

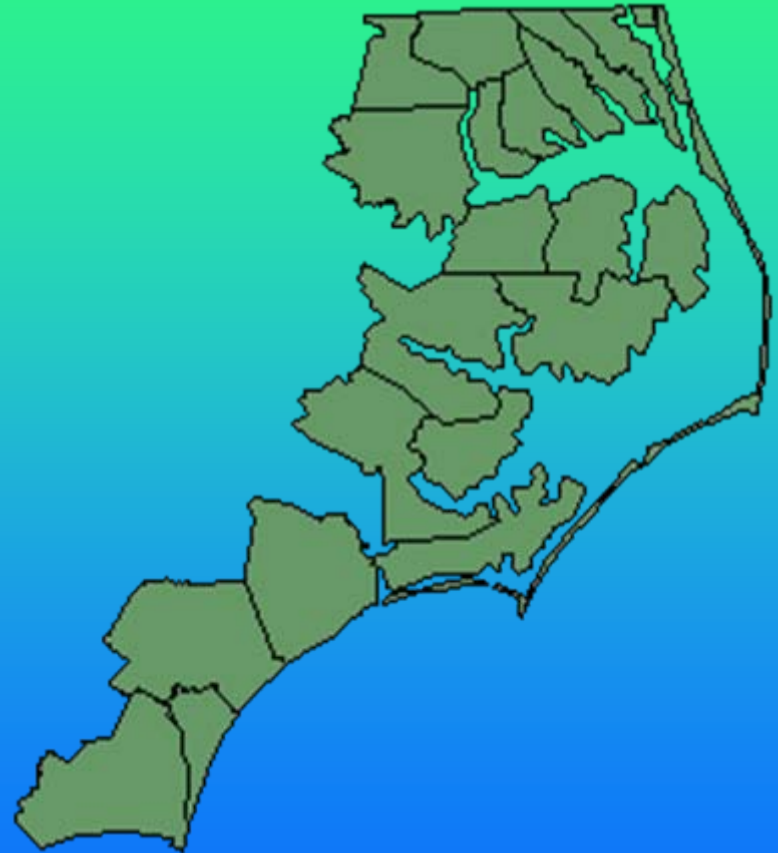
North Carolina's
Coastal Management Program
Beach & Estuarine Access Grants
Do's & Don'ts

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20 CAMA Counties

- Beaufort
- Hertford
- Bertie
- Hyde
- Brunswick
- New Hanover
- Camden
- Onslow
- Carteret
- Pamlico
- Chowan
- Pasquotank
- Craven
- Pender
- Currituck
- Perquimans
- Dare
- Tyrrell
- Gates
- Washington



Funding/Grant Distribution

Historically up to \$ 4.7 million

About \$1.2 million avail for 2010



Presentation objective is to provide insights in:

- Understanding the process
- Preparation
- Making an application
- Pitfalls to avoid
- Other Issues



Understanding the Process

- Application process is annual with multi year contracts possible.
- Two step application process: a pre-app out in the Fall; and a final app by invitation out usually in Spring. Contracts start in late summer or early fall.
- Requires local cash match and that has very specific non-cash match guidelines.
- Proposal will require schedule and budget.
- Will include title or preliminary title report
- Requires local public meeting.



How Much Can Be Requested?

- Projects as low as \$4,000 have been funded.
- The largest single award has been \$800,000. (Expect 300k limit in 2010).
- There is no limit....however limited grant \$!
- Remember projects can be phased.
- **Separate** acquisition requests from improvements.
- Partnering w/other grants and agencies ?
- Who can apply? (Cities, Counties- other government agencies- not non-profits)



Preparation

Questions to ask:

- Ocean vs. Estuarine
- Local access needs? (beach nourishment?)
- Status of traditional or existing common access locations? Risk of losing access?
- Local receptivity towards adding or developing a site?
- How do local needs fit into funding priorities?
- Will timelines/budget work for community?



Application Process

- Communication with District Planner
- RFP process (application changes annually)
- Pre-application/Final Application
- Site plans and other graphics/ phasing
- Budget and cost estimates
- Relationship to local plans
- Involving Public
- Project schedule and permits



Types of Awards

- Acquisitions and leases
- Dune cross-over
- Parking
- Piers, docks and boardwalks
- Gazebos viewing decks
- Public restrooms/showers
- Interpretative Signs
- Piers, boat ramps and slips
- Handicap accessible facilities
- Bulkheads
- Repairs







Improvement Issues

- Easements
- Handicap accessibility
- Parking and adjacent commercial uses
- Designer facilities
- Maintenance vs. Repairs
- Streets, sidewalks, curb and gutter
- Utility extensions- overhead vs underground
- Non-CAMA access signs and \$
- Permits





Matching Cash/Non-cash Guidelines

- Land Acquisition: 15% (1/2 must be cash match). Financially distressed counties (Tier 1), and the municipalities located therein, is 10%.
- Site Improvements: Match is 25% (1/2 must be cash match).
- Tier 1 communities 10%.



Cash Match Guidelines

- Project description/budget breakdown
- Costs w/in Grant period
- Permit fees, engineering, administrative costs
- Pre-acquisition costs: title, surveying appraisals
- Professional fees (documented by invoice)
- Construction equipment (rental)
- Building materials
- Do not include *taxes* (exception out of state taxes)



Non-cash Match

- Donations of Land & Structure (w/in 5yrs)
- Leases (min. 25 year)
- FEMA buyout properties
- Pre-acquisition costs: title, surveying appraisals
- Professional fees (documented by invoice)
- Construction equipment (private vs. publicly owned)
- Building materials
- Local employee labor
- Prison labor and volunteer groups ?



Pitfalls to Avoid

- Not identifying assumptions associated with the project, especially costs.
- Not garnering local support for both making an application as well as funding it.
- Legal processes (variances-condemnation)
- Construction contracts & bills (mixing projects and documentation)



other **Pitfalls to Avoid**

- Not approving grant/contract by resolution.
- Not recording appropriate use conditions.
- Not periodically reviewing your contract conditions.
- Delaying construction bid process expecting second phase funding.
- Waiting to extend the contract till only a month left prior to expiration.
- Not consulting with your District Planner



Considerations Do's & Don'ts

- DCM does not review of construction contracts. *Separate out grant related costs and bills from other improvements.*
- Do not forget the permit process!
- Do not forget monitoring and documentation! *Grant will be monitored on a six month cycle basis and local cash match must be met prior to receiving grant funds.*
- Last minute extensions! Grant usually 18 months. (extensions-2 months process)
- Waiting too long-3 year rule!



Other Considerations

- May charge user fees as long as those fees are used exclusively for operation, maintenance, or provision of new public access. State can require biannual accounting reports for fees generated by CAMA-funded access sites.
- If land acquired or improved with access grant funds is sold or otherwise disposed of, the local government shall reimburse the State with an equal percentage of access grant funds, at current market value.



Other Considerations

- Reasonable use limitations
- Long term use and improvements & state
- Overhead utilities
- Joint Use agreements
- Operation and maintenance
- Storm events



Non CAMA signs & replacement of signs



Partnering w/other Grants

- Timing of grant applications & contracts deadlines
- Disclosing other grant efforts and conditions and understanding requirements (state-federal)
- Using same documentation different grants?
- Contract Amendments



Local governments in **Camden, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank** and **Perquimans** counties contact:

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Local governments in **Carteret, Craven, Onslow** (north of the New River) and **Pamlico** counties contact:

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Local governments in **Brunswick, New Hanover, Onslow** (south of the New River) and **Pender** counties contact:

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Local governments in **Beaufort, Bertie, Hertford, Hyde, Tyrrell** and **Washington** counties contact:

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A scenic photograph of a beach at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a vibrant orange and red glow that reflects on the wet sand. Several people are silhouetted against the bright sky, walking along the shoreline. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and a few birds are visible in flight. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

For More Information...

www.nccoastalmanagement.net