



Legislation Text

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Proposed East Gainesville Development Corporation Agreement for Economic Development Services (B)

This item involves a proposed agreement with East Gainesville Development Corporation for the provision of entrepreneurial training and technical assistance to potential entrepreneurs in East Gainesville.

East Gainesville Development Corporation (EGDC) is an incorporated, non-profit organization whose primary goal is to create new growth, development and investment in East Gainesville.

In 2006 EGDC applied unsuccessfully for CDBG grants for a Skills Empowerment Program (\$100,000) and a Mini-grant and training program for start-up businesses (\$50,000). The report from the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development (CACCD) which the City Commission heard on 7/27/2006 (see CACCD and staff analysis report back-up) gave the following reason for not recommending funding for either of the EGDC requests: "The Committee believes that these services are already available to the community through SFCC and other agencies." Limited funding from CDBG was also a consideration.

Subsequently, Economic Development staff was asked to explore an agreement with EGDC to be funded by General Government funds.

Under the proposed fee for services agreement EGDC will:

1. Enroll 11 prospective entrepreneurs in the NxLevel entrepreneurial training
2. Conduct the training and have 9 students complete all modules of the program
3. Provide mini-grants to students who complete top business plans. Economic Development staff will participate in the evaluation process of the business plans.
4. Provide on-going technical assistance to graduates of the training.

Deliverables will be provided for each component of the work program.

This agreement will not exceed \$25,000. The plan is for funding to be reallocated from a portion of the \$100,000 the City Commission has allocated for the Entrepreneurial Charter School in fiscal year 2005-2008.

The City Commission: 1) hear a brief presentation from staff; 2) direct staff on the implementation of the agreement; and 3) authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement with EGDC pending approval of said agreement by the City Attorney.

Alternate Recommendation A

The City Commission: 1) direct staff to implement the agreement with stated modifications; and 2) authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement with EGDC pending approval of said agreement by the City Attorney.

Alternate Recommendation B

The City Commission: 1) deny the proposed agreement.

