



Cover Memorandum/Staff Report

File #: 18-0246 CRA

Agenda Date: 2/12/2019

Item #:

TO: CRA Board of Commissioners
FROM: Krista Walker, Contract Manager
THROUGH: Jeff Costello, CRA Executive Director
DATE: February 12, 2019

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND CRA FOR FY 2018-19 CURB APPEAL RESIDENTIAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Recommended Action:

Approve the Interlocal Agreement between the CRA and City for the Curb Appeal Residential Improvement Program.

Background:

In 2007, the CRA created the Curb Appeal Residential Improvement Program, to help facilitate for exterior improvements to homes in the Northwest (Sub-Area #4) and Southwest Neighborhoods (Sub-Area #8) and entered into an Interlocal Agreement with the City for the Neighborhood and Community Services Department to implement and administer the program. The program offers grants to owner-occupied and renter-occupied single-family homes, funding minor exterior improvements including painting and pressure cleaning, landscaping and irrigation, driveway repair or replacement, mailboxes, and house numbers. Grant funding is available at two levels. Owner-occupied single-family homes with a household income at or below 100% of the median area income may qualify for 100% funding. Homes that are leased to tenants or whose household income exceeds 100% of the median area income are funded at 50% of project costs, requiring matching funds from the property owner. The City is responsible for recruiting applicants, verifying eligibility, determining the scope of improvements for each project, obtaining construction bids and ensuring that projects are successfully completed, as set forth by the interlocal agreement. In 2009, the interlocal agreement was amended to include additional details regarding the responsibilities of the City in the administration of the program.

In 2016, the program guidelines were further modified to increase the maximum funding amount from \$10,000 to \$15,000, in order to accommodate general increases in construction costs as seen over time, as well as the more significant costs associated with roof repair and replacements, which was included as an eligible expense. In addition to single family homes, the program was made available to duplexes and the revisions also included clarification with regard to the eligibility area and insurance requirements.

For many years, the CRA has often allocated funds from the Curb Appeal Program to the City's annual "Rock the Block" event (formerly called "Paint-Up Delray" & "Curb Appeal by the Block"). The City leverages the sweat equity of hundreds of volunteers who work to dramatically transform the exterior of several income-qualified homes in a concentrated area in the course of a single day. The program has traditionally targeted low-income families in single-family homes within the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Area, much of which overlaps the CRA District. Typically, the City submits separate funding request to the CRA for the event, which would require CRA Board approval. The CRA and City desire to include the funding for this event as part of the Curb Appeal Program funding on an annual basis. Attached is the interlocal agreement between the City and CRA for the 2019-20 Curb Appeal Residential Improvement Program to be administered by the City's Neighborhood and Community Services Department. Funding is provided at \$75,000 with up to \$15,000 allocated towards the City's "Rock the Block" event. Funding for subsequent years will be based on the City's funding request and may be included as part of the CRA's annual budget. The agreement also outlines in specific terms and reporting requirements.

The current modifications to the Curb Appeal Residential Improvement Program for the board's consideration under a separate agenda item is to include increasing the eligibility to household income up to 140% of area median income for 100% funding, consistent with other workforce housing programs. The Program Guidelines are incorporated into the ILA as Exhibit "A".

Attachment(s): Exhibit A - ILA Interlocal Agreement Curb Appeal Residential Improvement Program

CRA Attorney Review:

The CRA Attorney has reviewed the Interlocal Agreement for Curb Appeal Residential Improvement Program to form and determined it to be acceptable.

Finance Review:

N/A

Funding Source/Financial Impact:

Funding in the amount of \$75,000 has been allocated for the Program - General Ledger #7305 - Grant Programs - Curb Appeal Assistance Grant

Timing of Request:

N/A