

For Federally-Aided Projects

UDAG Seeks Minority Owners

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

Federal officials say they favor projects which provide for minority business ownership and participation in awarding grants for the Urban Development Action Grants program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Church Yearly, a UDAG specialist in HUD's Atlanta regional office, said Friday, "We like to see a minority enterprise involved in some part of the ownership including their use in the construction as subcontractors. It's possible to do and can usually be worked out without great difficulty."

Yearly was speaking to a UDAG conference sponsored last weekend in Southern Pines by the N.C. Conference of Black Mayors and HUD. There, federal officials and other experts explained the application process and the criteria used in selecting grantees for what is being billed as the most successful federal grant program.

Urban Development Action Grants are given to cities which are able to design a project which will create jobs and boost the tax base through a joint public-private partnership. The government likes to see about four private dollars spent for every federal dollar used in the project. The three-year-old program is now funded for \$675 million yearly nationwide.

Wally May, an attorney in HUD's Washington UDAG office where grant decisions are actually made, said cities are coming up with innovative ways to promote minority participation.

In Kansas City, a proposal has been presented which makes a grant from the city to a minority-owned invest-

ment corporation which in turn makes a loan to the developers of a luxury hotel. The payback on the loan will go to the corporation for future investments. In Wichita, Kan., the actual developer is a minority business.

The HUD officials were peppered with questions from the mayors about how smaller cities can get in on the grant program. They were told that the department judges small cities in a different pool that large metropolitan areas during the four rounds of funding per year.

Proposals are also broken down into four categories: industrial, commercial, neighborhood/residential and "pocket of poverty." The latter allows cities which do not meet UDAG criteria for urban decay to apply on behalf of sections of the cities which do fall within those criteria. About 20 per cent of the funds in each quarter go to pocket of poverty cities.

Winston-Salem has made a request to HUD for a \$4 million UDAG grant to help build a \$20 million Radisson Hotel next to the Benton Convention Center. Among those who listened attentively were Winston-Salem Aldermen Larry D. Little, D-North, and Virginia K. Newell, D-East.

Both said they had come to Southern Pines to find out what UDAG was all about, feeling that they had only gotten sketchy information from city staff about the grant program during the three-day process during which the city's application was approved.

Yearly said the UDAG program, in three years, has promoted 200,000 new permanent jobs, 60,000 new housing units and \$150 million in new tax revenues. "It has leveraged \$6 of private financing for every \$1 in public money," he added.



Carter Promises Aid

President Jimmy Carter addresses a group of civil rights leaders, representatives from the United Negro College fund and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education and black college presidents in the Rose Garden of the White House recently. During the event the President signed an Executive Order which formalizes a program to increase participation by historically black colleges and universities in federally-sponsored programs.

Suspect Bound For Trial

A Winston-Salem man, who has been accused in the Russian roulette slaying of his cousin on Aug. 9, has been bound over to Forsyth Superior Court on a murder charge.

Ernest Rennard DuBose, 27, of 1307 Frazier St., was bound over Monday after District Court Judge William H. Freeman found probable cause to try him for the murder of 17-year old Keith R. Covington.

Witnesses testified that DuBose, Covington, and Covington's brother Wayne and other relatives were sitting in Wayne Covington's room when DuBose began playing with an empty .357 caliber Magnum pistol.

According to testimony, DuBose put a single .35 caliber bullet in the cylinder, spun it and pointed the gun at someone and pulled the trigger. The gun did not fire. Witnesses said that DuBose repeated the incident once again, before spinning the cylinder for a third time, which proved fatal to Covington.

The teenager died of a single gunshot wound to the head, but, according to the witnesses, when the pistol fired and he fell to the floor, DuBose tried to revive his cousin with mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Freeman complied with DuBose's attorney's request to lower his client's bond from \$20,000 to \$10,000.

No evidence of premeditation or malice was presented in the testimony but Freeman did find reckless behavior as the reason for the death of Covington.

In other criminal matters, Winston-Salem police have arrested Nathaniel Simpkins in connection with the shooting death of Jimmy Lee Jefferson, 43, of 1127 N. Cameron Ave. Sunday.

Ms. Jefferson was found dead at her home after neighbors heard the couple, who had been dating each other for several years and who were living together, arguing.

Simpkins, 48, is being held in Forsyth County jail. His probable cause hearing is scheduled for Sept. 2, in Forsyth District court.

Five Cops Resign

juana charges, but had resigned because he felt his credibility in the department had been shot, because of the second investigation.

He said that unknown complainants had alleged that he and other members of the police department had used marijuana.

Chronicle sources had stated that Powell's investigations had also stemmed from charges in connection with the case involving a former police officer, Steve Merle Newsom, who was tried last year on charges of armed robbery.

Newsom was charged with robbing a customer of First Union National Bank on Peters Creek Parkway as he was making a night deposit.

Newsom pleaded guilty to a lesser charge and during the trial Lyons testified that the gun found at the scene of the

robbery was his.

Rumors had also, linked Lyons with the secretary of the former Hollingsworth Toyota franchise who last year embezzled a large sum of money from the company. No charges were ever filed against Lyons however.

Powell told reporters that not all of the five officers were being investigated on the same charges and that some of the alleged acts of misconduct had taken place before he became chief in April of this year.

"The allegations indicate significant employee misconduct in violation of the police department's rules of conduct," Powell said adding, "The District Attorney's office will be kept informed on any portion of the investigation that might warrant criminal prosecution."

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300 Drivers Attend Session

More than 300 school bus licensed bus drivers. Morris Hastings, director of transportation for the school system, said, "Over four million miles will be travelled by Forsyth County School buses in the coming 10 months, carrying over

28,000 students. Our drivers must be defensive drivers but most of all safe drivers."

Each driver went to five classes. The classes were: first aid; discipline techniques & administrative regulations; school bus stop law & accident procedures; mechanical; and accidents.

These classes were geared to instruct bus drivers of their coming responsibilities and correct ways to handle the responsibilities. The workshop was a full pay day for each driver.

Charles Wesley, the Methodist, wrote 6500 hymns.

Airman Enlists

Ivan R. Richardson, son of Mrs. Mae Jones, of 5409 Main Street, Walkertown, has enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.

Airman Richardson, a 1980 graduate of East For-

syth High School, joined under the Air Force's Delayed Enlistment Program (DEP), which allows him to accumulate time in the Air Force Reserve until he enters active duty on Nov. 28, 1980.

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