



LAKE WORTH

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: CRA Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Board

FROM: Joan Oliva, Executive Director

DATE: November 15, 2016

SUBJECT: CRA Commercial and Residential Grant Programs

EXPLANATION

At the October 18, 2016 workshop, Staff presented various grant programs for the Board to consider offering this fiscal year. These included three different commercial grant programs and two residential programs in addition to the already approved Conservation and Residential Rehabilitation Grant program. The consensus of the Board was for the Agency to offer all the proposed programs. To that end, Staff has included tables (Exhibit "A") with all the pertinent information discussed at the workshop meeting for the Board to officially approve. Once approved, the Staff can move forward with offering the various programs, some immediately and some later in the fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board approve the grant and loan programs described in Attachment "A." The Board may want to consider appointing a Board Liaison to take part on a grant recommendation/selection committee.

Name of Program	Eligibility	Eligibility Period	Money Budgeted (Minimum & Maximum per property)	Money Assigned to each program & approval process
Commercial Façade Grant Program	New & Existing Business/Commercial Properties within the CRA District An evaluation form will be completed by the review committee for all applicants which then will be ranked accordingly Applicants who have applied and received funding in the past will possibly rank lower than newer applicants requesting funding	New business – Open year round beginning Dec 1, 2016 – Sept 30, 2017 Existing businesses – open for applications for one month after advertising starting Feb 1, 2017 – Feb 28, 2017	New businesses – Up to \$25,000 (per property) Existing Businesses – Up to \$10,000 (per property) Minimum Request: \$5,000 Money Budgeted: \$150,000 Please note: \$20,000 will be allocated for the Interior Improvement Grant Program	New Businesses – \$100,000 = 4 potential properties (minimum) Administrative approval for grants under \$15k and Board approval for grants over \$15k Existing Businesses – \$30,000 = 3 potential properties (minimum) Board approval required for all final list of recommended applicants
Interior Improvement Grant Program	New Businesses/Commercial Properties within the CRA District Funding is for specific interior buildout improvements that will lead to new jobs and business growth	Open year round to accommodate new development starting Dec 1, 2016 – Sept 30, 2017	New Businesses – Up to \$10,000 (per property) Minimum Request: \$3,000 Money Budgeted: \$20,000 Funds allocated from the Commercial Façade Grant Program	New Businesses- \$20,000 = 2 potential properties (minimum) Administrative approval only
Public Infrastructure Grant Program	New Large Scale Commercial Development with a minimum investment of \$2M within the CRA District Funds are to be used for infrastructure related costs including but not limited to, utility relocation, turning lanes, sidewalks, drainage, etc.	Open year round to accommodate new development starting Dec 1, 2016 – Sept 30, 2017	New Large Scale Commercial Development – \$100,000 = 1-2 potential properties Minimum Request: None	New Large Scale Commercial Development – \$100,000 = 2 potential properties Board approval required & formal presentation
Additional Information	Both the Commercial Façade and Interior Grant Programs applicants must provide 50% match and only the property owners can apply. After the property owner has received funding the CRA will issue a lien on the property based on what was awarded. An extended process period will be based on staff's discretion. This includes permits, licenses and any other possible delays in construction of a new or existing project.			

Exhibit "A"

Name of Program	Type (grant, loan, other assistance)	Eligibility	Number of Properties Targeted/Budget Max.	Funding Maximum (per property)	Additional Information
Residential Roof, Fence & Front Façade Loan Program	Interest Free Loan	All residential properties within the CRA District	8-10/ \$40k	Up to \$5,000 (per property)	Owner Occupied Properties must pay back in full within 2-3 years, depending on loan amount
Desperate Landscapes	Matching Grant	All owner occupied homesteaded properties within the CRA District. Preference given to those in the Royal Poinciana & Tropical Ridge Neighborhoods	6/\$20k – including landscape architect, designs, materials and one month of maintenance	Applicant required to remove and prep their existing front lawn. CRA will pay 100% of new installation of Florida Friendly front lawn	Competitive grant program. CRA will conduct an 'open enrollment' period for residents to submit their applications. CRA will pick a limited number of properties to assist. Winning applications will choose from pre-determined landscape designs. Preference will be given to adjacent properties which combine to submit a single application
City of Lake Worth Residential Conservation & Rehabilitation Program	Grant, Utility Conservation Services, Social Service Assistance	Low to Moderate income owner occupied households within the City of Lake Worth	6-8/ \$175k – including grants, inspections, legal, training, counseling, materials and labor costs	\$20,000 for rehab. Additional \$10,000 for lead & asbestos removal	City Utility Department is the main contact for this program. Once an Energy Audit has been completed, an application may be submitted if the household meets the requirements