



ROCK HILL

SOUTH CAROLINA

New Energy Efficient, LEED Certified Homes are Available to First Time Homebuyers

The City of Rock Hill, in conjunction with the Housing Development Corporation of Rock Hill, has recently constructed energy efficient homes on Flint Hill, Hagins, and Sidney Streets. Each home has three bedrooms, two baths and energy star appliances. They range in size from 1057 to 1400 square feet and in price from \$99,500 to \$109,500. Although houses have been sold at each location, we still have some remaining.

The two remaining homes on Flint Hill were built using Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF), a technology usually reserved for expensive custom homes. By using ICF, the home is stronger and more energy efficient than a traditional home. With the help of grant funding and the first time homebuyer's program, we are able to offer these homes with a monthly mortgage payment less than the average rent for a place of this size.

The three remaining homes on Sidney and three on Hagins were built using Closed Cell Spray Foam technology for enhanced energy efficiency and moisture protection.

In order to qualify for down payment and closing cost assistance and to purchase any of

these homes, you must go through our first time homebuyer's program. The free program includes an eight-hour course and individualized housing counseling. In order to qualify for the program, your annual gross income can be **no more** than what is listed below based on the number of people in the household:

1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people
\$37,250	\$42,550	47,900	53,200

5 people	6 people	7 people
\$57,450	\$61,700	\$65,950

For more information about the program and the homes we have available, please contact Steve McGill at **803/817-5112**.

Important Numbers

for 24-Hour Automated Service

803/329-5500 **Outage Reporting
Billing Inquiries and
Bill Payment**

Other Important Numbers

803/325-2500 **Customer Service
Requests**

803/329-5610 **City-Maintained
Road Pothole Reporting**

803/327-6186 **State-Maintained
Road Pothole Reporting**

Utility bills can be paid online at
www.cityofrockhill.com



Housing Development
CORPORATION OF ROCK • HILL



City Council Contacts



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Housing Forum: June 6

The Housing Development Corporation of Rock Hill, in conjunction with Housing and Neighborhood Services for the City of Rock Hill, will be sponsoring a Housing Forum to assist citizens with their questions and concerns regarding the present housing situation. The event will be June 6, 2009, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, at the Housing and Neighborhood Services Building located at 150 Johnston Street, Rock Hill.



June is National Homeownership Month and The Housing Development Corporation wanted to use this opportunity to share information with potential homeowners and the community at large to share information on resources available to them.

Topics will include energy conservation, lending practices and banking products, home inspections and home maintenance. Housing counselors will also be available to consult on programs assisting home purchasers out of foreclosure, current property values, and government sponsored programs to assist the prospective home purchasers in the form of a tax credit up to \$8,000. For more information on the event call **803/329-8719**.

If you are unable to attend, staff will also be at the Baxter Hood Center June 7 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm for the Rock Hill Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's Community-wide Economic and Health Empowerment Expo. Neighborhood Development and Empowerment staff will be on hand. For more information about other topics covered or general event details you may call **803/328-1075**.

SAVE THE DATE

Customer Appreciation Day: July 6th

City of Rock Hill customers are invited to enjoy refreshments, register for door prizes and learn more about City services and special events.

Date: Monday, July 6, 2009

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Place: City Hall, 155 Johnston Street

We hope to see you on July 6th to say thanks for being our valued customers!

City of Rock Hill Plans Transparency In Communicating Funds Received from Federal Stimulus Program

What is the Stimulus Program?

The Federal Stimulus program has been approved by Congress to lessen the effects of the national economic crisis.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, also referred to as the Stimulus, was enacted to create and save jobs, jump-start the economy, and build the foundation for long-term economic recovery and growth.

The Act includes measures to modernize the nation's infrastructure, enhance America's energy independence, expand educational opportunities, increase access to health care, provide tax relief, and protect those in greatest need.

What categories are available to municipalities for funding?

- ✦ **Tax Relief** – This includes tax relief in the areas of Infrastructure and Science, Protecting the Vulnerable, Education & Training and Energy
- ✦ **Education & Training** – This category includes Workforce Investment Program funding, Summer youth employment programs, Senior community service employment programs, Youthbuild, Green Jobs, Worker Training and Placement in High Growth and Emerging Industry, and Trade Adjustment Assistance
- ✦ **Protecting the Vulnerable** – this includes Community Development Block Grants, Neighborhood Stabilization programs, Homeless programs, Public Housing Capital funding, extension of unemployment compensation, Law Enforcement and other criminal and juvenile justice activities, and others.
- ✦ **Energy** – Includes Energy audits and energy retrofits in commercial and residential buildings, Development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, Creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements, Transportation programs that conserve energy, Projects to reduce and capture methane and other

greenhouse gas emissions, and Energy efficient traffic signals and street lights

- ✦ **Infrastructure & Science** – includes Road resurfacing, Interstate maintenance, Highway and bridge safety, Bridge replacement and Road enhancements

The City of Rock Hill will provide regular updates to citizens on the stimulus money it receives and how the money will be used. “We’re absolutely committed to complete accountability and transparency with regards to the stimulus money,” said Rock Hill Mayor Doug Echols.

“We want to be sure each and every person in our community is confident that we are working full-time to secure available funds that can sustain and enhance our city.”

Echols went on to say that presently the City has listed 33 projects to which it will apply for funds, and has identified over \$17 million in possible projects that may fit the criteria for funding.

To keep abreast of the stimulus funds the City receives and how those funds are utilized, check your local media outlets, and also the City of Rock Hill website, www.cityofrockhill.com. You may also tune into the City's Government Access Channel, **Comporium Cable Channel 19**. Each of these media outlets will be updated as more information becomes available.



Smoking Ban in Effect

The City of Rock Hill's smoking ban took effect on Friday, May 1, 2009 and affects all businesses other than those specifically exempted under the ordinance. This ban not only prohibits smoking in enclosed areas, but it also prohibits smoking within ten feet of any entrance to a business.

In order to notify the public of the prohibition on smoking, "No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol must be clearly and conspicuously displayed at all business entrances. Business owners may create their own signs, or the City will provide both window and door stickers free of charge. If you are interested in having the City of Rock Hill mail you stickers please call **803/329-7016** to make your request.

The smoking ban ordinance is available online at the City of Rock Hill's website www.cityofrockhill.com via the link on the home page under "News" or directly at http://www.cityofrockhill.com/userfiles/file/documents/CRH_Smoking_Ban_Ordinance.pdf.

If you have questions about the smoking ban please contact Holly Eskridge at 803/326-3850 or by email at heskridge@cityofrockhill.com.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping make Rock Hill a healthy, smoke-free place for our citizens.

Smoking Ban Ordinance Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the ordinance?

The purpose of the Smoking Ban Ordinance is to protect the health and safety of employees and the public at large by restricting their exposure to tobacco smoke.

When will the ordinance be effective?

The ordinance is effective on May 1, 2009.

Where does the ordinance restrict smoking?

Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed public spaces, enclosed places of employment and within 10ft of any entry into an enclosed area where smoking is prohibited.

What is defined as an enclosed space?

Enclosed space is defined as all space between the floor and ceiling that is completely surrounded by walls on all sides that are four feet or more in height.

Am I allowed to smoke outside of an enclosed space?

Smoking is allowed outside of enclosed areas as long as it is not within 10 ft of an entrance(s) into the restricted area.

Is smoking allowed in private clubs?

Smoking is only allowed in private clubs if they have no employees and the club is not being used for a function to which the general public is admitted.

Does the ordinance restrict smoking in private residences?

Smoking is only restricted when the private residence is used as a licensed childcare, adult day care or health care facility.

Is smoking restricted in vehicles?

Smoking is restricted in vehicles transporting the public and when one or more of the occupants in vehicles used for performing employment responsibilities do not smoke.

Are businesses required to post "No Smoking" signs? If so where are the signs available?

"No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol must be clearly posted at all entrances into an enclosed area where smoking is prohibited. The City of Rock Hill has window and door "No Smoking" signs available for posting at the entrance(s) of enclosed areas. Appropriate signs may also be available at office supply stores. To request a free "No Smoking" sign from the City of Rock Hill, please call **803/329-7016**.

What are the penalties for smoking in a restricted area?

A business who fails to comply with the smoking restrictions is punishable by a fine of up to \$25.00 and repeated violations may result in the suspension or revocation of the occupancy permit or business license. A person who fails to comply with the smoking restrictions is punishable by a fine of up to \$25.00.

Where can I get a copy of the ordinance?

The smoking ban ordinance can be found on the City of Rock Hill website www.cityofrockhill.com via the link on the home page under "News" or directly at http://www.cityofrockhill.com/userfiles/file/documents/CRH_Smoking_Ban_Ordinance.pdf. You can also call **803/329-7016** or **803/326-3850** to obtain a copy of the ordinance.

Is there a number to call with questions?

Please contact Holly Eskridge at **803/326-3850** or heskridge@cityofrockhill.com with any questions.