

**CITY OF GAUTIER
MEMORANDUM**

To: Samantha Abell, City Manager
From: Patty Huffman, Grants and Projects Manager
Through: Dennis Reeves, Public Works Director
Date: March 7, 2012
Subject: 2012 MDOT Urban Youth Corps Grant Application

REQUEST:

The Public Works Department requests authorization to submit a grant application to the Mississippi Department of Transportation for the 2012 Urban Youth Corps Program.

BACKGROUND:

The Transportation Enhancement Urban Youth Corps Program is a youth employment and training service program, established to: (1) offer meaningful full-time or productive summer work for individuals between the ages of 16 and 25 in transportation-related settings; (2) give the participants a mix of work experience and on-the-job training that includes a minimum of 10% of the participants' time for basic life skills, education, training, safety, etc.; and (3) provide the youths with an opportunity to develop citizenship values and skills through service to their communities and the State of Mississippi. Approximately eight youths will be hired to work ten weeks during the summer to beautify the City's corridors, main thoroughfares and gateways to the City. The City will be reimbursed up to \$35,000 for the project and will provide at least 20% in matching funds and/or in-kind payment through administrative and supervisory costs.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Gautier was previously awarded the 2011 Urban Youth Corps grant and employed seven youths for the summer of 2011. The participants provided valuable service to the Public Works Department and received weekly trainings including life skills training, landscape design, safety training, and leadership development.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Public Works staff recommends that City Council authorize submission of a 2012 Urban Youth Corps grant application to the Mississippi Department of Transportation.

The City Council may:

1. Authorize an MDOT grant application for the 2012 Urban Youth Corps grant prior to the March 30, 2012 deadline.
2. Disapprove the proposed request.

ATTACHMENT(S):

N/A