



**Interoffice Memorandum**

November 27, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM**

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings  
-AND-  
Board of County Commissioners

THRU: Lonnie C. Bell, Jr., Director  
Family Services Department

FROM: Jason Reynolds, AICP, Administrator  
Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Office

SUBJECT: **Consent Agenda Item – December 18, 2018**  
Countywide Sustainable Communities Grant

*J. Brown for Lonnie*

The Board accepted the Orange County Sustainability Plan "Our Home for Life" on May 13, 2014. The Orange County Sustainability Plan's purpose is to provide a framework for working towards sustainability, as well as goals and strategies that will serve to integrate sustainability into our culture, decision-making, and governance. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program is a part of the Neighborhood Pride Grants program created in 2011 to offer beautification grants to neighborhood organizations. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program allows neighborhood organizations to take charge and implement sustainable projects in their community.

The Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Office administers the Sustainable Communities Grant Program, which provides funds for citizen organizations to help reduce pollution and their carbon footprint. The grant is available countywide in amounts ranging between \$500 and \$5,000. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program accepts applications on a monthly basis.

The Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Office staff performs a detailed technical review on each application received. The staff examines various aspects of the project, including the potential reduction in pollution and carbon footprint, the project cost, impact on the community, and the ability of the organization to execute the project and maintain any physical improvements. The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) helped to develop the grant program criteria and assists applicants in developing projects that reduce pollution and their carbon footprint. Organizations are required to provide a letter of support from EPD, which has been provided for this project.

Several measures are in place to ensure proper monitoring and compliance with the program guidelines. All grant funds are distributed through the County's purchase order process, and there are no direct cash payments to the selected organizations. Applicants are required to complete projects, as documented on the invoices from vendors and their status reports.

Every organization that completes a physical improvement project must also demonstrate the ability to independently maintain the improvement. Staff concludes the monitoring process for each grant awarded by conducting detailed site visits to ensure compliance with the requirements.

The Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board (NGAB) is recommending approval of Washington Park Neighborhood Sustainable Communities Grant for December 2018 (see Attachment A). The grant request is displayed in greater detail in Attachment B. The grant request was reviewed by Orange County staff and presented to the NGAB for recommendations. The application was reviewed based on project feasibility, organizational readiness, and benefit to the community. In addition, the application was reviewed against the County's permitting requirements to ensure that the project would comply with appropriate County codes.

Finally, the organization is required to sign a letter of agreement recognizing their responsibilities throughout the grant process, document the appropriate match, and demonstrate an ability to maintain the project.

**ACTION REQUESTED:            Approval of the December 2018 Sustainable Communities Grant as recommended by the Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board for Washington Park Neighborhood (\$1,300). District 6.**

JR/kdj:jam

Attachment(s)

c: Tabitha James, Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Office

Sustainable Communities Grant  
 Orange County Board of County Commissioners  
 December 18, 2018 Consent Agenda

**ATTACHMENT A**

District	Organization	Description of the Project	Requested Amount	NGAB Recommendation	EPD Review
6	Washington Park Neighborhood	Lighting	\$1,300	Yes	Yes
		<b>Total Requests</b>	<b>\$1,300</b>		

**Attachment B**

**Sustainable Communities Grant  
Profile**

Organization Name: Washington Park Neighborhood	Request Amount: \$1,300
Commission District 6: Victoria P. Siplin	Matching Amount: 0
Municipality Jurisdiction: Orlando	Total Project Cost: \$1,300
Property Ownership: Public	Type of Grant: Sustainable Communities Grant

**Summary:** The neighborhood wishes to install solar lighting at their neighborhood entrance. The homes within this neighborhood have met taxable value guidelines.

