

72613

DATE November 13, 2019

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Norma V. Drummond
Commissioner of Planning

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the agreement between the County of Westchester and Freedom Gardens for the Handicapped, Inc. to provide funds for the renovation of Unit #8, a two-bedroom apartment located at 1680 Strawberry Road, in the Town of Yorktown.

The attached resolution authorizes the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Freedom Gardens for the Handicapped, Inc. ("Freedom Gardens"), to provide a grant from the Community Development Block Grant Program ("CDBG") and a loan from the CDBG Property Improvement Program. The funds will be used for the renovation of an existing two-bedroom rental apartment ("Unit #8") located at 1680 Strawberry Road, in the Hamlet of Mohegan Lake and the Town of Yorktown. The amount of the grant is \$137,500 and the amount of the loan is \$117,985 with a term of fifteen years at zero percent interest, for a total funding assistance amount of \$255,575, pursuant to an approved budget. The term of the grant is December 16, 2019 to December 15, 2020.

Freedom Gardens is a small development that provides housing to physically disabled persons. Freedom Gardens' management has requested funding to renovate Unit #8, a two-bedroom unit in this development. Unit #8 requires renovation as it has significant water damage and has been uninhabitable for several years. The unit will provide fair and affordable rental housing for a household whose income does not to exceed 60% of Westchester County's Area Median Income and will have an affordability period for not less than 50 years. At least one member of the household must have a documented physical disability.

The goal and objective of this agreement is to create a fair and affordable rental unit that is safe, secure, and energy efficient for a household where at least one member has a physical disability. . This project will relieve a physically disabled tenant from the burden of the high cost of rental housing in Westchester County. The Westchester County Department of Planning Staff will monitor and track the renovation to ensure all contractual requirements are met and will continue to monitor Unit #8 to ensure compliance with the affordability requirements.

This procurement is in compliance with the County of Westchester Procurement Policy Procedures, pursuant to Section 3(a)xvi, which states that contracts with recipients for disbursement of grants or loans under the Community Development Block Grant Program are exempt.

Act # 37-2019, adopted March 11, 2019, by the Westchester County Board of Legislators, authorized the County to submit an Urban County Application under the Federal Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and HOME Programs, including a FY 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan and to accept such Grants.

On May 30, 2019, the Board of Acquisition and Contract approved a resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to accept a grant totaling \$3,544,891 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

I recommend approval of this agreement.

NVD/cp/jbl
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 11/2/2019 - LISA MERRILL, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF PLANNING, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED: that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Freedom Gardens for the Handicapped, Inc., through the Community Development Block Grant Program (“CDBG”) and a loan from the CDBG Property Improvement Program, the grant not to exceed amount is \$137,500 and the loan not to exceed amount is \$117,985, for a grand total of funding assistance of \$255,575, pursuant to an approved budget, for a term beginning December 16, 2019 and ending December 15, 2020, for the renovation of Unit #8 in the development, an existing two-bedroom rental unit located at 1680 Strawberry Road, in the Town of Yorktown, and be it further

RESOLVED: that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is authorized to execute any documents and take any actions necessary to effectuate purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited

		Major Program, Program & Phase	Object/	Trust	
Fund	Dept	Or Unit	Sub Object	Account	Dollars
263	19	067U	4380	T067	\$137,500
276	19	2039	N/A	N/A	\$117,985

Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution) FY 2019 Start Date December 16, 2019 End Date December 15, 2020

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____

State Aid _____

\$255,575 Federal Aid \$255,575 – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

(must match resolution)

Other _____