



Interoffice Memorandum

BCC Mtg. Date: July 12, 2016

June 10, 2016

TO: Mayor Teresa Jacobs
-AND-
Board of County Commissioners

THRU: Lonnie C. Bell, Jr., Director *Lonnie C Bell Jr*
Family Services Department

FROM: Lavon B. Williams, Manager, Esq., AICP *LBW*
Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division

SUBJECT: Consent Agenda Item – July 12, 2016
Countywide Sustainable Communities Grant

Orange County Board of County Commissioners accepted and adopted the Orange County Sustainability Plan "Our Home for Life" on May 13, 2014. The Orange County Sustainability Plan's purpose is to provide a framework for working towards sustainability, as well as goals and strategies that will serve to integrate sustainability into our culture, decision-making and governance. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program is a part of the Neighborhood Pride Grants program created in 2011 to offer beautification grants to neighborhood organizations. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program allows neighborhood organizations to take charge and implement sustainable projects in their community.

The Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division administers the Sustainable Communities Grant Program, which provides funds for citizen organizations to help reduce pollution and their carbon footprint. The grant is available countywide between \$500 and \$5,000. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program accepts applications on a monthly basis.

The Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division staff performs a detailed technical review on each application received. The staff examines various aspects of the project, including the potential reduction in pollution and carbon footprint, the project cost, impact on the community, and the ability of the organization to execute the project and maintain any physical improvements. The Environmental Protection Division helped to develop the grant program criteria and assists applicants in developing projects that reduce pollution and their carbon footprint. Organizations are required to provide a letter of support from the Environmental Protection Division, which has been provided for these projects.

Several measures are in place to ensure proper monitoring and compliance with the program guidelines. All grant funds are distributed through the County's purchase order process, and there are no direct cash payments to the selected organizations. Applicants are required to complete projects, as documented on the invoices from vendors and their status reports.

Every organization that completes a physical improvement project must also demonstrate the ability to independently maintain the improvement. Staff concludes the monitoring process for each grant awarded by conducting detailed site visits to ensure compliance with the requirements.

The Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board (NGAB) is recommending approval of Watermill Cove HOA Sustainable Communities Grant for July 2016 (see Attachment A). The grant request was reviewed by Orange County staff and presented to the NGAB for recommendation. The application was reviewed based on project feasibility, organizational readiness, and benefit to the community. The grant request is displayed in greater detail in Attachment B.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of the July 2016 Sustainable Communities Grant as recommended by the Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board for Watermill Cove HOA (\$3,000). District 5.

Attachments

- c: Lori Cunniff, Deputy Director, Community, Environmental and Development Services
Antwan Nelson, Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division
Lyndon Carter, Chairperson, Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board

Orange County Board of County Commissioners
 July 12, 2016 Consent Agenda
 Countywide Sustainable Communities Grants – ATTACHMENT A

District	Organization	Description of the Project	Requested Amount	NGAB Recommendation	EPD Review
5	Watermill Cove HOA	Lake Shoreline Restoration	\$3,000	Yes	Yes
		Total Requests	\$3,000		

Sustainable Communities Grant Profile

Organization Name: Watermill Cove HOA	Request Amount: \$3,000
Commission District 5: Ted Edwards	Matching Amount: Not Required
Municipality Jurisdiction: Un-Incorporated	Total Project Cost: \$3,000
Property Ownership: Private	Type of Grant: Sustainable Communities Grant

Summary: The neighborhood wishes to restore the Watermill Cove shoreline around fishing pier and to provide give-a-ways related to sustainability at a community event. The homes within this neighborhood have met taxable value guidelines.

