Additional $1.1 million earmarked for law enforcement housing

BISMARCK – The North Dakota Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA) has approved an additional $1.1 million to support new housing for local law enforcement personnel in western North Dakota.

“The Law Enforcement Pilot Program was created to address the challenge of providing affordable rental housing for law enforcement personnel in energy-impacted areas,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.

The Law Enforcement Pilot Program (LEPP) was funded with the state’s near-$3 million share of the Mortgage Servicer Settlement Fund, which originated from a landmark settlement reached with the nation’s five major mortgage servicers. This settlement involved 49 Attorney Generals, the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Stenehjem, with members of the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, asked NDHFA to develop LEPP.

“We are committed to facilitating greater development of affordable housing and that includes housing for essential service employees,” Gov. Jack Dalrymple said. “Supporting private-sector development of affordable housing is critical in the recruiting and retaining of law enforcement officers who serve our growing communities.”

“Protecting North Dakota’s citizens and keeping our roadways safe by having adequate law enforcement protection is our priority,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

In the most recent round of program funding, NDHFA received ten applications and reconsidered two applications from the June round. The agency approved the following:

- Crosby - $70,416 to Northwest Holdings, LLC, one unit.
- Killdeer - $192,400 to Prairie Gold Real Estate, LLC, two units.
- Minot - $188,914 to B&S Investments, LLC, two units.
- Ray - $83,145 to SW Design Build, one unit.
- Williston – $581,569 to Williams County, six units.

Previously selected projects are in Belfield, two units; Dickinson, eight units; Stanley, four units; and Watford City, eight units.

“NDHFA will continue to work with the commission members to address the need for law enforcement housing,” said Mike Anderson, NDHFA executive director.

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Gov. Jack Dalrymple, as chairman, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, oversees the NDHFA.

More information on LEPP is available online, www.ndhfa.org, or by contacting Jolene Kline or Bill Hourigan at (800) 292-8621 or (701) 328-8080.

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