

80449

DATE October 23, 2020

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Norma V. Drummond
 Commissioner of Planning

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing an amendment to a prior resolution that authorized an 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 in order to change the agreement amount.

On November 21, 2019, your Honorable Board approved a resolution authorizing the County of Westchester (the "County") 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 in order to renovate 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 agreement was approved as December 16, 2019 to December 15, 2020 (the "November 21, 2019 Resolution").

On September 24, 2020, your Honorable Board approved a resolution amending the November 21, 2019 Resolution authorizing the County to enter into an agreement with Freedom Gardens to change the loan amount from \$255,575 to \$255,485 and the contract period from December 16, 2019 - December 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020 – July 14, 2021 (the "September 24, 2020 Resolution").

The parties now desire to amend the September 24, 2020 Resolution in order to correct the total amount of the agreement amount from \$255,575 to \$255,485, with a grant amount of \$137,500 and a loan amount of \$117,985. All other terms and conditions of the September 24, 2020 Resolution will remain the same.

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 amendment.

NVD/cp
Attachment

