

Item Title: Action Requested to Amend the 2018-2019 Housing Action Plan to Include a New Public Facility Project

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners amends the FY 2018-2019 Action Plan to reprogram \$330,000 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) public facilities funds for construction of water lines in the Irongate neighborhood of Apex.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners approves all substantial amendments to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Action Plans.

Background: The FY 2018-2019 Action Plan allocated \$330,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) public facility funds to assist the Town of Apex with the development of Pleasant Park. Apex has determined that construction of water lines in the Irongate neighborhood is a preferable use of these funds, and Wake County staff is in agreement. Construction of water lines in a predominantly low-moderate income neighborhood is an eligible CDBG activity. There are currently 24 households in the Irongate community. Apex has identified other funding to ensure the Pleasant Park project will not be affected by the shifting priority.

In June of 2018, the Board of Commissioners approved the Action Plan. The Action Plan was subsequently sent to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for approval and award of grant funds. The Plan allocated funds to develop Pleasant Park in Apex, but since that time, the Town of Apex became aware of a more imminent need: residents in an area of failing wells and an insufficient water supply. The Housing Department would like to assist Apex and these residents, and an amendment to the 2018 Action Plan is required to reprogram the funds. The area has been determined eligible for CDBG funds. The total project cost is approximately \$400,000 and the Town of Apex will be contributing \$70,000, or any additional amount required above the \$330,000 contributed by Wake County CDBG funds.

Board Goal: This Board action complements housing affordability initiatives in the Social and Economic Vitality goal area.

Fiscal Impact: These funds were appropriated in the FY2019 operating budget. There is no additional financial impact.

Additional Information:

The FY 2018-2019 Action Plan approved on June 18, 2018 describes the way the Wake County Housing Division will use funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help meet the housing and community development needs of low-moderate income families. Funding is allocated by grant activity type, such as public facility, and then by specific project. Substantial plan amendments, such as the addition of projects, require public notice, a 30-day public comment period, and Board of Commissioners approval.

A public notice was published in The Carolinian, The News & Observer, and Que Pasa. The 30-day public comment period began January 3, 2019 and continued through February 3, 2019. No public comments were received.

Attachments:

1. Public Notice