



MARY BALL ROAD NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Volume 1 - September 30, 2009

NEWSLETTER

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT MAP
Mary Ball Road Neighborhood Improvement Project
Town of Kilmarnock, Virginia

Needs Assessment:

- 37 housing units within the study area
- Homes average to be 41 yrs old
- 28 home owners, 9 renters, and 4 vacancies
- 18 homes need rehabilitation and 4 homes need reconstruction
- 2 homes lack complete indoor plumbing
- No public sidewalks or street lights
- Lack of public water and sewer. At least half of the wells are shallow and failing. 30% of the septic systems are 25+ yrs old

Anticipated outcomes of the grant thus far:

- Provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing for 22 households
- Provide public water and sewer to 26 households
- Perform restoration activities on local historic barber shop
- Provide sidewalk and streetlights to certain areas
- Provide community cleanup efforts

Dear Property Owner,

You have received this newsletter because you are an owner of property within the Mary Ball RD Neighborhood Improvement Project Area. Throughout the grant process, I plan to periodically send out newsletters to serve as an informative document that will hopefully help keep the community aware and understanding of ongoing events and processes.

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

The Town, with help from community members and our consultants, conducted a neighborhood needs assessment. You may recall individuals showing up at your home to conduct surveys, home inspections, and other paperwork. Several public meetings were held to identify needs. A team and committee was formed to help guide the project. A very strong application was put together and approved by Town Council to be submitted to VA Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). That application was one out of twenty two in the state to receive an award for funding by Governor Tim Kaine. Since the Governor's announcement of award in July, the Town and consultants have been preparing ourselves for the next steps to be taken in this project. Our grant management consultant will continue to be K.W. Poore & Associates, our housing rehabilitation specialist will continue to be Bay Aging, and the engineering consultant will be Progress Engineers.

WHAT'S NEXT?

We are anticipating VA DHCD to be contacting the Town and set up a meeting around the middle of October. This meeting will lay out the process for implementing the grant. At this time, we are unsure of which aspect of the grant will be undertaken first and when. For housing, Bay Aging will need to perform home inspections again for a formal submission. For utilities, engineering of the water and sewer system will need to be performed. We are all excited and eager to move forward, however we do need to keep in mind that these processes will take time. Feel free to call with any questions you may have.

