

D. Otter Lake Fire Company – Planning and Design (V650)

May 23, 2011

General Project Plan

Grantee: Otter Lake Fire Company, Inc. (the “Company” or the “Department”)

ESD Investment: A grant of up to \$50,000 to be used for a portion of the cost of planning and design, including architectural and engineering fees, for the construction of a new firehouse.

Project Location: Route 28, Town of Forestport, Oneida County

Project Completion: January 2011

Grantee Contact: James Carroll, President
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Project Team:

Project Management	Javier Roman-Morales
Affirmative Action	Denise Ross
Environmental	Soo Kang

Project Description:

Background

The Otter Lake Fire Company was established in 1949 and is located in the extreme northern corner of Oneida County on NYS Route 28. The Department was based in a converted 1920 schoolhouse which was originally intended to be a temporary home. Although improvements have been made over the years to make the building suitable for housing a modern fire department, structural and site restrictions remain, making it impossible to continue at the present site. Residing in the Adirondack Park, the Department responds to calls for help year-round, as well as for summer residents, boaters, hikers, snowmobilers, cross country skiers, and hunters. Due to its limited workforce, the Department has response agreements with other fire departments in the region.

In 2001, the Department purchased three vacant lots on Route 28, approximately one mile from the existing firehouse, to build a much needed modern firehouse. The location on level ground is ideal, with good drainage and excellent visibility of traffic in both directions. After town meetings, public comment, newspaper reports, and feasibility and development studies, town, county, state, and federal representatives agreed that a new station was needed to guarantee the public’s safety, and that of the volunteer firefighters. The engineering firm of Nelson Associates (Clinton, New York) came in as the low bidder, and was also selected because the firm specializes in “green” projects. In addition,

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architects, builders and subcontractors were hired based on their training and experience with green techniques. The basic design plans were ready in June 2009; this allowed the Company to compete among 6,000 departments nationwide for a FEMA grant, of which only 100 were awarded, including one to the Otter Lake Fire Company.

The Project

The grant provided funding for Phase I of the project that consists of planning and design, including architectural and engineering fees, for the construction of a new firehouse. The project is shovel ready and was approved for all building and ground permits from the New York State Department of Conservation (“NYS DEC”), the Adirondack Park Agency (“APA”) and the Town of Forestport. The proposed driveway access to Route 28 for the new firehouse was approved by the New York State Department of Transportation (“NYS DOT”). The building as planned by Nelson Associates will be 7,720 gross square feet. Funds for the construction phase have been secured through a \$1.1 million grant from FEMA.

Upon completion of the project, the Grantee will furnish a final report, describing the impact and effectiveness of the project.

Financing Uses	Amount	Financing Sources	Amount	Percent
Planning and design including architectural and engineering fees	\$64,000	ESD Grant	\$50,000	78%
		In Kind Contributions	14,000	22%
Total Project Costs	\$64,000	Total Project Financing	\$64,000	100%

Statutory Basis – Community Capital Assistance Program:

The project was authorized in accordance with Chapter 84 of the Laws of 2002 and reappropriated in the 2011-2012 New York State budget.

Disclosure and Accountability Certifications:

The Grantee has provided ESD with the required Disclosure and Accountability Certifications. Grantee’s certifications indicate that Grantee has no conflict of interest or good standing violations and, therefore, staff recommends that the Corporation authorize the grant to the Grantee as described in these materials.