

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	March 22, 2022	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

Department: Housing & Economic Development

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: a Resolution authorizing the Department of Housing and Economic Development to submit an Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) Application for up to \$1,000,000 to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development; authorizing acceptance of the funds awarded; and authorizing the County Administrator or designee to execute the Loan Application and all other documents necessary for implementation of the IRP.

Summary: Staff is recommending that the County submit an application to USDA, which if approved will increase the County’s \$1.4M allocation to \$2.4M. The IRP provides gap financing to businesses located in the County’s western communities to alleviate poverty and increase economic activity and employment. These loan funds will be leveraged with other public and private loans, and the borrower will pledge security as collateral. **IRP funds are Federal funds which require no local match.** District 6 (DB)

Background and Policy Issues: On June 21, 2011 the Board of County Commissioners approved (R2011-0947) the establishment of the revolving loan program funded through USDA’s IRP totaling \$400,000. Subsequently, on March 11, 2014, an additional allocation of \$1,000,000 was approved (R2014-0355). To date, approximately \$1.3M in loans have been committed from the County’s original IRP allocation which includes 11 businesses in Belle Glade, 2 businesses in Pahokee and 1 business in Loxahatchee. These businesses are projected to create 134 jobs. Over 98% of the loan funds have now been committed to projects, and demand for additional loans remains strong. The program provides a 3% fixed rate with terms between 7 (seven) and 20 years. Eligible uses include: acquisition, construction, machinery and equipment and working capital.

Attachment(s):
1 Resolution

Recommended By:		
	Department Director	Date

Approved By:		
	Assistant County Administrator	Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues					
Program Income					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT	*				

# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)					
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Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes _____ No X
 Does this Item include the use of Federal funds? Yes X No _____

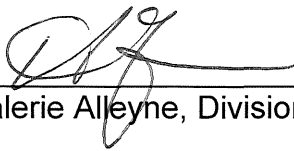
Budget Account No.:

Fund _____ Dept. _____ Unit _____ Object _____ Program Code/Period _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact: N/A

*Source of funding will be USDA Intermediary Relending Program funds. The budget will be amended to recognize the funds should the grant be awarded.

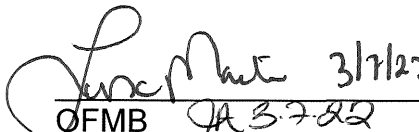
C. Departmental Fiscal Review:



 Valerie Alleyne, Division Manager

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:



 OFMB *JA 3-7-22*
(Plw) 3-7-22



 Contract Development and Control

B. Legal Sufficiency:



 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DHED) TO SUBMIT AN INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM (IRP) APPLICATION FOR UP TO \$1,000,000 TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) RURAL DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE FUNDS AWARDED; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE LOAN APPLICATION AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IRP.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, believes that it is appropriate to utilize all available resources to facilitate economic growth in Palm Beach County and desires to obtain financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development under the IRP for the purpose of providing financing to businesses located in the rural areas of Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the IRP is to alleviate poverty and increase economic activity and employment in rural communities, especially disadvantaged and remote communities, through financing targeted primarily towards smaller and emerging businesses, in partnership with other public and private resources, and in accordance with State and regional strategy based on identified community needs; and

WHEREAS, under this program, Palm Beach County must follow USDA Rural Development regulations, the loan agreement, the approved work plan, security interests and any other conditions required by the USDA, including protecting the financial interest of the USDA and maintaining the revolving loan fund; and

WHEREAS, in Sections 290.0411 and 125.045, Florida Statutes, the Florida Legislature declared that the use of public funds towards the achievement of enhancing and expanding economic activity in the counties of the State by attracting and retaining business enterprises conducive to economic promotion, enhancing and preserving purchasing power and employment opportunities for State residents, and improving the welfare and competitive position of the State constitutes a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida believes that it is appropriate to utilize the USDA Rural Development IRP to provide financing to established businesses, and has determined that the use of public funds to assist in implementing the Palm Beach County IRP constitutes a public purpose as described in Section 290.0411 and Section 125.045 of the Florida Statutes.

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

Section I. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are expressly incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.

Section II. DHED is authorized to submit an Intermediary Relending Program application to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development for up to \$1 Million.

Section III. DHED is authorized to accept funds awarded by USDA.

Section IV. The County Administrator, or designee, is authorized to execute the Loan Application and all other documents necessary for implementation of the IRP.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____, and being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:


Commissioner Robert S. Weinroth, Mayor	_____
Commissioner Gregg K. Weiss, Vice-Mayor	_____
Commissioner Maria G. Marino	_____
Commissioner Dave Kerner	_____
Commissioner Maria Sachs	_____
Commissioner Melissa McKinlay	_____
Commissioner Mack Bernard	_____

The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this _____ day of March, 2022.

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**APPROVED AS TO
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

**ATTEST: JOSEPH ABRUZZO
CLERK & COMPTROLLER**

By: 

David Behar
Assistant County Attorney

By: _____
Deputy Clerk