

Humboldt Lodging Alliance

Community Tourism Projects

Early in the formation of the Humboldt County Tourism Business Improvement District the steering committee (later to become the Humboldt Lodging Alliance) determined that 25 percent of revenues from the district assessment would be made available to community businesses and organizations for projects that promote tourism in Humboldt County. The Humboldt Lodging Alliance wants to build strong community partnerships and foster countywide cooperation and innovation.

If you have an idea for a project, event or activity that will generate overnight stays—or if you would like to seek support for something you're already doing—you are encouraged to apply to the HLA Community Tourism Fund! Applications for Community Tourism Projects will be reviewed by the Humboldt Lodging Alliance board of directors, but final decisions on each application will be made by a subcommittee of board members representing lodgings in the applicant's jurisdiction. Please see the attached 2012-2013 HLA board list to see who those board members are.

Of critical importance to the funding of any application will be the clearly articulated benefit to hotels, RV parks and other lodgings within the applicant's jurisdiction (city or region of the county). While benefit may be delivered in numerous ways, by far the most significant benefit will be measured in the delivery of room nights. Successful applications will clearly describe the strategy and tactics for delivering room nights as well as the number of room nights projected. Benefits to non-lodging businesses or the community at large, while possibly significant, will not be considered in the application process.

When considering these fundamental application requirements, priority will be given to projects designed to increase tourism during the shoulder- and off-seasons (September through June); to applicants who clearly demonstrate their ability to successfully complete the project; to projects that will match or leverage Lodging Alliance funding with other funding sources; and to activities that can produce incremental new room nights from existing programs and organizations.

The HLA board is particularly interested in proposals for new or expanded destination events, and in projects with the clear potential to become self-supporting.

The HCTBID went into effect on July 1, 2012 and as yet the exact revenues are unknown. Community Tourism Projects will be funded from actual, not projected, revenues. The first annual funding cycle will begin in spring, 2013, at which time the Humboldt Lodging Alliance will communicate the amount of funding available in each jurisdiction and invite organizations to submit applications.

Meanwhile, interested organizations are welcome to contact HLA board members to discuss their ideas, and may also contact executive director Tony Smithers (tony@redwoods.info, 444-6635).

Humboldt Lodging Alliance—Community Tourism Project Application

Name of applicant: _____ Date: _____

Contact person(s): _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Website: _____

Mailing address: _____

Title of proposed project, event or activity: _____

Dates or duration of proposed project: _____

Description of proposed project: _____

_____ (attach additional sheet if necessary).

Amount of funding requested: _____

Other funding for this project (how much and from where): _____

How will this project benefit hotels, RV parks and other lodgings in your jurisdiction, and how will you measure the benefit? _____

How is your organization or company qualified to complete this project? _____

What staff members, volunteers and resources will be devoted to this project? _____

Has this project or idea been successfully tried elsewhere? Please provide details. _____

Please fax to HLA at 707-443-5115, or mail to 322 First St., Eureka CA 95501.

Questions? Call Tony Smithers, Executive Director, at 707-444-6635 or email tony@redwoods.info.

Humboldt Lodging Alliance—Board Members by Jurisdiction

EUREKA

Gary Stone, Managing Partner
Best Western Plus Humboldt Bay Inn

Chris Ambrosini, Managing Partner
Best Western Plus Humboldt Bay Inn

Emily Manfredonia, General Manager
Best Western Plus Bayshore Inn

Jayshree Patel, Owner
Comfort Inn Eureka

Mark Carter, Owner
Carter House Inns

Kelly Martin, Owner
Humboldt Bay Extended Stay

ARCATA

Lisa Cossolotto, Manager
Best Western Arcata Inn

Shailesh Patel, Owner
Hampton Inn & Suites

Diane Cutshall, Manager
Hotel Arcata

FORTUNA

Jeff Durham, Owner
Holiday Inn Express

Sharrie Larsen, General Manager
Best Western Country Inn

TRINIDAD

Mike Reinman, Owner
Redwood Coast Vacation Rentals

FERNDALE

Lowell Daniels, Owner
Victorian Inn & Redwood Suites

COUNTY Unincorporated (south)

John E. Porter, Managing Partner
Benbow Historic Inn & Benbow KOA

Mike Caldwell, Owner
Inn of the Lost Coast

Jim Johnson, Owner
Best Western Humboldt House Inn

COUNTY Unincorporated (east)

Marc Rowley, Owner
Coho Cottages

COUNTY Unincorporated (north)

Donna Hufford, General Manager
Redwood Parks Lodge Co.