

Legislation Text

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Technical Revision to the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program Local Housing Assistance Plan-State Fiscal Years 2020-2023 (B)

Since 1992, the City of Gainesville has participated in the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program, which provides Florida Cities and Counties with funds to implement programs to promote and preserve affordable housing and homeownership. State law requires Cities to adopt a Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) to receive SHIP funds. The LHAP describes program activities and management plans for the utilization of funds through public/private partnerships which expand the production and preservation of affordable housing within the city limits of the City of Gainesville. The LHAP addresses several affordable housing needs in the community, including homeownership, housing rehabilitation, new construction, down payment assistance, mortgage foreclosure intervention, and rental housing. The goal of the plan is to provide affordable housing opportunities for income eligible residents within the City.

Due to increased construction costs, and to provide more efficient and effective service to applicants, this agenda item proposes three minor revisions to the LHAP's House Replacement Program (HRP), within the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Strategy. Those changes include: 1) increasing the maximum funding for the HRP; 2) allowing contingency funding to cover unexpected costs during the construction project; and 3) providing supplementary funding to assist homeowner with temporary relocation costs.

The specific language of the proposed changes is provided in the backup attached to this agenda item.

Strategic Connection: This item is connected to Goal 3: A Great Place to Live and Experience in the City's Strategic Plan.

The revised maximum HRP Program funding limit will increase to \$175,000, which will include all project related costs such as, construction, contingency and temporary relocation costs.

The City Commission: 1) approve the proposed technical revisions to the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program Local Housing Assistance Plan for State Fiscal Years 2020/2021, 2021/2022 and 2022/2023; 2) authorize staff to submit the proposed technical revisions to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; and 3) authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager or designee to execute all necessary documents related to the proposed technical revisions, subject to review by the City Attorney as to form and legality.