



**TO:** CRA Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lee Feldman, ICMA, City Manager

**DATE:** July 2, 2013

**TITLE:** Adopt Resolution - Broward Redevelopment Program (BRP) Application

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**Recommendation**

Adopt a resolution in support of an application for the NE 13th Street Complete Street Project from NE 4th Avenue to NE 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue for the Broward County Redevelopment Program (BRP) Program.

**Background**

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners have announced a funding opportunity for local governments and Community Redevelopment Agencies for redevelopment projects in defined redevelopment areas that can demonstrate existing conditions of blight, high unemployment, and declining property values. The Broward Redevelopment Program (BRP) is a grant program created by utilizing \$15,000,000 from a prior Broward County redevelopment program – the Redevelopment Capital Program. The funding announcement advertised on May 1, 2013 will make \$7,500,000 available for cities to submit applications. An eligible application for funding can include projects that involve property acquisition, public improvements, and interior build-out for economic development. The maximum funding amount for property acquisition or public improvement is \$1,500,000; the maximum funding amount for an interior build-out project is \$15 per square foot not to exceed \$150,000 or 50% of the interior build-out cost, whichever is less. The BRP application requires an official form of support of the application from the City Commission and the CRA Board. For many cities that have CRA districts, the CRA Board and the City Commission are not one and the same. Applications are due on July 15, 2013. A project selected for funding must be completed within three years of an executed inter-local agreement with Broward County.

On behalf of the Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency staff will submit an application for BRP funding for the NE 13th Street Complete Streets streetscape project. The 13th Street corridor is a major small and local business corridor within the heart of the Central City CRA district.

As identified on the City's Multimodal Connectivity Map, the improvement project consists of roadway redesign, new wider sidewalks, on street parking, color enhanced bike lanes, in ground LED lights, shade trees and ADA improvements. The project is part of the redevelopment vision for the area put forward by the 13th Street Alliance – a business association in the area – and the project is identified in the adopted Central City CRA community redevelopment plan. Upon completion, the NE 13th Street Complete Streets project will encourage pedestrian activity and make it easier to visit area businesses or travel through the area by foot or on a bicycle. The project is expected to improve safety, lower transportation costs, promote economic development, increase property values, foster a green environment and encourage a healthier community by encouraging walking and biking.

Improvements to the 13th Street corridor are identified in the Community Investment Plan (CIP) and programmed for funding in FY 2018. The CIP project is described in detail as a complete street project on 13th Street from NW 9th Avenue to NE 11th Avenue. The total project cost according to the CIP is estimated at \$5,500,000 or \$250,000 per block including engineering, design and construction.

The Central City CRA Advisory Board passed a motion at its June 5, 2013 meeting requesting that city staff submit an application for BRP funding for the NE 13th Street Complete Streets project from NE 4th Avenue to NE 9th Avenue (excluding the FEC Railway). Based on a preliminary cost estimate of \$250,000 per block, city staff concurs with the six-block area identified by the advisory board. The six-block area estimate matches up with the preliminary cost estimate of \$1,500,000 that is equivalent to the maximum amount for public improvements that can be awarded to a redevelopment program applicant.

A local funding match is required, but no specific amount is identified in the BRP program information. However, the program information does spell out that the local funding match must be from non-County funds or through in-kind services. The Redevelopment Trust Fund created for the Central City CRA does not have funding available at this time to provide a cash match. Staff recommends two local funding matches for the BRP application for the 13<sup>th</sup> Street project. Matching funding for the project shall consist of \$100,000 from the Stormwater Fund to cover expenses associated with improvements to the stormwater system included in the Complete Street project and a \$5,000 contribution of cash and in-kind services from the 13th Street Alliance.

A resolution authorizing the submittal of an application for funding from the Broward Redevelopment Program will also be considered by the City Commission on July 2, 2013.

**Resource Impact**

Funding is available in the Storm water Fund

**FUNDS AVAILABLE:**

FUND	SUB FUND	FUND NAME	INDEX #	INDEX NAME	SUB OBJECT #	SUB OBJECT NAME	AMOUNT
470	01	Stormwater - Operations	FD470.01	Stormwater Operations	9901	Anticipated Year End	\$100,000
TOTAL							<u>\$100,000</u>

Related CAM: 13-0844

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – BRP Program Application (Draft)

Exhibit 2 – Map of Project Area

Exhibit 3 – Complete Street Conceptual Design for NE 13<sup>th</sup> Street Project

Exhibit 4 – 13<sup>th</sup> Street Alliance Funding Commitment

Exhibit 5 – Resolution

Prepared by: Alfred G. Battle, Jr. Economic & Community Reinvestment Manager

Department Director: Greg Brewton, Sustainable Development