job creation from the proposed strategy is expected to be in the range of 50-100 full-time jobs.

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LOCAL ADMINISTRATION AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

12. Please indicate below whether or not the **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** associated with this Pre-Application has a contractual relationship with one of more of the following entities:

United Auto Workers

Yes No

Butzel Long

Yes No

JPFS, LLC

Yes No

Detroit Economic Growth Corporation

Yes No

Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Yes No

Michigan Department of Treasury

Yes No

Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs

Yes No

Beringea, LLC

Yes No

Neogen Corporation

Yes No

M Group LLC

Yes No

Paul E. Hodges, III

Yes No

If yes to any of the above, please describe the nature of the relationship.

13. Respond to the following:

- a. Identify the local officials and/or consultants who helped complete the Pre-Application, will help with the planning study, and/or will help administer the proposed project. Include their names, contact information, qualifications and pertinent experience.

Jeff Ratcliffe, Executive Director, Otsego County Economic Alliance, 1062 Cross Street, Gaylord, MI 49735, 989-731-0288, Jeff@Gaylord-Otsego.com. Mr. Ratcliffe has at least 20 years of project packaging and grant administration experience, packaging and administering at least 37 projects since 1996, totaling \$26.7 million in federal, state and private grant funding with \$6.4 million in local matching funds and \$24.4

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million of private investment. Projects have including planning, infrastructure (roads, water, sewer, rail, airports), façade and building improvements, streetscapes, machinery & equipment, and lighthouse protection and restoration.

- b. If consultants will be employed using grant funds, explain the process to be used by the local government when selecting the consultant. This selection process must be in accordance with applicable federal regulations set forth in 24 CFR Part 85.

The County will use a request for qualifications process.

PLEASE NOTE: Costs for preparing the Pre-Application and Application (preliminary costs) can be incurred but cannot be included in the project budget as match. CDBG funds may be jeopardized or withdrawn if written authorization from the MSF has not been provided prior to signing an administrative or other service contract for additional expenses other than the preliminary costs specified above.

14. Will local officials and staff be a party to any contract involving the procurement of goods and services assisted with CDBG funds?

Yes No

If yes, please describe.

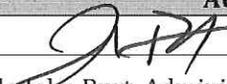
15. Will any person who is an employee, agent, consultant, officer, elected or appointed official of the unit of general local government obtain a financial interest or benefit from a CDBG assisted activity or have an interest in any contract, subcontract or agreement with respect thereto, or in the proceeds hereunder, either for themselves or for those with whom they have family or business ties, during their tenure or for one year thereafter?

Yes No

If yes, please describe.

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| ATTACHMENT 1 | | | |
|--|---|---|--------------|
| APPLICATION FORM | | | |
| IDENTIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT | | FUNDING SOURCES | |
| Local Government | Otsego County | CDBG | \$ 60,000 |
| Street/PO Box | 225 W. Main St. | CDBG/RLF | \$ |
| City | Gaylord | Other State | \$ |
| County | Otsego | Other Federal | \$ 47,000 |
| State/Zip | Michigan/49735 | Local Unit | \$ 8,000 |
| Chief Elected Official, Title | Paul Beachnau, Chairperson | Private | \$ 5,000 |
| Chief Elected Official, Email | paul@gaylordmichigan.net | Other | \$ |
| Local Gov't Contact Name | Jeff Ratcliffe | Total | \$ 120,000 |
| Local Gov't Contact Title | Executive Director | Local Government's DUNS Number (<u>DUNS#</u>): | |
| Local Gov't Contact Address | Otsego County Economic Alliance, 1062 Cross St., Gaylord, MI 49735 | | |
| Telephone Number | 989-731-0288 | Local Government's Federal Identification Number: | |
| Fax Number | 989-731-0289 | | |
| E-Mail Address | Jeff@Gaylord-Otsego.com | | |
| PROJECT IS BEING QUALIFIED BASED ON THE BENEFIT TO LOW AND MODERATE INCOME PERSONS | | | |
| AUTHORIZED LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIAL | | | |
| Signature:  | | | |
| Name and Title: | John Burt, Administrator | Telephone | 989-731-7527 |
| | | Date | 6/29/14 |

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ATTACHMENT 2
PROJECT BUDGET

| Applicant: Otsego County | | Project Title: Otsego County Aerospace Diversification Planning Project | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|------------------|--|
| Project Cost Elements | | Project Funding Sources (Identify all other sources) | | | | | |
| Activities | CDBG | Private | Local | USDA | Total | Total | |
| Planning Consultant | \$60,000 | \$5,000 | \$8,000 | \$47,000 | \$ | \$120,000 | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Total | \$60,000 | \$5,000 | \$20,000 | \$47,000 | \$ | \$132,000 | |

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
**NOTICE OF PREAPPLICATION REVIEW
 ACTION**

From: USDA, RURAL DEVELOPMENT
 (Department, bureau, or establishment)

Agency Number
26-601

To: Otsego County Economic Alliance
1062 Cross St.
Gaylord, MI 49735

Reference Your Preapplication
 Number 1

Dated: 02-25-2011

1. We have reviewed your preapplication for Federal assistance under 10.769 RBEG and have determined that your proposal is:
 - eligible for funding by this agency and can compete with similar applications from other grantees.
 - eligible but does not have the priority necessary for further consideration at this time.
 - not eligible for funding by this agency.
2. Therefore, we suggest that You:
 - file a formal application with us by (date) 06-29-2011
 - file an application with _____ (Suggested Federal agency).
 - find other means of funding this project.
3. Based upon the funds available for this program over the last two fiscal years and the number of applications reviewed, or pending, we anticipate that funds for which you are competing will be available after (month, year) _____.
4. You requested \$ 85,000.00 Federal funding in your preapplication form, and we:
 - are agreeable to consideration of approximately this amount in the formal application.
 - will need to analyze the amount requested in more detail.
5. A preapplication conference will be necessary not necessary. We are recommending that it be held at Our office, on 06-24-2011, at 8:00 a.m./p.m. Please contact the undersigned for confirmation.
6. Enclosures: _____ Forms Instructions _____ Other (Specify) _____
7. Other Remarks:

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Signature  | Title Area Specialist | Date <u>6-24-11</u> |
| Organizational Unit RURAL DEVELOPMENT | Administrative Office RBS | Telephone Number (231) 941-0951 |

Address 1501 Cass St. - Suite A
Traverse City, MI 49684

NOTE: This form will be used by Federal agencies to inform applicants of the results of a review of their preapplication request for Federal assistance. When the review cannot be performed within 45 days, the applicant shall be informed by letter as to when the review will be completed. When Federal agencies determine that the proposal is not eligible for Federal assistance, specific reasons should be provided in Item 7 Other Remarks.



RBEG Guide 19(TA)

June 24, 2011

Mr. Jeff Ratcliff
Otsego County Economic Alliance
1062 Cross St.
Gaylord, MI 49735

Dear Mr. Ratcliff,

This letter establishes conditions which must be understood and agreed to by you before further consideration may be given to the application.

This letter is not to be considered as grant approval nor as a representation as to the availability of funds. The docket may be completed on the basis of a grant not to exceed \$47,000.00.

Please complete and return the attached Form RD 1942-46, "Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions", if you desire further consideration be given your application.

If the conditions set forth in this letter are not met within one year from the date hereof, USDA Rural Development reserves the right to discontinue the processing of the application. You will be notified, in writing, by USDA Rural Development of any such discontinuance.

1. USE OF FUNDS

The proposed grant funds will be used to fund an economic development feasibility study. This project will be providing financial assistance to small and emerging private business enterprises in rural areas in accordance with the application package as submitted or as amended and approved by USDA Rural Development.

2. APPLICANT CONTRIBUTION

Grantee agrees to provide \$85,000.00 in matching funds to be made a part of this project. Prior to the disbursement of any grant funds, the Grantee will provide documentation that the matching funds have been expended pro-rata.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

Grantee will administer the grant in accordance with the approved Scope of Work as outlined in RD Instruction 1942-G, section 1942.314. USDA Rural Development comments and required changes, if any, in the Grantee's Scope of Work will be provided to the Grantee.

If the Grantee will contract out for the technical assistance to be provided, the Grantee agrees to not turn the responsibility of the technical assistance project over to the contracting party and will oversee and control the project through completion.

3001 Coolidge Rd., Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823
Phone: (517) 324-5157 • Fax: (517) 324-5225
Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).

4. DISBURSEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS

Grant funds will be disbursed by USDA Rural Development on a reimbursement basis not to exceed one advance every 30 days. An original and one copy of Form (SF) 270, "Request for Advance or Reimbursement," will be submitted to USDA Rural Development. Requests for advance shall not be made in excess of reasonable outlays for the month covered. The financial management system of the recipient organization shall provide for effective control over and accountability for all funds, property, and other assets.

Grant funds will be transferred to the Grantee via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The Grantee will complete and deliver to USDA Rural Development, Form SF-3881, and Electronic Funds Transfer Payment Enrollment Form.

It is the intent of the Grantee that all grant funds will be disbursed within one year from the date of this letter or in accordance with the Grantee's approved Scope of Work. In accordance with 31 U.S.C. 1552, subsection (a), on September 30th of the 5th fiscal year after the period of availability for obligation of a fixed appropriation account ends, the account shall be closed, and any remaining balance (whether obligated or unobligated) in the account shall be canceled and thereafter not be available for obligation or expenditure for any purpose.

5. INSURANCE AND BONDING

Grantee shall provide satisfactory evidence to USDA Rural Development that all officers of Grantee organization, authorized to receive and/or disburse Federal funds, are covered by such bonding and/or insurance requirements as are normally required by the Grantee.

6. RURAL AREA

You must certify that the technical assistance provided is benefiting a rural area as defined by 1942-G, 1942.304.

7. CITIZENSHIP

You must certify at least 51 percent of the outstanding interest in the project has membership or is owned by those who are either citizens of the United States or reside in the United States after being legally admitted for permanent residence.

8. DEBARMENT

You must execute Form AD-1047, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters - Primary Covered Transactions," to certify that your organization is not debarred or suspended from Government assistance. You also must obtain a certification on Form AD-1048, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions," from any person or entity you do business with as a result of this Government assistance that they are not debarred or suspended from Government assistance.

9. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

You must execute Form AD-1049, "Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Grants) Alternative I - For Grantees Other Than Individuals," to certify that you will provide a drug-free awareness program for employees.

10. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS

The Grantee will comply with P.L. 93-495, "Equal Credit Opportunity Act," and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, "Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs," 42 U.S.C. 2000d4, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act for Federally Conducted Programs and Activities, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Before a Grant can be obligated, the Grantee must execute: RD Forms 400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement" and 400-4, "Assurance Agreement", must be completed by the Grantee. The Grantee will be subject to Agency compliance reviews.

11. REPORTING

Forms SF-425, "Federal Financial Report" and a Project Performance Activity Report (SF-PPR) will be required on a quarterly basis (due 15 working days after end of quarter) until all grant funds have been disbursed. Project reporting will begin when the grant is closed which is the date all parties have executed Form RD 1940-1. A final Project Performance Report will be required with the last SF-425. The final report may serve as the last quarterly report. Grantees shall constantly monitor performance to ensure that time schedules are being met, projected work by time periods is being accomplished, and other performance objectives are being achieved.

12. AUDITS BASED UPON FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED

Grantees expending \$500,000 or more of Federal assistance per year must submit an audit in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 as codified in 7 CFR 3052. Grantees that expend less than \$500,000 a year in Federal assistance are exempt from the Federal audit requirements for that year except as noted in 7 CFR 3052.215(a), but records must be available for review or audit by USDA Rural Development or other Federal officials. Audit requirements only apply to the year(s) in which grant funds are expended.

Grantee will be responsible for any additional requirements set forth by the Agency as they pertain to the certification of the expenditure of grant funds when the Grantee expends less than \$500,000 in Federal funds a year.

13. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GRANTEE

Section B of RD Instruction 1942-G, Attachment 1, "General Requirements for Administration of Rural Business Enterprise and Television Demonstration Grants," is an attachment to Form RD 1940-1, "Request for Obligation of Funds." You will become familiar with the Grantee responsibilities covered in Part III A through X of Section B.

14. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The Grantee will be responsible for any additional requirements of federal, state or local governments that may apply in accordance with RD Instruction 1942-G.

15. CLOSING

The Grant will be considered closed when all parties have executed Form RD 1940-1.

The above conditions are based on the proposed development as outlined and financing arrangements as stated. The conditions as stated may be modified if the scope or cost of the project is changed or the financial arrangements are adjusted. Any change or modification of the conditions of the project must have prior approval by USDA Rural Development.

Sincerely,



Alan Anderson
Area Specialist

Attachments:

- SF 269, Financial Status Report
- SF 270, Request for Advance or Reimbursement
- Form RD 400-1 "Equal Opportunity Agreement"
- Form RD 400-4 "Assurance Agreement"
- Form SF 424 "Application for Federal Assistance" – revised amount
- Form SF 424A "Budget Information – Non Construction" –revised amount
- Form RD 442-3 (or equivalent) "Balance Sheet"
- Form RD 442-7 (or equivalent) "Operating Budget"
- Form AD 1047, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary Covered Transactions"
- Form AD 1048, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility And Voluntary Exclusion – Lower Tier Covered Transactions"
- Form AD 1049, "Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Grants) Alternative I – For Grantees Other Than Individuals"
- Form RD 1940-1, "Request for Obligation of Funds" & Attachment Section B of RD Instruction 1942-G, Attachment 1, "General Requirements for Administration of Rural Business Enterprise and Television Demonstration Grants," is an attachment to Form RD 1940-1
- Form RD 1942-46 "Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions"
- SF-3881, Electronic Funds Transfer Payment Enrollment Form
- Rural Area Certification Form
- Citizenship Certification Form
- RD Instruction 1940-Q, Exhibit A

LETTER OF INTENT TO MEET CONDITIONS

Date 6/24/11

TO: United States Department of Agriculture.

(Name of USDA Agency)

(USDA Agency Office Address)

We have reviewed and understand the conditions set forth in your letter dated 6/24/11. It is our intent to meet all of them not later than 6/29/11.

Otsego County Economic Alliance
(Name of Association)

BY [Signature]
S. A. Ratcliffe, exec. Dir.
(Title)

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0575-0015. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.



Otsego
C O U N T Y
M I C H I G A N

Otsego County
Office of the County Administrator
225 West Main Street • Gaylord, Michigan 49735
989-731-7520 • Fax 989-731-7529

June 28, 2011

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Sq.
Lansing, MI 48913

Subj: Gaylord Aerospace Feasibility Study

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Gaylord Aerospace Feasibility Study. Obtaining this feasibility study has been a priority of the County, the Gaylord Regional Airport, and several other local entities for over five years.

Otsego County has lost over four hundred manufacturing jobs in the last few years. It is time to take a more active approach to stabilize and hopefully grow the manufacturing base in the region. Otsego County fully endorses this Study and has committed \$8,000 towards this important project. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

John M. Burt
Otsego County Administrator



OTSEGO COUNTY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE

1062 Cross Street • Gaylord, Michigan 49735

989-731-0288 • 989-731-0289 FAX • jeff@gaylord-otsego.com • www.gaylord-otsego.com

June 27, 2011

OUR MISSION

To facilitate economic growth in Otsego County through a public/private partnership that maintains economic vitality and stimulates economic growth while preserving the quality of life.

CHAIRPERSON

Regan Quaal

President, Albie's Foods, Inc.

VICE CHAIRPERSON

Jack Thompson

*Executive Director,
University Center at Gaylord*

SECRETARY

Mary Sanders

Supervisor, Hayes Township

TREASURER

Joe Duff

City Manager, City of Gaylord

BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Beachnau

*Executive Director,
Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce*

John Burt

Administrator, Otsego County

Dale Gehman

*Director, Otsego County
Commission on Aging*

Keith Gornick

President, KHG Holdings, Inc.

Todd Gregory

Community President, Citizens Bank

Tim Hall

*Vice President / Market Manager,
Northwestern Bank*

Jay Jacobs

Area Manager, Consumers Energy

Kevin Johnson

President, Johnson Oil Company

Bill Martella

*Manager, Coldwell Banker
Schmidt Realtors*

Lori Reichard

Vice President, Fifth Third Bank

Darren Rhoads

Senior Vice President, Independent Bank

Timothy Timmer

Vice President Commercial Lending, mBank

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jeff Ratcliffe

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

RE: Otsego County's CDBG Pre-application – Commitment of Funds

To Whom It May Concern:

In support of Otsego County's application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation for a Community Development Block Grant funding, the Alliance is committing \$5,000 towards the proposed \$120,000 feasibility study project.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at (989) 731-0288 or Jeff@Gaylord-Otsego.com.

Sincerely,



Jeff Ratcliffe
Executive Director