



AMERICAN
SOCIETY OF
LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTS

LANDonline


landscape architecture news digest

[ASLA Home](#) | [Member Page](#) | [Products & Services](#) | [News Room & Publications](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Government Affairs](#)

2005 ASLA/Garden Design Residential Design Award of Excellence:

Stone Meadow, Martha's Vineyard, MA

by Stephen Stimson Associates,
Falmouth, MA

[view project](#) 

[Land Online Home](#)

More Articles

[Honors and Medals Deadline is Friday,
March 3](#)

[Auburn Student ASLA Chapter
Contributes to Green Roof Campaign](#)

[Green Roof Progress Photo Gallery](#)

[April 2006 is National Landscape
Architecture Month](#)

[McGraw Hill's Norbert Young Bullish on
U.S. Construction Industry](#)

[Exclusive Interview: Norbert Young on
the Economic Future of the Construction
Industry](#)

[Residential Landscape Architecture
Services Reaching New Heights](#)

[Bureau of Labor Statistics Predicts
Strong Growth for Landscape Architects](#)

Land Matters

[CLARB Releases Dates for LARE](#)

[AAF, AIA Put the Accent on
Architecture](#)

[2006 ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO
and 43rd IFLA World Congress October
6-9, 2006, Minneapolis, Minnesota](#)

[Preparing for Lobby Day 2006](#)

February 21, 2006

People

North Carolina Office of Urban Development Director **Rodney Swink, FASLA, ASLA past-president**, was presented with a special award during the North Carolina Main Street Annual Awards Dinner in appreciation of more than two decades of service to the state's downtowns. In presenting the award, North Carolina Division of Community Assistance Director Gloria Nance-Sims praised Swink "for his tireless efforts to further the cause of downtown revitalization across the state for more than 20 years – and we hope many years to come."

Since 1984, Swink has served as director of NC Main Street, a downtown revitalization program for smaller towns based on economic development within the context of historic preservation. In 1980, North Carolina was one of six original states selected to launch the work of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Main Street Center. The North Carolina Main Street Program provides technical assistance to its communities; it is part of the Office of Urban Development in the Department of Commerce's Division of Community Assistance.

NC Brownfields Program

Workshop Presentations

Follow Up From N.C. Brownfields Workshop for Developers and Local Governments - April 1, 2004

U.S. EPA Region 4: Federal Brownfields Program and Grants Overview - Beverly Williams and Wanda Jennings (morning session)

N.C. Brownfields Program Overview - Bruce Nicholson, N.C. Brownfields Program

Public/Private Sector Partnering - Developers Involvement in Process - Jerry Deakle & Brian Goray, Cherokee Investment Partners

U.S. EPA Region 4: Regional Information Session - Beverly Williams and Wanda Jennings (afternoon breakout session)

Regional Brownfields Initiative - Ron Townley, Land of Sky Regional Council

Brownfields Tax Incentives - Daphne Olszewski, N.C. Brownfields Program

North Carolina Office of Urban Development - Rodney Swink, Department of Commerce

Brownfields Development, a Lender's Perspective - Jane Bolin, Wachovia Bank

Institutional Controls as a Component of NC's Brownfields Program - Rob Gelblum, Department of Justice

[VIEW WORKSHOP PHOTOS »](#)

Thanks to our distinguished speakers, panelists and attendees for making the event such a success.



North Carolina Office of Urban Development

NC Main Street Program
Small Towns Downtown Program
Urban Redevelopment Grant Program



Urban Redevelopment Grant

- ➔ Initiated in 2003 from unspent CDBG Economic Development funds
- ➔ Intent: “Urban Redevelopment Grants will be made to foster economic development in blighted urban areas. Grants will be made to alleviate blighting conditions where these improvements will directly attract private investment to the area.”
- ➔ Limited to “Small Cities CDBG eligible communities.”

URG continued

- ⇒ CDBG funds use must meet a “national objective” which includes addressing conditions of slum and blight or providing benefits to low to moderate income (LMI) individuals.
- ⇒ Urban redevelopment projects must take place within a “redevelopment area” as defined under NC law. (NC General Statute 160A-503(16))
- ⇒ Grants up to \$1.0 million are possible



Project activities may include

- ⇒ Acquisition and clearance of blighted properties;
- ⇒ Reconstruction of public facilities if the deterioration of the facilities was one of the conditions contributing to blight;
- ⇒ Renovation and reuse of abandoned, historic buildings;
- ⇒ Commercial revitalization through façade improvements and correction of code violations;
- ⇒ Removal or remediation of environmental contamination on property to enable it to be redeveloped for a specific use.

The background of the slide features a photograph of a calm lake at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and light blue, with a few wispy clouds. The lake's surface is dark and reflects the colors of the sky. The horizon line is visible in the upper third of the image.

URG in 2003

- ⇒ Competitive application process
- ⇒ Thirteen applications received totaling over \$10.5 million
- ⇒ \$3.7 million was available which was awarded to four communities with conditions
- ⇒ Albemarle, Forest City, Sanford and Shelby

URG 2004

- ⇒ \$1.7 million available this year
- ⇒ Open, non-competitive application cycle
- ⇒ Any eligible city/town may submit a project at any time that meets ALL of the threshold requirements
- ⇒ More funds may be available after October 1



Threshold requirements include

- Project area must be within a legally designated redevelopment area
- For every dollar of grant funds, the project must include at least three dollars of private funds expanding economic activity
- The project must be ready to proceed – all funds committed and a legally binding commitment executed between the applicant and the private entity(ies) making the private investment
- Grant must be completed within thirty months from the date that the recipient executes the Grant Agreement

William S. Lee Quality Jobs and Business Expansion Act

- ⇒ Tax credit for job creation in designated areas
- ⇒ www.nccommerce.com/finance/incentives/tax/
- ⇒ State Development Zones information -
www.ncdca.org/zones/
- ⇒ NC Department of Revenue – Jonathan Tart,
919-733-8510