

# Memo

To: Community Leaders  
From: Martin Bierbaum  
Date: January 18, 2006  
Re: Building Livable Communities Grant Information



The Municipal Land Use Center at The College of New Jersey is pleased to announce the availability of its ***Building Livable Communities*** Grant Program. The mission of Municipal Land Use Center (MLUC) at The College of New Jersey is to support municipal governments in meeting the region's land use challenges by identifying opportunities for improved development and redevelopment, balancing natural resource management with sustainable growth principles and integrating land use and transportation through creative community planning efforts. MLUC seeks to support communities interested in adopting more innovative planning approaches through its ***Building Livable Communities*** Grant Program. Through this competitive grant solicitation the MLUC hopes to create examples from which other New Jersey communities can learn.

Municipal government entities from Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Somerset counties are the eligible grant applicants. Nonprofit organizations may partner with municipal governments to collaboratively submit a grant application. Collaboration with county governments, between municipal governments from within the five county region and with nonprofit organizations is strongly encouraged. Approximately \$300,000 in grant funding will be awarded through this program to eligible applicants. Maximum grant funding for projects submitted by one municipal government is \$40,000. Collaborative projects submitted by two or more municipalities are eligible for up to \$45,000 each in grant funds. All grants require a 25 % match by the applicants. Grant applications must be postmarked by March 10, 2006 to be considered for funding. Communities selected for funding will be notified by the end of March.

MLUC will host ***Building Livable Communities Grant Program Information & Grant Writing Sessions*** on January 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 11 am at the Lawrence Township Municipal Building; January 11<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 pm at the Somerset County Administration Building in Somerville; and on January 17<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 pm at Monmouth County Hominy Hill Golf Course Clubhouse 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in Colts Neck from 7 to 9 pm. These sessions are intended to allow interested applicants to share their project ideas with MLUC staff, as well as to provide guidance on completing the grant proposal. Attendance at these sessions is not mandatory, but is strongly encouraged. Information on technical and planning resources that may support the various project categories will be provided during each session.

We encourage your community to consider submitting a proposal for funding. If you have any questions about this grant solicitation or would like to register to attend the program information and grant writing assistance session please call Winnie Fatton at 609-771-2832.