

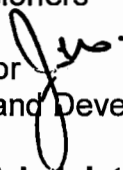


Interoffice Memorandum

AGENDA ITEM

March 18, 2019

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

FROM: Jon V. Weiss, P.E., Director 
Planning, Environmental, and Development Services Department

**CONTACT PERSON: Jason Reynolds, AICP, Administrator
Neighborhood Services Division
(407) 836-5547**

SUBJECT: April 9, 2019 – Consent Item
April 2019 Sustainable Communities Grants

The Board 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 ("Program") is a part of the Neighborhood Pride Grants program created in 2011 to offer beautification grants to neighborhood organizations. The Program allows neighborhood organizations to take charge and implement sustainable projects in their community to help reduce pollution and their carbon footprint. The grant is available countywide in amounts ranging between \$500 and \$5,000. The Program accepts applications on a monthly basis.

The Neighborhood Services Division staff performs a detailed technical review of each application received. Staff examine 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 April 2019 Sustainable Communities Grants to Sylvan Highland Subdivision (\$700) and Magellan Crossing Subdivision (\$700) (see Attachment A). The grant requests are displayed in greater detail in Attachments B and C. The grant requests were reviewed by staff and presented to the NGAB for recommendation. The applications were reviewed based on project feasibility, organizational readiness, and benefit to the community. In addition, the applications were reviewed against the County's permitting requirements to ensure that the project would comply with appropriate County codes.

Finally, the organizations are 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 Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board's recommendations of Sustainable Communities Grants to Sylvan Highland Subdivision (\$700) and Magellan Crossing Subdivision (\$700). Districts 2 and 6

JWW/JR/kdj
Attachments

Orange County Board of County Commissioners
April 9, 2019 Consent Agenda
Sustainable Communities Grants

ATTACHMENT A

| District | Organization | Description of the Project | Requested Amount | NGAB Recommendation | EPD Review |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 2 | Sylvan Highland Subdivision | Solar Lighting | \$700 | Yes | Yes |
| 6 | Magellan Crossing Subdivision | Solar Lighting | \$700 | Yes | Yes |
| | | Total Requests | \$1,400 | | |

Profile

Organization Name: Sylvan Highland Subdivision

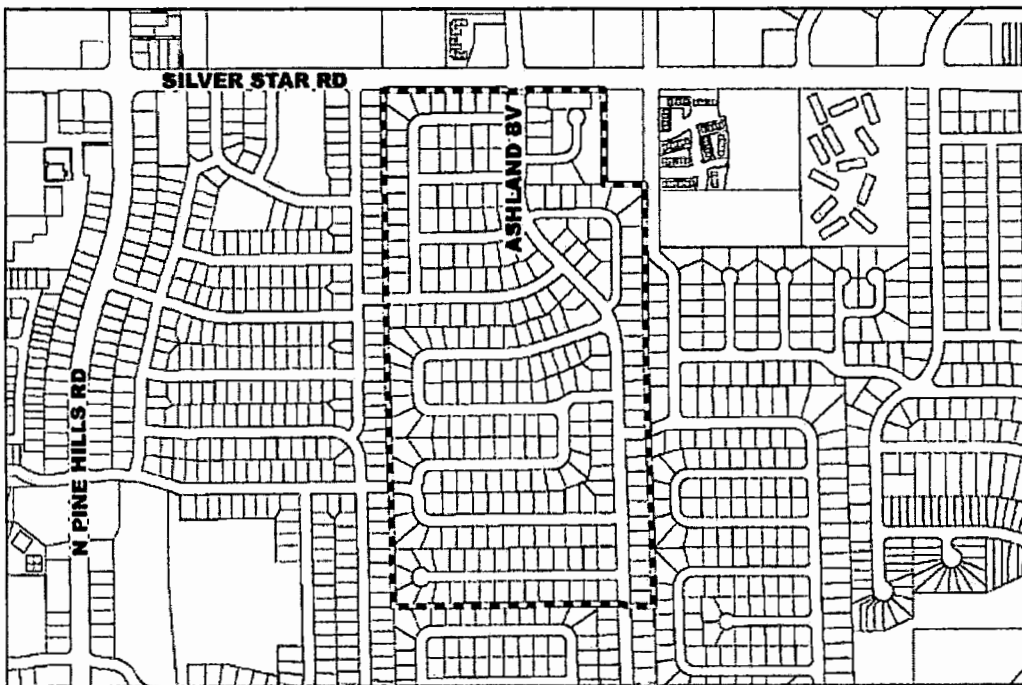
Request: Install solar lights at the entrance to the neighborhood

Requested Amount: \$700

Matching Amount: \$0

Total Project Cost: \$700

Sylvan Highland Subdivision



Profile

Organization Name: Magellan Crossing

Request: Install solar lights at the entrance to the neighborhood

Requested Amount: \$700

Matching Amount: \$0

Total Project Cost: \$700

Magellan Crossing

