



HUMAN SERVICES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 8, 2018

TO: Chairman Tom Lewis and the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County

FROM: Shington Lamy, Director of Human Services and Community Partnerships

SUBJECT: County Staff Report for March 2018

Leon County CDBG Housing Rehabilitation *(For information only)*

The County has completed housing rehabilitation projects that were fully or partially funded with the CDBG grant. Nineteen (19) homes were rehabilitated or replaced. The County was awarded \$750,000 in CDBG grant funds. The total cost of the projects was \$887,119.80 which included \$12,163 in funding provided by the HFA. During its December 5, 2017 meeting, the HFA approved County staff's request for funding in the amount of \$12,163 for two housing rehabilitation projects (122 Ellis Road, 32317 and 8123 Pin Oak Road, 32305).

Interlocal Agreement

The County Attorney's Office has developed an Interlocal Agreement between the County and HFA on the collaboration and coordination of affordable housing. The Interlocal Agreement similar to the Memorandum of Understanding that the HFA approved during its December 14, 2017 meeting. In summary, the County would continue to administer the HFA's Emergency Housing Repair Program with no administrative cost and provide monthly reports. The Interlocal Agreement also provides a time certain (by June 1) of when the HFA would decide if the County will administer its programs, determine a budget for the programs administered by the County, and determine a budget for partnership events such as the Annual Home Expo and the 9/11 Day of Services. **County staff is seeking the HFA's approval of the Interlocal Agreement.** Upon the HFA's approval the Interlocal Agreement will be presented to the County Commission for its March 27 Board meeting.

Emergency Housing Repair Program Maximum Limit Increase

On February 13, 2018, the County Commission approved amendments to the Leon County State Housing Initiative Partnership Local Housing Assistance Plan (SHIP-LHAP) which included increasing the Emergency Housing Repair Program maximum limit from \$1,650 to \$2,500. This strategy is not currently utilized with SHIP funding. The Housing Finance Authority of Leon County (HFA)'s Emergency Housing Repair Program which is administered by the County's Housing Division. The eligibility for the HFA program is identical to the County's program.

The current maximum award amount is \$1,650 for the HFA program. Due to the nominal amount, the funding is utilized for short-term remedies for emergency projects such as tarps for roof leaks and pump out service for septic problems. **County staff is recommending that the HFA increase its maximum for emergency housing repair program to \$2,500.** This would provide an applicant a combined maximum of \$5,000 to provide a long-term and expedited solution for the emergency repair. It is important to note that for some projects the County's

funding may be limited. These limits include mobile homes (no more than 20% of SHIP funds per Florida Statutes) and emergency housing repair projects within the City limits. Staff will schedule a meeting with the HFA Financial Advisor and the City Tallahassee to discuss potential opportunities to collaborate on affordable housing efforts.

Leon County Home Expo

The Annual Leon County Home Expo is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2018, 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The event would be held at the Leon County Cooperative Extension Building located at 615 Paul Russell Rd. The Home Expo would be tailored to potential homebuyers and current homeowners with a goal of 100 participants. The theme of the event would center on resiliency with potential topics on home buying, home insurance, and maintaining a sustainable home. Demonstrations on specific home repairs, gardening, home preparedness for hurricane season would also be conducted.

The cost of the Home Expo is not expected to exceed \$5,000. The majority of the cost will be for promotion and marketing. **County staff is seeking funding of up to \$1,500 which would assist with promotion and advertising of the event.** Additional information on the Annual Home Expo will provide for the HFA's April Meeting.

CC: Mark Hendrickson, Financial Advisor to the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County