City: Northwood

Title of Project: Housing Buyout Program

City's Population: 1,989

In a few sentences, give a summary of the project and why it was needed:
The City of Northwood purchased eight residential lots and have sold/are selling the lots for only $1 to anyone willing to build a new home.

Northwood had limited lots available for new housing opportunities and unfortunately we had several run down dilapidated houses that were unoccupied that were becoming an eyesore in the neighborhood. We needed to find a solution to both problems so they City planned and set up the Housing Buyout Program.

Explain the specific role of your city in this project:
The City started the Housing Buyout Program and with the help of WCDA grant funds the City was able to buy eight lots with the dilapidated houses removed by the previous owner. The City cleaned up the lots, filled with black dirt, and planted grass seed. As of today, the City has sold three lots and new houses have been built on them.

In a few sentences, what future impact will this project have on your community?
Benefits:

- Increase tax base
- Maintain / Increase property values
- Clean-up the community
- Bring in new people to town
- Add more single family housing
- New homes can be placed in established neighborhoods

Total cost of project: $255,909.36
List where funding came from. (grants, donations, city funds, etc):
Grants, City Funds

Total time project took/projected to take for completion. Please include start date and end date. (To qualify the project must be operating or completed between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015):
Sold (3) lots / (3) new houses built in 2015

Resources. (Please list Web sites judges may reference if they seek additional information.):
www.northwoodia.org