



CITY OF CLEARWATER

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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To: City of Clearwater Community Redevelopment Agency Trustees

From: Jesus Niño, Executive Director – Community Redevelopment Agency Department

Date: July 15, 2024

Subject: Request approval of the Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program within the North Greenwood Community Redevelopment Area and to seek an allocation of \$400,000 to fund this program.

Purpose:

The purpose of this memorandum is to request approval for the Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program (Program) aimed at rehabilitating single-family homes within the North Greenwood Community Redevelopment Area (NGCRA) and to seek an allocation of \$400,000 to fund the Program.

Program Overview:

The Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program is designed to provide matching grants of up to \$20,000 to homesteaded single-family homeowners in the NGCRA. The Program focuses on exterior improvements to enhance neighborhood aesthetics, property conditions, and reduce housing cost burden.

Key Objectives:

1. Improve property aesthetics and conditions.
2. Reduce housing cost burden.
3. Eliminate/reduce slum and blight condition (reduce code enforcement cases).
4. Foster neighborhood pride and civic identity.

Eligibility and Assistance:

Eligibility is limited to homeowners within the NGCRA with household incomes at or below 120% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Assistance is provided on a sliding scale based on income, with a minimum applicant contribution ranging from 5% to 20%.

Ryan Cotton, Councilmember
Mike Mannino, Councilmember

Bruce Rector, Mayor



David Allbritton, Councilmember
Lina Teixeira, Councilmember

Applicant Match:

Applicants are required to match the grant amount based on their income level. Community service options are available to offset the match requirement. For those earning 0-50% AMI, the match can be waived at the rate of one hour of community service per \$150 of grant amount. For those earning 51-120% AMI, up to 50% of the match can be waived similarly.

Eligible Improvements:

Eligible improvements include, but are not limited to, exterior painting, roofing, windows, doors, landscaping, and structural repairs that enhance the property's exterior.

Application and Approval Process:

Applicants must submit a complete application, including proof of “household” income and proof of matching funds. The CRA Director will review and approve applications based on eligibility and completeness.

Disbursement:

Grants are disbursed on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise approved for direct payment to licensed contractors. Payments will be made in no more than one installment per 30-day period.

Fiscal Impact and Funding Request:

\$400,000 – This funding will enable the CRA to assist approximately 20 homeowners, thereby significantly improving the housing conditions within the NGCRA.

Conclusion:

Approval of the Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program will support the strategic goals of the NGCRA by enhancing property conditions, reducing housing cost burdens, and fostering neighborhood pride. The requested allocation of \$400,000 is essential to achieve these objectives.

Attachments:

- Residential Exterior Improvement Grant Program and Application Form.
- General Communications Plan for Community Engagement

