

Amazing Grants, Inc.
P.O. Box 717
104 E. Gilmer Street
Big Sandy, TX 75755
Phone: 903-636-5500
Fax: 903-636-4276



AMAZING GRANTS, INC.

March 20, 2018

The Honorable LeeAnn Jones
Panola County Judge
110 S. Sycamore, Room 216 A
Carthage, TX 75633

RE: 2016 TxCDBG CONTRACT NO. 7216360

Dear Judge Jones:

As we have discussed, GrantWorks, Inc., is purchasing certain assets of my firm, Amazing Grants, Inc. The County previously executed an agreement with Amazing Grants for Professional Management ("Agreement") for the above referenced TxCDBG project. In order to complete the transaction between Amazing Grants and GrantWorks, I request that the County approve assignment of Amazing Grants' interest in the Agreement to GrantWorks so they may provide the required professional management services to you.

The "assignability clause" of my contract with your County must be invoked in order to accomplish this. The text of the clause appears here for your reference:

6. ASSIGNABILITY

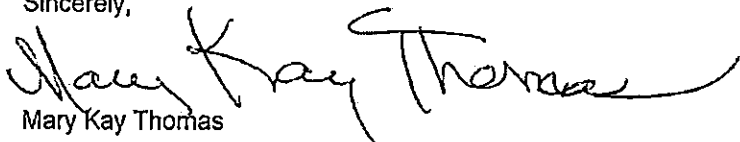
The Firm [Amazing Grants, Inc.] shall not assign any interest on this Agreement, and shall not transfer any interest in the same (whether by assignment or novation), without the prior written consent of the Locality thereto; Provided, however, that claims for money by the Firm from the Locality under this Agreement may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution without such approval. Written notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the Locality.

I am requesting that the County grant this permission so that I can assign the balance of the Agreement's scope of work and payments to GrantWorks. If the assignment is approved by the County, future payments for services rendered under the original contract between the County and Amazing Grants would be made directly to GrantWorks and all future invoices under this contract will come to you directly from GrantWorks. To consent to this assignment, please sign the enclosed document and mail it to me at the following address:

Mary Kay Thomas
c/o GrantWorks, Inc.
2201 Northland Drive
Austin, TX 78756

I appreciate your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. You may also call Eric Hartzell, Executive Vice President of GrantWorks at 512-420-0303. Once again, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Mary Kay Thomas

cc: GrantWorks, Inc.

PERMISSION TO ASSIGN INTEREST

The County of Panola understands that GrantWorks, Inc. is purchasing certain assets of Amazing Grants, Inc. and that GrantWorks desires to provide Professional Management services to the County through the assignment of the Professional Management Agreement ("Agreement") previously executed between the County and Amazing Grants for the County's 2016 TxCDBG CONTRACT NO. 7216360. Amazing Grants desires to assign its interest in the Agreement to GrantWorks in accordance with Part IV, Section 6 of the Agreement. The County grants permission to Amazing Grants and its representative, Mary Kay Thomas, President, to assign all of Amazing Grants, Inc.'s interest in the Agreement to GrantWorks, Inc., including but not limited to all duties, obligations, conditions, and payments contained in the Agreement.



LeeAnn Jones, County Judge

March 20, 2018

Date

Please mail this completed form to:

Mary Kay Thomas
c/o GrantWorks, Inc.
2201 Northland Drive
Austin, TX 78756



[\(http://www.grantworks.net/\)](http://www.grantworks.net/)

TELEPHONE: (512) 420-0303 | FAX: (512) 420-0302

[Home \(http://www.grantworks.net/\)](http://www.grantworks.net/)

[About Us ▾ \(http://www.grantworks.net/about-us/\)](http://www.grantworks.net/about-us/)

[Programs ▾](#)

[Contact \(http://www.grantworks.net/contact/\)](http://www.grantworks.net/contact/)

HISTORY

GrantWorks has roots in Texas and the Gulf Coast extending back to the mid-1970s. The firm's founder and president, Bruce J. Spitzengel, worked for the Cities of Pasadena and Texas City as a Planner and Community Development Director before founding the consulting business in La Porte, Texas, in 1979.

For the first 15 years the firm primarily focused on administration of **Community Development Block Grants** under the Texas State small-cities program. This program provides grant assistance to local governments for infrastructure (community-development) and comprehensive planning (planning).

The CDBG program has been in at least five agencies since we began working with the program moving to the Texas Department of Agriculture in 2011.

GrantWorks began securing and managing **Texas HOME Program (/housing/)** awards for our local government clients in the early 1990s, quickly becoming the main provider of services throughout the state. We primarily work with the Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction activity. During the past 20 years GrantWorks has secured more than **\$150,000,000 in HOME funding more than 400 separate contracts** for our clients, which include local governments and several non-profit groups. The total number of housing units we have assisted is greater than 3,000.

Bruce opened an office in Austin in 1995, which gradually grew to become the corporate headquarters location. The current main office building on Northland Drive was purchased in 2004, allowing us to consolidate our operations which were then in several buildings. As we continued to grow throughout the 1990s and 2000s we added additional offices around Texas to serve our 250 local government clients.

GrantWorks was the first consulting firm to work with the **General Land Office's Coastal Management Program (1998)** and has been active in the Coastal Infrastructure Assistance Program since its inception. We were among the first to secure and manage various **TxDOT** programs including ICE-TEA, TEA-21, Safe Routes to School, and SAFETEA-LU, **Texas Parks and Wildlife** Open Space Master Planning, Small Parks, Large Parks, and Indoor Recreation, and the **State Energy Conservation Office's** Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants.

Currently the firm is active in the **Hurricanes Ike/Dolly Disaster Recovery** program managed by the General Land Office and looks forward to continually improving the services we deliver to local governments.

USEFUL LINKS

 <http://texasrebuilds.org/>
 <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/>
 <https://texas.gov/>

 <http://texasagriculture.gov/>
 <https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/seco/>
 <http://engineers.texas.gov/>

 <https://tpwd.texas.gov/>
 <https://www.tml.org/>
 <https://arcit.org/>

 <http://www.txdot.gov/>

GrantWorks

Planning, Housing, and
Community Development
Services for Texas since 1979

ABOUT US

- [History \(/about-us/history/\)](#)
- [Staff \(/about-us/staff/\)](#)
- [In the News \(/about-us/in-the-news/\)](#)

PROGRAMS

- [Disaster Recovery \(/disaster-recovery/\)](#)
- [Community Development \(/community-development/\)](#)
- [Planning \(/planning/\)](#)
- [Housing \(/housing/\)](#)


CONTACT US




(<http://www.grantworks.net/>)

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The GrantWorks Community Development Department implements grant funded projects that help Texas towns make needed improvements to their communities. Our services cover a range of project types including infrastructure improvements, disaster relief, coastal management, parks, and economic development.

We assist you throughout the grant process by providing personalized service – from obtaining funding to construction completion.

We manage a variety of projects from agencies including the General Land Office, Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas Water Development Board, and Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Grant Applications

GrantWorks has among the most experienced grant writers in Texas, with over \$850 million in secured funding from a variety of programs. We provide step-by-step instructions for each and every grant applicant, making sure all questions are answered, documents completed, and deadlines met.

Our application writers are backed by a deep bench of specialists in door to door surveys, beneficiary documentation, GIS, planning, housing, environmental review, and city management, resources our competitors lack.

Grant Implementation

Our Community Development team, the largest and most comprehensive in the state, is recognized for providing excellent service, a collaborative approach to project management, and timely project completion. Our team of fourteen TxCDBG certified project managers provide personalized service throughout project implementation. Our current staff has implemented infrastructure improvements projects totaling more than \$500million. They are supported by a team of in-house specialists who provide expertise in income survey, environmental review, labor standards, procurement, federal and state regulations and client services.

Grant Programs

The Texas Community Development Block Grant Program uses federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to provide a variety of assistance to smaller communities. This program is administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Affairs..

GrantWorks has worked with TxCDBG funds since the program began in 1983.

TxCDBG has several funding categories, each of which has its own purposes and requirements.

Community Development Fund

This fund distributes the majority of TxCDBG grants. Funds are awarded once every two years through 24 regional competitions for assistance to eligible cities and counties to address public facilities and housing needs. Eligible activities include infrastructure projects such as sewer and water system improvements, street, bridge, and drainage improvements, and housing rehabilitation. Project beneficiaries must be 51 percent low and moderate income. Grants range from \$100,000 to more than \$500,000, depending on the region. Matching funds are typically required.

Disaster Recovery Fund

This fund was created by a special grant to Texas from Congress following the major hurricanes in 2008 and is managed by the Texas General Land Office. For more information, please visit our [Disaster Recovery page \(/disaster-recovery\)](#).

Colonia Fund

The Colonia fund is available for counties to assist identifiable unincorporated communities that are located within 150 miles of the Texas-Mexico border ("colonias"), but outside the San Antonio Metropolitan Area. Sub-funds include the Construction Fund (primarily first-time water and sewer improvements) with grants up to \$500,000; and the Planning Fund with grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

Disaster Relief Fund

Disaster Relief funds are also available on a first come, first served basis to provide assistance for restoration of public infrastructure damaged by natural disasters, such as flooding. Funds are available to provide the 25% local share for FEMA Public Assistance and USDA Natural Resource Conservation grants and to provide up to \$350,000 to address Governor-declared disasters.

Texas Capital Fund

GrantWorks has worked with Texas Capital Fund projects since 1990, and has successfully funded and administered more projects than any other firm in the state. The Texas Capital Fund offers four programs that encourage economic development.

Main Street Improvements

The Main Street Improvements Program is designed to foster and stimulate economic development in the downtown area by providing financial assistance to non-entitlement cities for public infrastructure improvements. Only a city designated as an official Texas Main Street city by the Texas Historical Commission may submit an application for proposed improvements. The improvements must directly support the revitalization of the city's designated main street area.

Downtown Revitalization Program

The Downtown Revitalization Improvements Program is designed to foster and stimulate economic development in the downtown area by providing financial assistance to non-entitlement cities for public infrastructure improvements. This program aids in the elimination of slum or blighted areas in non-entitlement communities.

Real Estate Development

The Real Estate Development Program is an economic development tool designed to provide financial resources to non-entitlement cities and counties. Funds must be used for real estate development to assist a business that commits to create and/or retain permanent jobs, primarily for low and moderate-income persons. The real estate and/or improvements must be owned by the community and leased to the business. This program encourages new business development and expansions.

Infrastructure Development

The Infrastructure Development Program is an economic development tool designed to provide financial resources to non-entitlement communities. Funds from this program can be utilized for public infrastructure needed to assist a business that commits to create and/or retain permanent jobs, primarily for low and moderate-income persons. This program also encourages new business development and expansions.

See our [staff page \(/about-us/staff\)](/about-us/staff) to learn more about our specialists.

USEFUL LINKS

CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PARTIES

FORM 1295

1 of 1

Complete Nos. 1 - 4 and 6 if there are interested parties.
Complete Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 if there are no interested parties.

OFFICE USE ONLY CERTIFICATION OF FILING

1 Name of business entity filing form, and the city, state and country of the business entity's place of business.
GrantWorks, Inc.
Austin, TX United States

Certificate Number:
2018-325802

Date Filed:
03/14/2018

Date Acknowledged:

2 Name of governmental entity or state agency that is a party to the contract for which the form is being filed.
Panola County

3 Provide the identification number used by the governmental entity or state agency to track or identify the contract, and provide a description of the services, goods, or other property to be provided under the contract.

7216360
Grant application administration and implementation

4	Name of Interested Party	City, State, Country (place of business)	Nature of interest (check applicable)	
			Controlling	Intermediary
	Spitzengel, Bruce	Austin, TX United States	X	

5 Check only if there is NO Interested Party.


6 UNSWORN DECLARATION

My name is Brenna Minor and my date of birth is 3/25/84

My address is 2201 Northland Dr. Austin TX 78750 US
(street) (city) (state) (zip code) (country)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed in Travis County, State of Texas, on the 14th day of March, 2018.
(month) (year)



Signature of authorized agent of contracting business entity
(Declarant)