



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kevin Hinkebein (573) 756-6413 Ext. 4

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS MOCK CHECK TO CITY OF ARCADIA

Greg Branum, the Missouri State Director of USDA Rural Development, presented the City of Arcadia with a \$5,521 Mock Check on Friday, November 3, 2006. The funds will be used to purchase and install an early warning siren.

U.S. Representative Emerson said, "Our public safety is of paramount importance in rural Missouri, and new early warning sirens are of critical importance. We have seen how our Southern Missouri neighbors have suffered at the hands of tornadoes and weather disasters, so this project for the City of Arcadia emphasizes our commitment to being prepared for these emergencies in the future. I very much appreciate USDA Rural Development for identifying this opportunity to invest in Arcadia, and I thank U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Jim Talent for their involvement and support."



(Left to Right) Cassie Thomas, State Representative Jo Ann Emerson's Office, Farmington; Donna Martin, USDA RD Area Specialist, Farmington; Terry Luetkemeyer, USDA RD Area Manager, Farmington; Mayor Roy Carr, City of Arcadia; Kevin Hinkebein, USDA RD Manager, Farmington; Greg Branum, USDA RD State Director.

"Rural Development is very proud to be able to assist communities in Iron County with these important projects," said Branum. "The City of Arcadia has made a strong commitment to provide quality service to its residents and these funds will enhance its ability to do so. Providing emergency warnings is a vital necessity for the safety of any community. Funding important projects like this by Rural Development mirrors President Bush's initiatives for rural America and Rural Development's commitment to the future of rural communities. He added, "Appreciation is also extended to U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents of providing essential services to rural Missourians."

"The City of Arcadia appreciates the grant for the early warning system and all the help and assistance provided by the USDA Rural Development in obtaining the funds for the much needed equipment. In light of the recent disasters, this will enable us to alert our residents of emergency situations", stated Mayor Roy Carr, City of Arcadia.

Anyone interested in obtaining assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact

Kevin Hinkebein, Rural Development Manager, at the Farmington Local Office of USDA Rural Development at 812 Progress Drive, Farmington, MO 63640 or by calling 573-756-6413, Ext. 4.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).