

**7701**

DATE July 8, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Edward Burroughs  
Acting Commissioner of Planning

SUBJECT: Resolution to Exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, an Agreement with Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc. for a Condominium and Cooperative Board Fair Housing Education Program and an Asset Building Program/Individual Development Account Program , pursuant to Section 3(a)xxi of the Westchester County Procurement Policy

Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy an agreement with Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc. (WRO) for a Condominium and Cooperative Board Fair Housing Education Program and an Asset Building Program/Individual Development Account Program . The term of this agreement is January 1, 2010, to December 31, 2010. The total cost for this agreement is \$30,000.00, to be paid pursuant to an approved budget.

Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization, offering extensive housing programs in Westchester County that satisfy the needs of low/moderate income families in the area. For a number of years, WRO has successfully assisted the County in its effort to secure decent affordable housing for our residents. WRO is the only HUD certified housing counseling agency promoting equal housing opportunities in Westchester County. WRO has expanded housing choices for all minority groups, promoted integration for all client groups served by the organization, provided housing counseling services to the most fragile and needy population including, but not limited to, senior citizens, psychiatrically and physically disabled persons and homeless families and individuals, and assisted low and moderate-income persons to reside in decent, safe and sanitary housing.

This agreement will serve the public purpose of providing education on affordable housing opportunities, to the public.

Should this exemption not be approved, there will be a reduction in persons available for homeownership of affordable housing units.

Ordinarily, Section 5(a) of the Procurement Policy requires the County to issue a Request for Proposals in order to procure this type of service. However, pursuant to Section 3(a)xii, the Procurement Policy is not applicable to any procurement for which this Honorable Board determines, by resolution passed prior to commencing such procurement, that compliance with the policy would not be in the best interest of the County. Given the organization's excellent reputation for providing quality housing services, it is proposed that the best interest of the County would be served by exempting the procurement of an agreement with Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc., from the procurement policy.

Accordingly, a resolution to exempt the procurement of Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc., is hereby submitted for your consideration.

I recommend approval of this exemption.

EB/  
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 10-21-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

## RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3(a)xxi of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting proposals, is neither cost effective nor expedient, and accordingly, not in the best interests of the County in conjunction with this procurement. This procurement includes a Condominium and Cooperative Board Fair Housing Education Program and an Asset Building Program/Individual Development Account Program, with Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc., 470 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 410, White Plains, New York 10605.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 10-21-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY