



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES FUNDING TO CITY OF WHEATON

USDA Rural Development presented a Mock Check in the amount of \$15,600 to the City of Wheaton during a celebration on October 2, 2006. The community facility grant funds will be used to purchase a new police car. This will aid the city police to ensure residents in this community have the kind of police protection they deserve.

Mayor David Harris expressed his appreciation, "The City of Wheaton wishes to extend thanks to all those involved with obtaining the Community Facility Grant. The citizens depend on our police officers whether on patrol or responding to emergency and reliable equipment is important to the safety of both our officers and our community."

Clinton R. Cark, Chief of Police said, "The Wheaton Police Department wishes to thank our legislative team and USDA Rural Development for providing the funding for the purchase of our new police car. This will provide us with safe and dependable transportation, enabling officers to perform their duties in a dependable manner and allowing us to better serve the citizens of our community."

Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development said, "Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Roy Blunt for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project providing essential services for the community." Branum added, "This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission and President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities."

Anyone seeking more information about this or any other USDA Rural Development program may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Ron Thomas, Rural Development Manager, at 1900 S. Business Hwy 71, Neosho, MO 64850 or by calling (417) 451-1007 extension 4 or by email to ron.thomas@mo.usda.gov.

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Left to Right: Ron Thomas, Rural Development Manager; Marianne Witt, City Clerk; Jerry Finley, Rural Development Area Director; Stacy Burks, District Office Director for Senator Bond; Ethan Block, City Alderman; Clint Clark, Police Chief; Nancy Rosentreter City Alderwoman; David Shockley, City Alderman; Steve McIntosh, Field Representative for Congressman Blunt; Chris Stone, Field Representative for Senator Talent; Donnie Powell, Mayor Pro-Tem

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