

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT: Legislative - Proposal to Eliminate the State Housing Trust Fund and Reduction of the Local Government Housing Trust Fund**

Lori Solitro EXT. 7370

**DEPARTMENT:** Planning and Development **DIVISION:** Community Resources

Steve Lee **EXT.** 5741

**AUTHORIZED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Contact:** Sally A. Sherman **EXT.** 7224

<b>Agenda Date</b> <u>03/25/03</u> <b>Regular</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Consent</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Work Session</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Briefing</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Public Hearing – 1:30</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public Hearing – 7:00</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

**MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution requesting the Governor’s Office to reinstate full funding of the State Housing and Local Government Housing Trust Funds.

**BACKGROUND:**

Governor Bush’s proposed Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Budget contains the elimination/reduction of the following:

- State Housing Trust Fund (Eliminate \$31.8 Million) - provides the majority of the funds for programs such as the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL)
- The Local Government Housing Trust Fund (Reduce \$62.7 Million) - provides the majority of the funds for programs such as the State Housing Partnership Initiatives Program (SHIP)

These dedicated funding sources, if eliminated or reduced, would reduce by approximately \$94.5 million, the funds available for these and other affordable housing programs in the State of Florida. The elimination of the State Housing Trust Fund will not have an immediate fiscal impact on the County. However, it will reduce the availability of affordable and transitional housing funds.

The immediate impact on Seminole County would be the reductions of County SHIP funds in the amount of \$1,562,714 for FY 2003/04. The following page outlines the most recent Seminole County’s Annual Performance Report for the SHIP Program for the fiscal year ending 6/30/02.

<b>Reviewed by:</b> <b>Co Atty:</b> _____ <b>DFS:</b> _____ <b>Other:</b> _____ <b>DCM:</b> <u>SS</u> <b>CM:</b> <u>VB</u>
<b>File No</b> <u>LEG02</u>

**Seminole County**  
**Ship Funding – State Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/02**

<b><u>Programs</u></b>	<b><u>Funds</u></b>	<b><u>Units</u></b>
Down payment/closing cost assistance	\$2,849,399	212
Homeownership reconstruction/rehabilitation	499,643	9
Emergency housing repair	790,767	108
Rental housing rehabilitation	90,000	27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,229,809</b>	<b>356</b>

**RESOLUTION**

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ON THE 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, AD., 2003.**

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to provide for the housing needs of its current and anticipated populations and assisting lower income families is dependent upon sufficient housing assistance from federal and state programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Bush has released his proposed Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Budget that eliminates the State Housing Trust Fund (providing the majority of the funds for programs such as the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL)) and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund (providing the majority of the funds for programs such as the State Housing Partnership Initiatives Program (SHIP)) as dedicated funding sources, and reduces by approximately \$94.5 million the funds available for these and other affordable housing programs; and

**WHEREAS**, under the proposed budget SHIP would lose approximately \$62.7 million and the state programs (SAIL and others) would lose approximately \$31.8 million; and

**WHEREAS**, the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act of 1992 deliberately used the documentary stamp tax as its revenue source because of its nexus with the development of affordable housing and because the source of funding needed to be a growth vehicle to keep pace with escalating land and housing costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the trust funds should not be eliminated or reduced, because they are used to stimulate the economy and to serve the low income who are first time homebuyers, working families, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and the homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated loss in SHIP funding for FY 2003-2004 to the County of Seminole is \$1,562,714.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida, requests that the Governor's Office reconsider its proposal to eliminates the State and Local Government Housing Trust Funds as dedicated funding sources, and reduces by approximately \$94.5 million the funds available for these and other affordable housing programs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be forwarded to Governor Jeb Bush and the Seminole County Legislative Delegation.

ADOPTED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2003.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maryanne Morse, Clerk to the  
Board of County Commissioners  
in and for the County of Seminole,  
State of Florida

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daryl McLain, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners  
Seminole County, Florida

Date \_\_\_\_\_



March 12, 2003

The Honorable Jeb Bush  
Governor of Florida  
PL 05 The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: State Budget Proposal to Eliminate the State Housing Trust Fund and Reduction of the Local Government Housing Trust Fund

Dear Governor Bush:

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, we are requesting that you reconsider the proposal to eliminate the State Housing Trust Fund and reduce the Local Government Housing Trust Fund. Please find the attached resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners related to this matter.

We are very much aware of the State's budgetary problems and appreciate the difficult decisions that must be made. However, we ask that you reconsider the proposal for state budget changes to the State Housing Trust Fund and Local Government Housing Trust Fund.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Respectfully yours,

Daryl G. McLain, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

DGM/cac  
Attachment

Cc: Commissioner Randall Morris  
Commissioner Carlton Henley  
Commissioner Dick Van Der Weide  
Commissioner Grant Maloy