

FISCAL YEAR 2009 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE -- REP. Michael Burgess (TX-26)

Must be completed and submitted NO LATER than COB March 7, 2008

Please submit completed questionnaire to josh.martin@mail.house.gov

PLEASE NOTE: ALL REQUESTS MUST INCLUDE A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST ON OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD EXPLAINING THE PROJECT. THIS QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD ACCOMPANY, NOT REPLACE, A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST AND ANY OTHER QUESTIONNAIRE

I. PROJECT BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

1. Please provide a formal name for this project:

ROSEDALE AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

2. Please describe the project and its purpose:

To purpose of this initiative is to fully renovate and revitalize a three-block area in an extremely economically devastated area that surrounds Texas Wesleyan University.

Texas Wesleyan University has developed a comprehensive revitalization plan that includes commercial and residential development, with park-like open spaces that will enhance the appearance and improve the safety of this three-block area and the Texas Wesleyan community. Texas Wesleyan will expand its boundaries for security and maintenance purposes to provide the neighborhood with a pleasant, safe place to live, work, attend school, and participate in cultural activities. The City of Fort Worth has designated this area of the city as a Neighborhood Empowerment Zone (NEZ) that signifies the city's desire to encourage rehabilitation and economic growth.

3. Please outline the project plan, including the finance plan:

**TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
ROSEDALE AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
2009 - 2010**

PROJECT BUDGET

A. HISTORIC DILLOW HOUSE RENOVATION

Asbestos Abatement	\$ 75,000
Renovation and code compliance	\$ 800,000
Technology and access/parking	<u>\$ 125,000</u>

	\$1,000,000
B. ADDITIONAL STUDENT HOUSING - FAMILY HOUSING (20 units)	
Architecture, fees, permits	\$ 150,000
Construction	\$2,400,000
Amenities and site work	<u>\$ 350,000</u>
	\$2,900,000
C. PARK CREATION, FENCING, OUTDOOR MEETING SPACES	
Construction	\$ 300,000
COMPLETE PROJECT	<u>\$4,200,000</u>

II. BENEFIT TO THE 26th DISTRICT AND/OR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Please explain how this project will improve life, the economy or the general welfare of the 26th District and/or the country at-large. Please be specific (i.e. outline number of jobs created, savings to economy or taxpayers, improve national security):

As Fort Worth has targeted full Polytechnic/Wesleyan neighborhood rehabilitation at around \$15 to \$20 million in scope, this second phase of development will continue the work begun through a fiscal year 2008 appropriation. **This Texas Wesleyan sponsored initiative is the driving force behind the greater community need, and is the lynchpin of the entire development plan.**

Texas Wesleyan University is prepared to continue its developmental work along Rosedale Avenue through further building renovation and construction. The first phase of this effort is currently underway through a partnership with the City of Fort Worth to renovate a historic building on Rosedale Street into a combination gallery, community center, coffee shop and meeting space. In addition, a University partnership with local inner-city developers will provide rehabilitation and economic development for a two-block area of vacant, derelict commercial buildings.

The second phase of the Rosedale Plan calls for renovation and re-construction of the historic Dillow House, long a part of Texas Wesleyan life through its history as classrooms, housing, offices, and an alumni center. The University will use this facility as the permanent house for its Business Incubation Center sponsored and supported by its School of Business, and also as a meeting place for alumni and community.

Additional funding will be used for student housing to be built along Rosedale, which will provide much needed housing for students and their families. Of particular need is housing for single parents who attend classes at the University. Currently the only on-campus housing is for single students, while there is a high percentage of needy students attending Texas Wesleyan who are married and/or have children. Currently these students are forced to live distances from school that force the students to commute via car or bus.

Funding will also be used to create, at the time of this construction, green spaces that will provide parks for the community and the University, and will allow for outdoor cultural activities and even classroom outdoor experiences. Adding to the security of this area, the University will create attractive fencing to help define the neighborhood borders and will provide security for this designated area through its on-campus security force.

2. Please explain why this project should be considered a priority:

It is critical that the Rosedale effort continue, not only to ensure the success of the initial development, but also to add to the critical mass of residences and community opportunities in the neighborhood. As this rehabilitation need is not new, and as Texas Wesleyan is recognized as the only viable economic engine in this area of the city, Texas Wesleyan has proven its willingness to be the driving force behind making these improvements.

III. REQUEST

1. Amount of money you are requesting:

\$4.2M

2. Agency from which you are requesting funds:

HUD

3. Account from which you are requesting funds:

Neighborhood Initiatives or EDI

IV. FUNDING HISTORY

1. What is the total project cost and can you provide a federal-state/local-other funding breakdown?

\$5.160M. \$4.2M federal and \$960K local. Additional funding expected to come from other private developers and donors.

2. Has the project ever received federal funds before? If so, please elaborate.

Yes, \$150,000 in FY08

3. Has the project received state, local or private funds before? If so, please elaborate.

The City of Fort Worth has made available up to \$960,000 in HUD funds that the City controls for this rehabilitation effort. Additionally, Texas Wesleyan University has received pledges from a foundation and a private donor totaling \$250,000 for the project. Between the City, the University, and a private developer, \$3.2 million is currently being spent on the first phase of the Rosedale Plan, with only \$150,000 of this Phase 1 total funded through a FY08 federal earmark.

4. Can you demonstrate a commitment for future funds from state, local, or private sectors? If so, please elaborate to the extent possible.

Yes, the Texas Wesleyan, the City of Fort Worth and private developers are committed to the full redevelopment of the Polytechnic/Wesleyan Neighborhood.

5. How do you intend to spend federal funds for this project (operating, construction, studies, equipment purchase, salaries, other)?

Please see budget above.

6. Does the project request stem from a currently-funded federal program (i.e., an already existing congressional authorization)? If so, please explain and be as specific as possible.

Yes, the HUD/EDI program.

V. PROJECT HISTORY

1. Please briefly explain the level of support for the project in the local and any other community (if letters of support exist, please attach to this form).

The City of Fort Worth supports this project. See attached support letter from Mayor Moncrief. Texas Wesleyan has received support from a local foundation and a private donor. Private developers are investing in this project as well.

2. Has the project encountered any objections within the local or other interested communities? If so, please describe (if letters or official records exist noting objections to the project, please attach to this form).

No.

3. Please briefly explain the current stage and expected timeline of the project in a great a detail as possible.

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The University has also recently cleared ground to prepare for the creation of additional student housing that is specifically identified for married students and students with children. As there are only six such apartment units available proximate to the campus, there is a severe inability of the University and the neighborhood to provide this critical need.

VI. CONTACTS

1. Who is the primary point of contact for the request?

Deborah J. Roark
Director of Grants & Research

2. Contact information (telephone and e-mail):

droark@txwes.edu
Office: 817-531-6521 Fax: 817-531-7507
Cell: 682-429-7561

3. Mailing address of entity that would receive the funding?

Texas Wesleyan University
1201 Wesleyan St.
Fort Worth, TX. 76105

VII. TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

1. How much of this request can be spent in fiscal year 2009?

2. If this is a highway, transit, rail, or aviation request, did you check eligibility with the state DOT, FTA, FRA, or FAA?
 - 2a. If yes, did the agency indicate the project is eligible under the account requested?

3. If this is an FHWA request, is the project considered by the state and/or regional transportation officials as critical to their needs?

4. If a highway request, is the project on the state's transportation improvement plan?

PRIORITY PROJECT REQUEST CRITERIA

CERTIFICATION:

I, Dr. Harold G. Jeffcoat, ATTEST THAT THIS PROJECT REQUEST MADE ON BEHALF OF Texas Wesleyan University MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. All appropriations requests must be a priority for the 26th District and/or the country-at large as defined as enhancing life, liberty, or the general welfare.
2. All requests must be a proper and wise use of federal taxpayer dollars and must be justified as such. Projects that include a commitment to match federal funds will receive priority consideration.
3. All requests will be immediately posted on the website and supporting documentation made available to press outlets and interested individuals.
4. None of the funding requested will be used for a building, program, or project that has been named for Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D. No request will be made that Congressman Burgess or his spouse has any financial interest.
5. All requests shall be made in accordance with House of Representatives rules, and within Appropriations Committee deadlines. No funding request will be submitted after the deadline established by the Committee

Name of person certifying **Dr. Harold G. Jeffcoat**

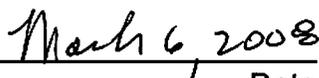
Title of person certifying **President**

Project name as it will appear in the bill **ROSEDALE AVENUE REDEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE**

Legal name of entity making request **Texas Wesleyan Wesleyan**

Address **1201 Wesleyan St., Fort Worth, TX 76105**


Signature


Date



June 21, 2007

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Office of Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

It is my understanding that Texas Wesleyan University (TWU) has presented your office with their federal initiatives for the Rosedale Avenue Redevelopment Initiative. I would like to express my support for this initiative and encourage you to do all that you can to include funding for it in Fiscal Year 2008.

The neighborhood surrounding our local university has suffered from over 50 years of decline, and, unfortunately, all past attempts for businesses to prosper in this area have met with great difficulty. Private investment in the area has struggled greatly to succeed. Apart from the obvious economic impact of having a lack of business opportunity and vitality in the neighborhood, the existence of empty, deteriorating and dangerous buildings has a direct, negative impact on enrollment and student life at the University and provides an unsafe environment for students.

To help remedy this situation, TWU has developed a comprehensive revitalization plan that includes the Rosedale Avenue Redevelopment Initiative. Specifically, this important initiative will fully renovate and revitalize the three-block area that surrounds the university by replacing the current buildings on Rosedale Avenue with attractive commercial buildings and open spaces. This will greatly improve the safety of this area and will enhance the entire Texas Wesleyan community.

As Mayor of Fort Worth, I am grateful for the many educational programs, workforce training programs and other graduate educational programs that TWU provides. The university plays a vital role in the economic development of our area and this initiative is another critical link in their efforts to help our community.

The Rosedale Avenue Redevelopment Initiative is a very important piece of our overall community effort to revitalize this economically challenged area. Every challenge

MIKE MONCRIEF, MAYOR

THE CITY OF FORT WORTH • 1000 THROCKMORTON STREET • FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102
817-392-6118 • FAX 817-392-2409

creates an opportunity. As a result, I urge you to give our community this opportunity and to support this important initiative as Congress begins its work on the Transportation, Treasury and HUD Appropriations Bill for this year.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and for all you do for Fort Worth and for our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Moncrief". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mike Moncrief
Mayor