

Redevelopment Planning Agency

..Title

US HWY 17-92 CRA – Consider recommending approval of a request from Seminole County for reallocation of expired CRA grant funding, to partially fund previously approved Sunland Park improvements, in the amount of \$225,000. District4 - Henley (Sonia Fonseca)

..Department

County Manager's Office

..Division

Economic Development Division

..Authorized By

Tricia Setzer

..Contact/Phone number

Sonia Fonseca - 407-665-7133

..Motion/Recommendation

1. Recommend approval of the request from Seminole County for reallocation of expired CRA grant funding, to partially fund previously approved Sunland Park improvements, in the amount of \$225,000; or
2. Deny approval of the request from Seminole County for reallocation of expired CRA grant funding, to partially fund previously approved Sunland Park improvements, in the amount of \$225,000; or
3. Continue to a time and date certain.

... Background

Sunland Park is a Seminole County park located at the entrance to a residential community, along U.S. Highway 17-92, within the Sanford area of the U.S. Highway 17-92 CRA corridor. The park's existing amenities include a softball field, playground, volleyball court, and a basketball court. Presently, all of the existing amenities have exceeded their "useful life". Parking is also limited to shell rock surface parking on the east side of the park, with limited additional grass parking next to the softball field. A drainage creek runs through the park towards Lake Emma. The total cost to renovate the existing park facilities is estimated at approximately \$725,000.

On February 11, 2014, the CRA granted Seminole County, partial funding of the Sunland Park renovation in the amount of \$225,000. The balance of the needed renovation funding was secured by Seminole County by selling a drainage easement to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The drainage easement is for subsurface drainage cells under Sunland Park, which is needed by FDOT to address runoff created by the U.S. Highway 17-92 roadway widening project.

Since the CRA approval, FDOT has been progressing with the U.S. Highway 17-92 roadway widening project. However, the park renovations must wait until the roadway project is further along. Because of this, Seminole County was unable to complete the renovation within the grant expenditure deadline. The previously awarded CRA grant expired on February 11, 2016. Extensions beyond two calendar years are not permitted.

Seminole County is now seeking a new approval of the same grant amount to pursue the park improvements.

The proposed application furthers implementation of the following Goal, Objectives, and Policies of the US-17-92 Corridor Redevelopment Master Plan:

- **Goal:** Promote and provide a cohesive, economically sustainable, and functional built environment throughout the entire US 17-92 corridor.
 - **Objective 2:** Eliminate existing blight and prevent the continued degradation of physical and social environment within the CRA jurisdictional boundary and surrounding community.
 - **Policy 2.1:** Encourage privately-initiated rehabilitation of substandard and unsightly structures, signs, landscape and parking areas through available funding programs. Provide matching grants contingent upon design compliance with Corridor Redevelopment Master Plan redevelopment framework standards and perpetual maintenance agreement.
 - **Objective 6:** Coordinate and facilitate the development of the necessary public facilities and infrastructure to accommodate redevelopment and new development within the CRA jurisdictional boundary and potential future connections to the immediate surrounding areas.
 - **Policy 6.3:** Where feasible, provide underground stormwater collection and conveyance systems near constrained properties to increase redevelopment potential. Target areas planned for high density or intensity.

...TAC Recommendation

At its June 23, 2016 meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee approved the request from Seminole County for reallocation of expired CRA grant funding, to partially fund previously approved Sunland Park improvements, in the amount of \$225,000.

...Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the request from Seminole County for reallocation of expired CRA grant funding, to partially fund previously approved Sunland Park improvements, in the amount of \$225,000.

LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
GREENWAYS AND NATURAL LANDS DIVISION



June 9, 2016

Sonia Fonseca, US 17-92 Community Redevelopment Program Manager
1101 E. First Street
Sanford, FL 32771-1468

RE: Sunland Park Renovation Project reapplication \$225,000

Dear Ms. Fonseca:

Sunland Park is a Seminole County park located at the entrance to a residential community, along US 17-92, within the Sanford area of the US 17-92 CRA corridor. Existing amenities include a softball field, playground, volleyball court, and basketball court. All of the existing amenities have been in place for a period of time exceeding the expected "useful life" of such equipment. Parking is also limited to shell rock surface parking on the east side of the park and limited additional grass parking next to the softball field. A drainage creek runs through the park towards Lake Emma. The total cost to renovate the park facilities is estimated at approximately \$725,000. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is contributing funding in the amount of \$500,000.

Seminole County requested partial funding of the Sunland Park renovation in the amount of \$225,000 from the CRA Trust Fund. On January 9, 2014 the Redevelopment Planning Agency recommended approval of the Community Redevelopment Agency partial funding of the Sunland Park renovation in the amount of \$225,000. Additionally, on February 11, 2014 the Board approved the contribution from the US 17-92 Redevelopment Trust Fund to Seminole County for the Sunland Park renovation

Currently, FDOT is the process of widening of US 17-92. This project has hindered our ability to move forward with the renovation of Sunland Park. As a result we were unable to meet the grant award timeline to expend the CRA funding in the amount of \$225,000 and the contract has expired.

We would like to request to have the grant award reinstated as previously awarded in the amount of \$225,000. The Greenways and Natural Land Division has developed a project schedule which would allow us to move forward with Phase I renovations to Sunland Park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Durr
Greenways & Natural Lands Division Manager
Leisure Services Department
Seminole Government

RD/jm