

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: November 7, 2023 [x] Consent [] Regular [] Workshop [] Public Hearing

Department: County Administration Submitted By: County Administration Submitted For: Office of Community Revitalization

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to:

A) approve the following agreements (FY 2024 NEAT Grant Agreements) to implement various community improvement projects and initiatives through the Office of Community Revitalization's (OCR) Neighborhood Engagement and Transformation (NEAT) Grants Program for a total of \$150,000:

- 1. an Agreement with Caleb Ephraim Project, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$5,000 for a landscaping project in the Cam Estates Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) area;
2. an Agreement with Community Faith Outreach Ministries, Incorporated in an amount not-to-exceed \$15,000 for a garden expansion project (\$10,000) and a gardening outreach project (\$5,000) in the Lantana Homes CCRT area;
3. an Agreement with Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group, Inc. d/b/a Family Impact Palm Beach County in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for a beautification project in the Lake Worth West CCRT area;
4. an Agreement with Country Club Acres Association Inc in an amount not-to-exceed \$20,000 for a playground installation project (\$10,000); a median landscaping project (\$5,000); and barrier landscaping project (\$5,000) in the County Club Acres CCRT area;
5. an Agreement with the City of Pahokee in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000 for a bench installation project (\$10,000); a trash receptacle project (\$10,000); and a basketball and fitness equipment project (\$10,000);
6. an Agreement with the City of South Bay in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for a community cleanup and landscaping project;
7. an Agreement with The Glades Initiative, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$19,003 for an emergency preparedness project (\$10,000) and a shelter project (\$9,003) in the City Belle Glade;
8. an Agreement with Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,997 for a community service equipment project (\$4,671) and a community engagement project (\$6,326) in various CCRT neighborhoods;
9. an Agreement with Restoration Bridge International, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for a food distribution equipment project in various CCRT areas and the Glades region;
10. an Agreement with Paint Your Heart Out Palm Beach County, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for a painting project in various CCRT neighborhoods;
11. an Agreement with Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for critical home repairs for low-income homeowners in various CCRT neighborhoods; and

B) delegate authority to the County Administrator or designee to approve minor changes to the scope of work of the FY 2024 NEAT Grant Agreements that do not increase the awarded grant funding or change the scope of work or the overall intent of the program;

Summary: The NEAT Grants Program was established by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on March 13, 2018, and amended on December 6, 2022 to clarify the program guidelines and eligibility requirements, focus County funding on areas that are under OCR's purview, and to allow for critical neighborhood improvements. The program provides funding to neighborhood-based groups and/or organizations for projects that improve the quality of life in their communities. This agenda item includes eleven (11) Agreements for the recommended eighteen (18) projects for this year's cycle. The projects will be completed in FY 2024 and include a variety of activities. Project summaries are provided under Attachment "1". Staff is requesting BCC approval of the agreements and related funding, as well as the delegation of authority to the County Administrator or designee to approve minor changes to the scope of work. Countywide (RS)

Background and Justification: See Page 3.

Attachments:

- 1. Neighborhood Engagement and Transformation (NEAT) Grants Program – Recommended Projects For Funding
2. Grant Agreements

Recommended by [Signature] 10/2/2023 Date
Approved By: [Signature] 10/18/23 Date
Assistant County Administrator

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs	\$150,000				
External Revenues					
Program Income(County)					
In-Kind Match(County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT	\$150,000				
#ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (CUMULATIVE					

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes No
Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes No

Budget Account No.:

Fund	Agency	Unit	Object	
1401	610	6206	8201	\$150,000

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

Funds to cover the contract expense are budgeted under the NEAT FY2024 within the OCR Special Project Initiative Fund.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: *Delaney*

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

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

Lisa Martin 10/10/2023
OFMB 9A 10/4 MG10/6

Ar. J. Sanchez 10/17/23
Contract Dev. and Control
7/1 10/17/23

B. Legal Sufficiency:

[Signature] 10/19/23
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

REVISED 9/03
ADM FORM 01 (THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

(Continued from Page 1)

Background and Justification: By offering financial assistance, training, and technical support, the NEAT Grants Program enables residents to develop small collaborative grassroots community projects, and see their ideas through to completion. NEAT Grants are currently available for projects located within unincorporated Palm Beach County, CCRT areas, and the Glades region, including the municipalities of Belle Glade, South Bay, and Pahokee. The NEAT Grants Program provides reimbursable grants of up to \$10,000 per project to individuals, neighborhood-based groups and/or organizations for eligible projects and initiatives that promote neighborhood improvement, community identity, and community outreach and capacity building; help reenergize existing organizations and/or create new ones; and develop safe and healthy neighborhoods.

In July of this year, the NEAT Agency Review Committee comprised of representatives from the Planning, Zoning and Building Department, Engineering, Land Development, Purchasing, Parks and Recreation, Emergency Management, the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, and Risk Management was formed to review and recommend projects for funding. The NEAT Agency Review Committee evaluated and recommended for funding eighteen (18) of the twenty three (23) projects submitted for the NEAT FY2024 funding cycle in an amount totaling \$150,000. Applications submitted from the same organization were consolidated into one agreement. The projects will be completed in FY 2024 and consist of various activities within the nine (9) eligible categories listed below:

1. Neighborhood Beautification: Cleanup projects, landscape/aesthetic improvement projects, community gardens/benches, exterior painting on clusters of homes.
2. Neighborhood Identification Projects: Community banners, unified address plaques, and uniformed address numbers, and uniformed mailboxes.
3. Neighborhood Organizing and Sustainability: Projects promoting neighborhood unification, obtaining 501(c) (3) designation (incorporated groups only), newsletters, and community organizing events related to neighborhood revitalization.
4. Neighborhood Outreach and Capacity Building: Community bulletin boards, yard signs, newsletters, neighborhood-based events, and celebrations.
5. Public Safety and Crime Prevention: Crime watch projects and crime prevention events.
6. Community Gardens: Community Gardens, butterfly gardens, and community cookbooks.
7. Neighborhood Green Projects: Community tool exchange library, recycling events for electronics, appliances, etc., lake and canal improvements.
8. Emergency Preparedness: Creation of a neighborhood directory and neighborhood preparedness tool kits.
9. Other: Little Free Libraries, minor playground improvements, benches, gazebos, pavilions, infrastructure, resiliency, and other neighborhood improvement projects.

Delegation of authority to the County Administrator or designee for approval of minor changes to scopes of work that don't exceed the awarded grant funding or change the overall intent of the grant will allow grantees to make minor adjustments to the projects' scope of work, if needed, without the need of BCC approval. OCR staff is recommending BCC approval of the agreements and delegation of authority.