City of Lincolnton
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
FOR NEW AND EXISTING INDUSTRIES .500 Tax Rate

I. *OVERVIEW*

The City of Lincolnton has adopted the following Industrial Development Incentive Grant Program for purposes of recruitment of industry and increasing economic growth. The objectives of the grant program are to expand the tax base, to provide quality jobs for Lincolnton's residents, to promote economic development, and to secure the economic well-being of all citizens. The importance of sustaining and assisting with the growth of existing industries is well-documented. The diversification that comes with the addition of new industries to a county is needed to provide a broader economic base. The following paragraphs formalize the Incentive Grant Program.

II. *PROGRAM PARAMETERS*

The Industrial Development Incentive Grant involves a contractual agreement between the City of Lincolnton and new or existing industries for a financial incentive grant based upon the actual value of qualifying new capital investment (as determined below) made by such new or expanding industries within the corporate boundaries of the City of Lincolnton. Incentive grants made under this program will be identified by the particular project for which they are made and will be secured by a contract between the grant recipient and the City of Lincolnton. Such contract must identify the start date and completion date of the proposed project, which project shall not exceed two years in duration. The time period for a contract shall not be required to coincide with the City's fiscal year. Should conditions change such that the amount of the qualifying new capital investment is greater or less than the contracted amount, the financial incentive grants to be made hereunder will be adjusted accordingly on a pro-rata basis. Changes or additions to a project after a contract's completion date will require a separate contract.

The maximum amount of the financial incentive grant will be determined in accordance with the provisions set out in Section IV and will be specified in the contract. The grant may be adjusted based on the confirmed actual investment.

For purposes of the incentive grant, the new capital investment will be assessed by the Lincoln County Tax Department on January 1, following the first full year of completion. The financial incentive grant will be paid in three equal annual installments for qualifying investments of $750,000 up to $999,999 and 5 equal annual installments for qualifying investments of $1,000,000 up to $9,999,999 unless said investment results in the creation of 75 or more jobs; if said investment creates 75 or more jobs it will be paid in 7 equal annual installments. Financial incentive grants for qualifying investments of $10,000,000 to $19,999,999 will be paid in 7 equal annual installments. Financial incentive grants for qualifying investments of $20,000,000 or more will be paid in 8 equal installments. The first of the annual installments will be paid 30 days after their tax payment for the then-current year has been received by the Lincoln County Tax Office; and after the company notifies Lincoln Economic Development Association their taxes have been paid, provided, however, that any annual grant installment may be delayed or withheld if the grant recipient is delinquent in the payment to the City of Lincolnton or Lincoln County of any taxes, utility bills, or other fees owed the City.

The value of the qualifying new capital investment will be determined by the appraisers of the Lincoln County Tax Department based on enhancements to the City of Lincolnton's tax base. The Tax Department appraisers will consider only new investment in land, buildings,

machinery, equipment, and personal property, subject to the following guidelines:
(a) For new construction or expansion of existing construction, the amount that qualifies for consideration in calculating incentive grants will reflect only the amount by which the new construction or expansion enhances the value of the property beyond its value prior to the project, except regarding Shell Buildings outlined in section (d).

(b) The value of new investment in machinery, equipment, or other personal property eligible for consideration in calculating incentive grants will be limited to 70 percent of the amount of new investment in such property.

(c) For expansions of existing industries, the value of any machinery or equipment being phased out, replaced, or retrofitted as part of the project will be deducted from the value of replacement equipment in determining the amount that qualifies for consideration in calculating incentive grants.

(d) For Shell Buildings, the value of the property will qualify for consideration in calculating grants for the first buyer or tenant leasing for more than one year. Shell Buildings must be registered and approved by the Lincoln Economic Development Association to qualify for incentives.

If a grant recipient shall close, terminate, or reduce its operation by fifty percent (50%) or more during the five-year period of the grant, all further grant payments will cease, and the Industrial Development Incentive Grant for the recipient will be null and void.

Each project will be considered in accordance with the aforesaid guidelines. The Lincolnton City Council will review these guidelines annually and make any necessary or appropriate changes. The grant program may be changed or rescinded at any time but with the understanding that contracts outstanding at the time of such termination or change will be honored in accordance with the terms of such contracts.

III. ***PROJECT QUALIFICATIONS***

To be considered eligible for an Industrial Development Incentive Grant, a project must meet certain basic criteria. These criteria are to be used as guidelines in project evaluations. Additional criteria may be applied to specific projects based upon the terms of the contract between the grant recipient and the City of Lincolnton.

Factors to be considered shall include but not be limited to the following:

--the size of the project based upon investment in site development, plant facilities, and infrastructure;

--the number and type of jobs created and the anticipated hourly wages to be paid;

--potential for future expansion and increased employment;

--site specific initiatives that may be pursued to stimulate other development in areas that The City of Lincolnton may deem of significant benefit to the community.

IV. *APPLICATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM .500 Tax Rate*

1. Level I Grant -- for qualifying new capital investment by new or expanding industries in an amount from $750,000 to $999,999.

The annual grant to be paid will be computed by multiplying the dollar amount of the investment (as determined by the appraisers of the Lincoln County Tax Department) by a factor of 0.0032500., which equates to a 65% reduction in taxes. *Multiplier factor to be adjusted accordingly with changes in adopted tax rate, reduction percentage remains constant.

2. Level II Grant -- for qualifying new capital investment by new or expanding industries in an amount from $1,000,000 to $9,999,999.

The annual grant to be paid will be computed by multiplying the dollar amount of the investment (as determined by the appraisers of the Lincoln County Tax Department) by a factor of 0.0037500, which equates to a 75% reduction in taxes.

3. Level III Grant -- for qualifying new capital investment by new or expanding industries in an amount of $10,000,000 to $19,999,999.

The annual grant to be paid will be computed by multiplying the dollar amount of the investment (as determined by the appraisers of the Lincoln County Tax Department) by a factor of 0.0042500, which equates to an 85% reduction in taxes.

4. Level IV Grant –for qualifying new capital investment by new or expanding industries in an amount of $20,000,000 or more.

The annual grant to be paid will be computed by multiplying the dollar amount of the investment (as determined by the appraisers of the Lincoln County Tax Department) by a factor of 0.0047500, which equates to a 95% reduction in taxes.

*For all levels multiplying factor to be adjusted accordingly with changes in adopted tax rate, reduction percentage remains constant.

Additional incentives such as the Green Initiatives will be offered to qualifying companies through Lincoln County, for industries the grant will begin after payment of the Industrial Development Incentive Grant Program.

V. ***PUBLIC HEARING***

Upon receipt of a grant application, and prior to approval of such application, the City of Lincolnton shall hold a public hearing after due advertisement in accordance with the provisions of N. C. G. S. 158-7.1.

Approved and adopted at the regular monthly meeting of the Lincolnton City Council on the 6th day of September, 2001, and amended by the Council February 7th, 2008, (I do not have the date, but it was again amended in 2015) and most recently amended by the Board on _____.

ATTEST: