**SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE FOR 2017 CDBG AWARDS**

Contact:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Month, day, 2017)

**(City of xxx / xxx County) receives ($\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) grant for (project description)**

(*CITY NAME, Georgia*) - (The City of / County) has received a 2017 (Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) / Employment Incentive Program (EIP) / Redevelopment Fund) grant in the amount of $ from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), which administers the program on behalf of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). (City/County) was one of 59 Georgia communities awarded this year.

“Strong and prosperous communities serve their citizens best and help attract businesses to Georgia,” said Deal. “The projects funded by this program will stimulate economic development in these communities and enhance the quality of life for all Georgians. This program allows cities and counties to direct federal funding to address critical community needs, maximizing opportunities for citizens and ensuring that Georgia remains a top state for business.”

(City/County) will utilize this grant for

The grant award was presented to the (City/County) by DCA Commissioner Christopher Nunn and was accepted on behalf of the (City/County) by and in a ceremony hosted by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs in Savannah, Ga., on October 4.

Of the 59 communities receiving grants, 51 will receive $32.7 million in CDBG funds for infrastructure improvements, neighborhood revitalization and centers to serve citizens in need. Also, $4.8 million in CDBG Employment Incentive Program (EIP) and Redevelopment Fund (RDF) awards have been presented to 10 Georgia communities to invest in restoration and economic development projects that are creating 446 jobs and generating an additional $117 million in private investment.

The CDBG program supports projects in Georgia’s small and rural communities that create jobs and assist citizens with low and moderate incomes. Awards ranging from $237,639 to $1 million will be used for specific projects such as water, sewer, drainage or street improvements, revitalization of targeted neighborhoods and construction of facilities such as health, youth and senior centers. Communities are required to complete their designated project within two years of receiving the award.

“CDBG grants help lay the groundwork for future growth for our communities, and are often leveraged with other funding to help them prepare for economic development opportunities,” said DCA Commissioner Christopher Nunn. “These awards are about helping each community achieve its vision and implement plans to create a bright future.”

A complete list of the 2017 CDBG awards with project descriptions may be viewed at: <http://www.dca.ga.gov/communities/CDBG/index.asp>

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**About the Georgia Department of Community Affairs:**

*The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) partners with communities to create a climate of success for Georgia’s families and businesses through community and economic development, local government assistance, and safe and affordable housing. Using state and federal resources, DCA helps communities spur private job creation, implement planning, develop downtowns, generate affordable housing solutions, and promote volunteerism. DCA also helps qualified low- and moderate- income Georgians buy homes, rent housing, and prevent foreclosure and homelessness. For more information, visit* [*www.dca.ga.gov*](http://www.dca.ga.gov/)*.*