PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: October 6, 2020

[] Consent

[x] Regular

[] Workshop

[] Public Hearing

Submitted By:

County Administration

Submitted For:

County Administration

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Staff recommends motion to adopt: a Resolution of the Board of County Motion and Title: Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, urging the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to require a competitive process for the 2021 expiring contract for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for Region 8, and to split Region 8 which currently combines Palm Beach and Broward Counties into two (2) separate regions, thereby establishing Palm Beach County as its own region for administration of TEFAP.

Summary: The proposed Resolution is to urge FDACS to issue a competitive solicitation for state contracts, for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021, to administer the TEFAP program, and to separate Region 8, which currently combines Palm Beach and Broward Counties, into two (2) separate regions under the program. State contracts to administer TEFAP have not been competitively bid since 2010. FDACS executes the program in Florida through contracts with one Contracted Distributing Agency (CDA) in each of nine (9) regions. Palm Beach County and Broward County are currently combined into one region (Region 8). By combining Palm Beach and Broward Counties, FDACS effectively limits otherwise eligible Palm Beach County based organizations from successfully competing to administer the TEFAP program in Palm Beach County. Palm Beach County is the third largest county by population in Florida and second largest geographically, and Palm Beach County has a higher population than three TEFAP regions that have their own CDA. Staff recommends the adoption of the Resolution that urges: 1) FDACS to require a competitive process for the 2021 expiring contract in place for Region 8; and 2) the creation of two separate regions, thereby establishing Palm Beach County as its own independent region with its own CDA to administer the TEFAP program for Palm Beach County. Countywide (HH)

Background and Policy Issues (continued on page 3): In response to an ongoing concern that hunger and food insecurity continue to be significant issues that affect residents of Palm Beach County, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a Hunger Relief Plan in 2015. The Hunger Relief Plan included among its goals that both established County food banks, Feeding South Florida and the Palm Beach County Food Bank (PBCFB), would coordinate their services to distribute TEFAP to Palm Beach County partner agencies. This desired collaboration has never occurred, however, and the County's two food banks work independently of each other. The PBCFB was established in 2012 by a broad coalition of community organizations and agencies, including the Board of County Commissioners, subsequent to the last competitive RFA process by FDACS for the TEFAP program. Since its inception, the PBCFB has grown to a robust network of food pantries and soup kitchens, serving over 200 front line food distribution partner agencies (prior to the COVID-19 pandemic), and in its last fiscal year it delivered over 10 million pounds of food at no cost to those agencies. Due to the fact there are now two (2) independent, effective and eligible food banks in Palm Beach County, both of those food banks should have the opportunity to compete to be the administrator of the TEFAP program in the County they serve, however, the combined Region 8 puts the Palm Beach County-based food bank at a disadvantage because it does not serve Broward County.

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1. Resolution

Recommended and Approved by:

9/29 /2020 Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:
Fiscal Years 2020 2021 2022 Capital Expenditures Operating Costs External Revenues Program Income (County) In-Kind Match (County)
NET FISCAL IMPACT
ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)000
Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes No Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes No
Budget Account No.: Fund Agency Org Object
B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:
C. Departmental Fiscal Review:
III. REVIEW COMMENTS:
A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:
B. Legal Sufficiency:
Assistant County Attorney
C. Other Department Review:
Department Director

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.

Background and Policy Issues_(continued): TEFAP is a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program that provides food to low-income individuals and families, helping to improve diets of these Americans regardless of age by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. Under TEFAP, commodity foods are made available by the USDA to the states. FDACS has not issued a competitive solicitation for these commodities since 2010. Recipient agencies who are awarded a contract by the FDACS receive and are responsible for the distribution of all the TEFAP commodities in the county or counties included within their region. The current contract for TEFAP in Palm Beach County is held by Feeding South Florida, Inc, an organization based in Broward County, with a warehouse located in Boynton Beach, FL.

Resolution	No	2020-	
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RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES (FDACS) TO REQUIRE A COMPETITIVE PROCESS FOR THE 2021 EXPIRING CONTRACT FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S (USDA) EMERGENCY FEEDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TEFAP) FOR REGION 8, AND TO SPLIT REGION 8, CURRENTLY COMBINING PALM BEACH AND BROWARD COUNTIES INTO TWO (2) SEPARATE REGIONS, THEREBY ESTABLISHING PALM BEACH COUNTY AS ITS OWN INDEPENDENT REGION FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, hunger and food insecurity continue to be significant issues that affect residents of Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, TEFAP is a USDA program that provides food to low-income Americans, and FDACS executes the TEFAP program in Florida through contracts with one Contracted Distributing Agency (CDA) in each of nine (9) existing regions throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida's contracts to administer TEFAP have not been competitively bid for the past ten years, since 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Food Bank, which serves a broad network of 200 Palm Beach County based food pantries, soup kitchens and other distribution partners, was established in 2012, subsequent to the last competitive process for TEFAP; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Palm Beach County Food Bank has served to represent, along with Feeding South Florida, two viable Food Banks independently operating in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach and Broward Counties are currently combined into one region, Region 8, which effectively limits the Palm Beach County Food Bank from successfully competing to administer the TEFAP in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County is the third-largest county by population in Florida and the second-largest geographically.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

- 1. Palm Beach County urges FDACS to issue a competitive process for the TEFAP program for the fiscal year beginning October 2021.
- 2. Palm Beach County urges FDACS to separate Palm Beach County and Broward County and establish each County as its own independent region under Florida's TEFAP program, which will allow both of Palm Beach County's established Food Banks to compete to become the exclusive administrator for the TEFAP program in Palm Beach County.
- 3. A copy of this resolution is to be forwarded to Nicole "Nikki" Fried, Commissioner, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and Deborah Tannenbaum, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture.

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Dave Kerner, Mayor Robert S. Weinroth, Vice Mayor Commissioner Hal R. Valeche Commissioner Gregg K. Weiss Commissioner Mary Lou Berger Commissioner Melissa McKinlay Commissioner Mack Bernard						
The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted thisday of, 2020.						
ATTEST: CLERK & COMPTROLLER Sharon R. Bock, Clerk and Comptroller	Palm Beach County, Florida by its Board of County Commissioners					
By:Clerk & Comptroller	By: Dave Kerner, Mayor					
Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency:	Approved as to Content:					
By: M. H. Hvizd Assistant County Attorney	By:					