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Rural Development

NEWS RELEASE

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES CITY OF CRANE POLICE VEHICLE

Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development presented a Mock Check in the amount of \$18,435 to the City of Crane on Friday, May 2. The Rural Development Community Facilities Grant coupled with \$6,145 from the city will finance the new police patrol vehicle.

“The new police patrol vehicle that has been purchased with this funding will expand the resources available to emergency personnel and improve public safety for the residents of Crane,” said Senator Kit Bond. “Where the federal government can help make people safer, we should and that is what has happened here today. I commend the local leadership and the USDA Rural Development staff for their dedication and hard work to make this project a reality.”

“Law enforcement must be a priority. We need to make sure that first responders have the tools they need to make our communities safe for all citizens,” said U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill, a member of the Senate Agricultural Committee. “By providing funds to purchase a new police vehicle, this Rural Development grant will help ensure that first responders in Crane have the resources they need to keep their community safe.”

Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt said, “I am pleased the Department of Rural Development is working with local leaders in Crane to solve the local issues our communities are facing. A dependable, well equipped patrol car is essential to public safety. The USDA’s Department of Rural Development was created with the best interest of rural Americans in mind and this grant is only the latest example that they have remained true to their mission.”

Mayor Collin Brannon expressed his appreciation, “The City would like to thank Rural Development for the Community Facility (CF) Grant funds allowing us to purchase a much more



Left to Right holding the check: Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development; Steve McIntosh, Field Representative for U.S. Representative Roy Blunt; Stacy Burks, District Office Director for U.S. Senator Kit Bond; David Rauch, District Director for U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill

Back Row: Tim Rickabaugh, Rural Development Area Director; Andy Novinger, Shaffer & Hines, Inc. Engineer; Leah Estes, City Clerk; Jack Swearingen, Public Works; Max Edmondson, Public Works; Ronald Fearn, Alderman; Collin Brannon, Mayor; Jack Mustard, Alderman

reliable police vehicle. The vehicle shall provide safe and dependable transportation enabling us to perform our duties thus better serving the citizens of our rural community.”

Westfall said, “This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities.” Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Claire McCaskill plus U.S. Representative Roy Blunt for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project providing essential services for rural Missouri.”

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 Tim Rickabaugh, Area Director, at 688 S. State Hwy B, Suite 400, Springfield MO 65802, or by calling (417) 831-5246 extension 4 or by email to tim.rickabaugh@mo.usda.gov.

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