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Governor Announces Main Street Solutions Fund Grants

Statewide Program Supports Small Businesses, Jobs, Revitalization

RALEIGH – Gov. Bev Perdue announced today that eight communities will receive a total of \$1.95 million through the state’s Main Street Solutions Fund. The grants will assist planning agencies and small businesses with efforts to revitalize downtowns by creating jobs, funding infrastructure improvements, rehabilitating buildings and finding other growth opportunities.

“We know that some of the most creative and innovative economic development work is being done through small businesses and other economic partners in our downtown areas,” said Gov. Perdue. “Main Streets can be at the heart of North Carolina’s economic recovery with the right support and investment. For every \$1 invested by the state, an additional \$4.72 will be invested by the local community.”

The small businesses benefitted by the Main Street Solutions grants will create or retain a minimum of 233 permanent full-time and part-time jobs, in addition to 195 construction jobs, according to the grant applications.

Grant awardees and amounts are:

- Burlington, \$298,460;
- Henderson, \$299,004;
- Kings Mountain, \$185,000;
- La Grange, \$93,581;
- Morganton, \$271,455;
- Rocky Mount, \$202,500;
- Waynesville, \$300,000; and
- Wilson, \$300,000

More details of the project appear at the end of this release.

Gov. Perdue will visit three communities this week – Burlington, Morganton and Waynesville – to get a first-hand look at businesses that will benefit from the grants. She will also talk with business owners and local officials about the Main Street Solutions program.