

NEWS

SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

REPUBLICAN LEADER SENATE



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DOLE SECURES \$500,000 DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR SOUTHWEST KANSAS; GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED LOAN PROGRAM TO BOOST BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES: GREAT BEND, LIBERAL, COLDWATER, MEADE, DODGE CITY, GARDEN CITY WITH PENDING PROJECTS FOR PREAPPROVED BUSINESSES.

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) announced today that he has helped secure a half-million dollar federal development grant for Southwest Kansas, a program that could immediately boost the prospects for seven businesses in the area.

The U.S. Commerce Department funding, administered by Great Plains Development, Inc. of Dodge City, will establish a revolving loan fund to promote business development in Southwest Kansas.

"This is the shot-in-the-arm we have been fighting for, a project we have been promoting," Dole said. "Economic development is our state's top priority, especially in our rural areas. Southwest Kansas has an excellent workforce and real potential for growth, provided it gets the helping hand it needs to get started. This grant program is a much-needed step in the right direction. I am pleased the Commerce Department agrees with me that this is a worthwhile investment in our state."

According to Dole, at least seven area businesses have been preapproved as initial recipients of these loans through Great Plains development, Inc. These businesses are in Liberal, Garden City, Coldwater, Dodge City, Meade and Great Bend.

The President of Great Plains Development, Inc. is Ron Nicholas: 316-227-6406.

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