



Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title: Coronavirus Relief Fund Program Update (NB)

This agenda item is to provide an update to the City Commission regarding the Utility Assistance Program.

Sponsors:

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Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
12/3/2020	1	City Commission	Approved, as shown above	Pass

Coronavirus Relief Fund Program Update (NB)

The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) program was launched in September 2020 to assist neighbors with utility services. The program generated an interest of approximately 848 neighbors of which 159 submitted applications and 679 applications were started, but not yet submitted. Staff has continued efforts to reach out to the 679 neighbors with pending applications to offer support to encourage submittal of their applications. Due to the number of applications submitted to date; and the tight expenditure deadline of December 30, 2020, as required by the State of Florida, staff would like to propose amending the Utility Assistance Program guidelines. The amendment to the program would include financial assistance for rent and mortgage; as well as increasing the maximum award per applicant based on need. HCD staff will also reach out to former GNVCares About Neighbors applicants to inquire if they are still in need of financial assistance.

Approximately \$235,000 is still available from the CRF Program.

The City Commission: 1) modify the Coronavirus Relief Fund Utility Assistance Program to include rent and mortgage assistance; and 2) increase the maximum award amount per applicant based on their individual need.