



Legislation Text

File #: 22-0734, **Version:** 1

Agenda Item Name:

Alachua County (Amended) Local Housing Assistance Plan

Presenter:

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Description:

Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) governs the local use of State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funds.

Recommended Action:

Approve SHIP Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) 2021-2023, amended as presented, and authorize submission of the same to the State

Prior Board Motions:

The Board of County Commissioners approved the Alachua County Local Housing Assistance Plan SFY 2021-2024 on September 14, 2021

Fiscal Consideration:

None

Strategic Guide:

Housing

Background:

This proposed technical amendment to LHAP restructures the payment methodology in regard to Owner Occupied Rehabilitation and Down Payment Strategies. The loans will be forgiven at the end of the loan term subject to meeting the loan criteria. An additional revision included pertains to the elimination of the 5-year hold prohibiting reapplication if the individual received assistance in the past 15 years. Also, a minor revision has been made under the Disaster Assistance Strategy. This proposed amendment was reviewed by the Alachua County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.

This is considered a technical amendment to the LHAP. "Plan amendment" means the addition or deletion of a local housing assistance strategy or local housing incentive strategy. Amendments must at all times maintain consistency with program requirements and must be submitted to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for purposes of notification.

The William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act, Chapter 92-137, Laws of Florida, created the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Act, Section 420.907, Florida Statutes, which authorizes

distribution of monies in the Local Government Housing Trust Fund to be distributed to approved counties and eligible municipalities; and encourages local governments to create regional partnerships across jurisdictional boundaries through the pooling of appropriated SHIP Program funds to address homeless housing needs identified in Local Housing Assistance Plans (LHAP).

Each local government receiving SHIP funds must have an adopted LHAP with approved SHIP strategies or submit a new local housing assistance plan. The LHAP is intended to increase the availability of affordable residential units by combining local resources and cost saving measures into a local housing partnership and using public and private funds to reduce the cost of housing. SHIP funds may be leveraged with or used to supplement other Florida Housing Finance Corporation programs and to provide local match to obtain federal housing grants or programs such as the Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant.

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