

lane on Maple Drive and upgrade the existing intersection with sidewalks, new mast arms, and traffic signals. That project is in final design and is anticipated to go out to bid next spring.

Shenango Valley Bikeway Project – Mercer County Regional Council of Governments received funding to construct a bike path along existing roadways connecting five municipalities in the Shenango Valley. About 75% of the work is located in Hermitage. The project went out to bid last month and is scheduled to begin in August.

Highland Road – Phase I (Transportation Enhancement) – Sidewalk construction on both sides of Highland Road from Buhl Farm Drive to Kerrwood Drive is complete. PennDOT will request bids in November and begin construction in April for the Highland – Phase II Project. Phase II includes adding a third lane and construction of sidewalks on both sides of Highland Road from Kerrwood Drive to N. Hermitage Road.

Elm Street Funding - The City applied for Elm Street funds to install sidewalks on N. Buhl Farm Drive between E. State Street and Highland Road. If funding is received, the project will not begin until next year.

LindenPointe Trail Project –The City should receive the final requisition of funds within the next 6-8 weeks.

Training and Workforce Development Project – The City is waiting to receive the grant agreement. Originally this project was to be located in the same building as the Technology Center, but because of the funding sources will be located in a separate building. Information still has not been received on the Tech Center funding.

Approximately 50% of the marketing DVDs have been distributed. The City receives regular requests from realtors and employers for the DVDs. The City is working with Rongaus Advertising to capture significant events throughout the year to be incorporated when the DVD is updated. Mr. Coxe has made a number of changes on the website as recommended by the HCEDC at previous meetings.

On the recommendation of the Board of Commissioners, the City newsletter will focus on departments in the City. The newsletter being distributed this month focuses on Community Development. The newsletter will also feature two cover stories: an update on Avalon County Club and IRT at LindenPointe. The next newsletter is scheduled to go out in mid-September. The City receives regular requests from hospitals and employers to use the newsletter as promotional material in recruiting new employees.

B. Community & Economic Development and RLF Reports – May

The Revolving Loan Fund Repayment Reports were reviewed for May. All payments were current. For May the RLF program balance was \$176,186.94. Total available for loans based on projected repayments through the end of the year was \$214,348.35. The Landscape and Façade Improvement program balance was \$174,450.93. The total available for loans based on projected repayments through the end of the year was \$191,488.37.

A loan for \$120,000 for DCS Properties is scheduled to close July 18, 2008.

John Holliday moved to accept the RLF reports. Bob Cucitrone seconded the motion. All members approved.

C. Landscape & Façade RLF Application – Art & Frame Gallery

Margaret Test, owner of The Art & Frame Gallery, has submitted a request for a \$9,000 HCEDC loan to be used for building façade improvements (new siding, soffit, fascia & aluminum wrap windows). The term of the loan is for five years at 2.5% interest and there is a first lien position on the real estate along with a personal guarantee. The project has been reviewed by the Finance Sub-Committee and recommended for approval. John Holliday moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the loan for \$9,000. Angela Palumbo seconded the motion. All members approved.

John Holliday asked about posting a sign at the site of improvement projects stating that the project is being funded by the community. Upon discussion it was decided that the Board will be asked to make it part of the guidelines of the program to have a sign posted during construction.

Meg Grober moved to adjourn the meeting. Angela Palumbo seconded the motion. All members approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Gargiulo
Recording Secretary

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Pending Approval 8/7/08