



Interoffice Memorandum

May 14, 2018

AGENDA ITEM

TO: Mayor Teresa Jacobs
-AND-
Board of County Commissioners

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

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

SUBJECT: **Consent Agenda Item – June 5, 2018**
Countywide Sustainable Communities Grant

The Board of County Commissioners accepted and adopted 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 these projects.

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 Friends of Lake LaGrange Community Association Sustainable Communities Grant for June 2018 (see Attachment A). The grant request was reviewed by Orange County staff and presented to the NGAB for recommendation. The application was reviewed based on project feasibility, organizational readiness, and benefit to the community. The grant request is displayed in greater detail in Attachment B.

ACTION REQUESTED: **Approval of the June 2018 Sustainable Communities Grant as recommended by the Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board for Friends of Lake LaGrange Community Association (\$5,000). District 3.**

JR/kdj:jam

Attachment(s)

- c: David Jones, Manager, Environmental Protection Division
Antwan Nelson, Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Office
Karen S. Willis, Chairperson, Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board

Orange County Board of County Commissioners
June 5, 2018 Consent Agenda
Countywide Sustainable Communities Grants – **ATTACHMENT A**

District	Organization	Description of the Project	Requested Amount	NGAB Rec	EPD Review
3	Friends of Lake LaGrange Community Association	Lake Shoreline Restoration and Cleaning	\$5,000	Yes	Yes
		Total Requests	\$5,000		

Sustainable Communities Grant Profile

Organization Name: Friends of Lake LaGrange
Community Association

Request Amount: \$5,000

Commission District 3: Pete Clarke

Matching Amount: \$0

Municipality Jurisdiction: Orange

Total Project Cost: \$5,000

Property Ownership: Private

Type of Grant: Sustainable
Communities Grant

Summary: The neighborhood wishes to restore the health of Lake LaGrange by installing aquatic shore plants on properties around the lake. The homes within this neighborhood have met taxable value guidelines.

