

**CITY OF GAUTIER
MEMORANDUM**

To: Samantha Abell, City Manager
From: Patty Huffman, Grants and Projects Manager
Through: Eric Meyer, Director of Economic Development and Planning
Date: December 11, 2012
Subject: Request to submit application for Mississippi Development Authority Creative Economy Grant

REQUEST:

The Economic Development and Planning Department requests City Council authorization for the submission of an application to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) for a Creative Economy Grant for the creation of custom banners for the light poles on Highway 90.

BACKGROUND:

The MDA funds have been made available to assist communities in adding creative economy activities to their long range growth plans/strategic plans and to strengthen the local creative economy environment. Grants up to \$10,000 are available with a required 50/50 cash or in-kind match. Sixty-seven (67) light poles with banner arms have been installed along Highway 90 through the Streetscape Project. In March 2011, a Streetscape Banner Contest was conducted by the City of Gautier and Gautier Pride. Winners included artists from MGCC and one from Pascagoula High School. The winning seasonal banners will be used as the artwork for the custom designed light pole banners.

DISCUSSION:

A grant application will be submitted for \$10,000 for the creation of seasonal banners. Local donation(s) will be used for the match requirement.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Economic Development and Planning Department staff recommends that City Council authorize submission of the application for the Creative Economy grant funding. City Council may:

1. Authorize submission of a \$10,000 Creative Economy grant application as described above; or
2. Disapprove submission of the grant application as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

N/A