



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATES IN RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR THE CITY OF LOCKHART

Lockhart, Texas, October 14, 2004-- USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel, will participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the City of Lockhart officially opening the street to Lockhart's Industrial Park. The City of Lockhart received a \$150,000 grant through the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) program to construct the infrastructure in Lockhart Industrial Park II.

"We're happy for the residents of Lockhart and proud that Rural Development programs play a role in President Bush's plan to continue the growth of the economy," said Daniel. "This grant will help the surrounding areas to provide economic opportunities in Caldwell County."

Potential businesses in rural communities interested in the RBEG program must employ 50 or fewer new employees; have less than \$1 million in projected gross revenue; have or will utilize technological innovations or commercialize new products that can be produced or manufactured in rural areas; or have new processes that can be used in such production. Public bodies and not-for-profit entities including Federally recognized Indian Tribes located in rural areas or in communities under 50,000 population are eligible. Priority is given to applicants from communities of 25,000 or less.

For more information regarding this and other USDA Rural Development programs and eligibility requirements, contact the Seguin Local Office at 830-372-1043, Ext. 4.

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USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 and includes Business Programs, Housing Programs, and Community Programs. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's rural residents.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."

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