

EXHIBIT A

MARTIN COUNTY TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND PROGRAM OUTLINE

The Martin County Board of County Commissioners has created the Martin County Tangible Personal Property Grant (TPPG) Program as a discretionary tool for the retention and attraction of business investment within the County's Primary Urban Service District boundary as well as the incorporated areas of Martin County (hereinafter "Program Area"). This program is intended to encourage businesses to remain, locate or expand within the Program Area. It is not an entitlement grant program. The program is established in order to provide the Board of County Commissioners the opportunity, at its sole discretion, to provide an incentive to induce retention, expansion and new location of business operations within the Program Area. An agreement for the TPPG program must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners prior to the granting of funds under the program. The agreement will set forth the tangible personal property tax paid by the business identified by parcel identification code; will set forth the portion of such tax received by the County; set a fixed millage rate which will be applied to the property value to determine the grant amount; and set forth the length of the agreement. The foregoing instructions detail the requirements of the Program and the Application for qualifying businesses to seek the incentive.

Scope of the TPP program

Under the TPPG program, the owner of a qualifying business site pays the tax through the ad valorem assessment process to the Tax Collector, then, upon receipt of its portion of such payment, Martin County agrees to pay a grant to the business from the County's general fund. The amount of such grant payment is dependent upon the amount of tangible personal property tax received by the Board of County Commissioners and the terms of the grant agreement with the business. The TPPG program grant is limited to a portion of the total County ad valorem millage and does not include the ad valorem levies of other municipal governments or taxing authorities, such as the Village of Indiantown, Martin County School District, the South Florida Water Management District or Florida Inland Navigation District.

Minimum Applicability and Criteria

1. The business site must be located within the boundaries of the Program Area.
2. The business must maintain a substantial taxable value of tangible personal property on the business site as contained on the Martin County tangible personal property ad valorem tax roll and as reported on Tangible Personal Property (TPP) form DR-405. The

value of the tangible personal property shall be determined on a yearly basis by the Martin County Property Appraiser pursuant to Florida Law.

3. The grant amount shall be determined by multiplying the negotiated lower millage rate and the total value of the business's TPP for the applicable parcel identification number and subtracting that amount from the total amount of TPP taxes levied by the total County millage for the applicable parcel identification number. The negotiated fixed millage rate will be set forth in the terms of the agreement.
4. Grant payments will be made each year only after the applicable tangible personal property tax bill has been paid for the appropriate year (January 1 to December 31) and funds have been received from the Tax Collector by the Board of County Commissioners. The grant funds will be paid by the County to the business within sixty (60) days of receipt by County of such taxes from the Tax Collector.
5. Assuming eligibility each year, the TPPG may be awarded for a period to be determined by the Board of County Commissioners. The agreement may be extended, upon a complete re-evaluation of all factors, including the fixed millage rate, upon approval of the Board of County Commissioners.
6. The agreement may not be transferred or assigned.

County Administrator and Board of County Commissioners Review

If the County Administrator finds that the applicant meets the requirements provided herein for the TPPG program, the County Administrator may authorize the TPP program agreement to be presented to the Board of County Commissioners. **Because this program is not an entitlement program, the Board of County Commissioners may accept or reject the request without cause.**

Application

Any Applicant seeking to participate in the TPPG program shall file a request with the County Administrator. Any request for TPPG program assistance must be submitted to the County by the Applicant prior to the Applicant deciding whether or not to remain, expand or locate in the Program Area (inducement of decision).

Application Assistance

The Business Development Board of Martin County will assist applicants with the application process prior to submission to the County Administrator.