



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 23-00563

Agenda Date: 9/26/2023

Agenda Item Name:

Alachua County Energy Efficiency for Affordable Housing Full Program

Presenter:

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Description:

The Alachua County Energy Efficiency Full Program is scheduled to begin in October 2023. This presentation includes a report on the results of the pilot program, and a work plan for the implementation of the full program.

Recommended Action:

Hear the report on the pilot program.
Approve the full program work plan.

Prior Board Motions:

December 6, 2022: Approval of pilot program.

June 27, 2023: Update to water heater requirements and extension of the program beyond August 2023.

Fiscal Note:

Funding for the full program was approved upon a satisfactory pilot program on Dec 6, 2022. Account Number 052.00.0064.554.82.15 project ARP2021x012.

Strategic Guide:

Housing

Background:

In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Federal Government provided the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners (ACBoCC) funding through the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Many disenfranchised and marginalized communities were disproportionately impacted in their ability to find and maintain affordable housing due to job loss and other income insecurities caused by COVID-19. This project is intended to bring affordable housing relief to communities with limited financial resources by using energy efficiency improvements and weatherization to address the high costs of utilities on renters.

The program functions by providing funding for energy efficiency upgrades on the properties of low-income tenants in exchange for a short-term commitment from the landlord to keeping the unit

affordable. The length of the affordability commitment is dependent on how much funding a landlord is interested in receiving.

Up to \$15,000 per unit was made available for eligible rental property owners within the unincorporated areas of Alachua County and smaller municipalities. Alachua County partnered with Rebuilding Together North Central Florida and the Community Weatherization Coalition to identify applicants, vet contractors, and complete individual projects. The full agreement between Alachua County and Rebuilding Together North Central Florida can be found in the associated Professional Services Agreement.

A pilot program was conducted over the first half of 2023, from January until September. The agenda item will provide an update on the results of the pilot program and propose a final work plan for the program's continuation.