

Northampton County

2017 Local Share Municipal Gaming Grant Criteria

RESTRICTED ROUND

Opens: 8:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2017

Deadline: 4:00 P.M., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017

Northampton County Local Share Municipal Gaming Grant Criteria 2017 Restricted Round Grant Process

OVERVIEW

The Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act (Act 2004-71), as amended, established a coordinated system for ensuring that local governments received a share of the revenues generated by gaming. This “Local Share” system was designed for the purpose of distributing approximately 4% of gross terminal slot machine revenues of certain licensed gaming facilities in an orderly and timely fashion to mitigate the impact of gaming and related activities. Those funds are distributed primarily to the licensed facility’s host municipality, host county and contiguous municipalities.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Under the Local Share system established by the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act, 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1101 et seq. (the “Act”), the NCGR&ERA is provided with a portion of the local share assessment for the purpose of awarding municipal grants. These Local Share Municipal Gaming Grant Criteria should be utilized by eligible municipal entities interested in such grants as defined in the Act. The Act requires 1.2% of the gross terminal revenue from the Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem to be distributed as follows: 20% to the host city, 30% to the host county and 50% to the host county for the purpose of making municipal grants within the county, with priority given to the municipalities contiguous to the host city. This document outlines the procedures for interested eligible municipalities to apply for grants from the local share portion identified in the Act as 50% to the host county, with priority given to the municipalities contiguous to the host city.

This criteria of eligibility is consistent with Sections 1403 (c) (2) (iii) (D.1) and 1403 (c) (2) (v) of the Act. The applicant must provide a clear case for selecting its municipality and indicate the level of municipal support. Eligible applicants include:

- Contiguous municipalities to the host city (Bethlehem), identified as: the Boroughs of Freemansburg and Hellertown, and the Townships of Hanover, Bethlehem, and Lower Saucon
- City of Bethlehem
- County of Northampton
- Municipalities joining with County of Northampton

****Applications that address impacts upon the contiguous municipalities named above will be considered for funding before applications from the city, county or municipalities joining with the county.**

ELIGIBLE CATEGORIES

Municipal proposed projects must fall within at least one of the qualifying categories identified below:

- Municipal Public Infrastructure Improvements includes projects for the development or improvement of traditional, transportation, technology and community infrastructure associated with the Casino's operations.
 - Municipal Public Traditional infrastructure projects include, but are not limited to, those that support the development, improvement, expansion rehabilitation and/or demolition of water, sewer, energy or other types of utilities.
 - Municipal Public Transportation infrastructure projects include, but are not limited to, those that enhance freight movement; improve mobility to job centers; improve bridge and roadway conditions; reduce accidents; improve traffic signalization; reduce vehicle speeds or traffic volumes (especially in areas with high potential for pedestrian and bicycle activity); eliminate conflicts between bike/pedestrian and other traffic; reduce travel time; relieve congestion; increase access to bus and train stations; add frequency and service of bus/transit/rail and bicycle and pedestrian facilities; and make highway and public transportation investments that use context sensitive design to improve existing developed areas and attract residents and visitors.
 - Municipal Technology infrastructure projects include, but are not limited to, those that promote the deployment of broadband and/or fiber optic services in the county, particularly in underserved areas; enhance access to computer technologies and reduce the digital divide; promote the development and deployment of renewable energy technologies and resources, as well as industries and business related thereto; facilitate the development of technology parks and corridors; support the development of next generation communication networks and WiFi networks; and foster the creation and expansion of technology businesses.
- Municipal Public Facilities includes projects designed to develop or improve facilities necessitated by or utilized in relation to the advent of the licensed facility or its operations.
 - Municipal Public Traditional facilities projects include, but are not limited to, those that support the development, improvement, expansion, rehabilitation and/or demolition of facilities and buildings.
 - Municipal Public Transportation facilities projects include, but are not limited to, those that improve airport, intermodal freight facilities, and bus, transit or rail facilities.
 - Municipal Public Community facilities projects include, but are not limited to, those that reuse and redevelop "brownfields," removal, repair and or restoration of blighted properties, industrial and previously developed sites in urban, suburban and rural communities; support the preservation, enhancement, conservation, rehabilitation,

removal, restoration or reconstruction of historic buildings and neighborhoods for compatible contemporary uses; maintain and improve recreational, heritage and natural assets, resources and infrastructure, including parks, greenways, historic sites, fishing and boating assets, museums, and performing arts assets; promote “greenfield” and traditional neighborhood development that is compact, conserves land, is consistent with local and regional planning goals and ordinances; and conserve or restore environmentally sensitive lands, waters and natural areas for ecological health, biodiversity and wildlife habitat.

- Municipal Emergency Services, Municipal Public Health and Public Safety, include, but are not limited to, those that support police departments, fire departments, emergency management services, health care providers and hospitals, hazmat teams, explosives or special units, and other first responders serving the licensed facility, surrounding communities and points of ingress and egress thereto; provide or support community crime prevention services and programs; and enhance the use, deployment and accessibility of automated external defibrillator (AEDs). Such projects may include efforts to improve equipment, facilities, and access to services. Projects under this category also include the creation of well-designed developments and walkable, livable neighborhoods that offer safe and healthy lifestyle opportunities.
- Municipal Human Services, especially services related to gaming addictions. The category also includes services that offer a comprehensive approach for addressing addiction generally, services assisting low income and impoverished persons, services related to the prevention of the abuse of women or children, services related to the collection of child support, services focused on youth development and welfare, services directed at senior citizens, and social services related to or necessitated by residential or commercial development resulting from or related to the licensed facility. Projects involving this category may include costs associated with the delivery of services, as well as facilities, transportation, and other related needs.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications for consideration by the Northampton County Gaming Revenue and Economic Redevelopment Authority (NCGR&ERA) for Local Share funding must be submitted by using the 2017 Local Share Municipal Grant Application – Restricted Round and include the project narrative and budget information requested in this document.

Applications must be submitted electronically through the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development (NCD CED) County Relationship Manager (CRM) system. Applications will be accepted beginning Wednesday, October 25, 2017 and up until 4 p.m. on Friday, November 17, 2017. However, the Authority staff has the right to request additional information from the applicant after the deadline to complete or clarify the application submitted.

Northampton County Council established the NCGR&ERA, pursuant to the Act, to assist in distributing the Local Share funding. Once grants are awarded by the Authority, all funding will be administered by NCDCEd pursuant to an existing agreement with the NCGR&ERA.

The NCGR&ERA staff may facilitate public meetings for further explanation and/or clarification of the nature and degree of impact of eligible projects, for each current round of funding.

The NCGR&ERA staff will review applications to ensure that each applicant and proposed project meets eligibility requirements under the Act based on the evaluation criteria. The Authority will award grants based on the association with and/or impact from the Sands Casino in Bethlehem. NCGR&ERA reserves the right to rescind this funding opportunity and/or to reject any and all of the applications at any time. The applicants will be solely responsible for all costs and expenses in connection with their respective applications.

APPLICATION NARRATIVE

(To be included with Local Share Municipal Grant Application)

A project narrative for each proposal is required as part of the application. The project narrative must be typed, on a separate page, and must contain the following information:

- A description of the project and the need, objective, and projected outcomes of the project;
- An explanation of how the project, or its need, uses or costs, is associated with and/or impacted by the licensed gaming facility and/or its operations;
- A description of the local and community support for the project;
- A projected schedule and detailed timeline of the project;
- A budget accompanied by a description of the basis of costs for the project and sources of funding.
- Documentation of support from the affected community, as well as any professional or expert studies, analyses or support related to the project or its need, uses, or costs; and the project's association with the licensed gaming facility operations should be attached as an addendum.

SANDS CASINO – RESORT BETHLEHEM

Applicants must provide information and documentation on how the proposed project, or its costs, use or need, is associated with or related to the Sands Casino – Resort Bethlehem. The Authority will award grants based solely on impact; therefore, the burden of proving impact rests with the applicant.

BUDGET

The application provides a detailed budget, including all sources and uses of funds, for the project from start to finish, including multiple project phases, if applicable, and highlights how the gaming funds will help provide a critical financial role. Application also requires cost estimates for the project.

Applicants are advised that grant funds may not be available and/or subject to being refunded to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania due to the decision rendered by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in Mount Airy #1, LLC v. Pennsylvania Department of Revenue, et al. (No. 34-EM-2015). Furthermore, if the Authority is required to refund all or any portion of the grant to the County or Commonwealth, the applicant agrees to promptly remit the amount that the Authority is required to refund upon written request by the Authority.

The following limits have been set for similar grant requests:

Police Interceptor - Sedan:	\$ 45,000
Police Interceptor - SUV:	\$ 55,000
Tahoe or Expedition:	\$ 60,000
Ambulance - New:	\$170,000
Ambulance - Remount:	\$135,000
Fire Apparatus:	\$250,000
Rescue Truck:	\$300,000
Fire Apparatus - Arial:	\$400,000
Police Officer with Benefits:	\$110,000

Budget requests for items listed under this category that exceed the set limit will not be eligible for consideration.

TIMELINE

The grant agreement will require that work must begin within one year of the grant award. The application provides a detailed timeline of the project and demonstrates the ability to comply with the timeline requirement. The Authority will not consider requests for multi-year projects nor items purchased prior to the grant award.

EXPERT ANALYSES

If applicable, the application should include professional or expert studies, analyses or support documents related to the project and its need, uses, or costs. (Examples include preliminary studies done by engineers, architects or any other professionals, supporting the need, uses and costs of the project).

DEADLINES

Applications must be submitted through the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development CRM system no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, November 17, 2017.

PROCEDURES FOR ACCESSING FUNDS

A grant agreement between the grantee and the Authority will be required prior to release of grant funding. Funding will be released only if the applicant is in compliance with all previously awarded grants. All grant agreements will include provisions and conditions appropriate to the project to be funded, including provisions addressing the following conditions:

Nondiscrimination - No assistance will be awarded to a grantee unless it certifies to the grantor that it shall not discriminate against any employee or against any person seeking employment because of race, religion, color, handicap, national origin, age, or sex. All contracts for work to be paid for with Local Share funds must contain the Commonwealth's official nondiscrimination clause.

Project Account - For record maintenance and audit purposes, all Local Share grant funds shall be deposited in a separate project account held at an FDIC insured financial institution, which account may be interest bearing or non-interest bearing, and must be maintained by the grantee to hold and disburse all project funds.

Project Records - The grantee must maintain full and accurate records with respect to the project. The Authority and its designees shall have access to such records, as well as the ability to inspect all project work, invoices, materials, and other relevant records at reasonable times and places.

Reporting/Audit - The grantee must submit a six-month and final close-out report on the use of the Local Share funds consistent with the grant agreement. Capital Projects/Construction Projects are subjected to additional reporting requirements due to the nature of their complexity. Administering and reporting requirements for these types of projects are provided under the "Capital Projects/Construction Projects" Reporting Requirements Checklist" attached to the 2017 Local Share Municipal Gaming Grant Criteria. Each Local Share grant may be subject to one or more audits after the year in which the grant was awarded, and grantees will be required to cooperate fully with those audits and provide all requested documentation in connection with those audits.

Bidding – Compliance with competitive bidding procedures will be required if the entity and the project to be funded are subject to statutory bidding procedures. If not, competitive bidding procedures may be required in awarding certain contracts for construction, reconstruction, demolition, alteration and/or repair, acquisition of machinery and equipment, and professional consultants.

Pre-Construction Meeting – For Capital Projects/Construction Projects, the grantee must hold a Pre-construction meeting prior to the release of grant funds. The Authority and its designees shall be invited to attend such meeting.

Prevailing Wage - The Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act (43 P.S. § 165-1 et seq.; 34 Pa. Code § 9.101 et seq.) may be applicable to a project funded under this program. Prevailing Wage requirements are generally applicable to grants for construction, demolition, reconstruction, alteration, demolition, repair work, renovations, build-out and installation of machinery and equipment in excess of \$25,000.00 funded. If applicable, grantee is responsible for including prevailing wage rates in all bid documents, specifications, and construction contracts pertaining to the project. The Department of Labor and Industry has final authority to make all prevailing wage applicability determinations.

Titles/Deeds – Purchases involving titles, certificates of origin and deeds must be titled/deeded in the name of the municipality. Request for funding for purchases of police vehicle(s) are limited to purchases directly relating to active police uses, specifically investigative, detective or patrol use.

Matching Funds – Applicant should provide documentation relative to the availability of any matching funds, although the availability of any such funds shall not alone be the determination of a proposed project’s eligibility.

PROGRAM INQUIRIES

Program inquiries and electronic applications should be directed to:

Northampton County Gaming Revenue and Economic Redevelopment Authority
c/o Karen Collis

Northampton County Courthouse
669 Washington Street
Easton, PA 18042

Phone: (610) 829-6314

Fax: (610) 559-3775 fax

E-mail: kcollis@northamptoncounty.org