




Florida's Dynamic
Waterfront Community


RIVIERA BEACH COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Chair and Members, CRA Board of Commissioners
City of Riviera Beach, Florida

FROM:  Scott Evans, Interim Executive Director, CRA

COPY:  J. Michael Haygood, CRA Attorney

DATE: March 28, 2018

SUBJECT: A Resolution to Approve Commercial Grant Incentive Program Applications to assist local businesses and improve properties in the Community Redevelopment Area.

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

The RBCRA staff is requesting approval of the Commercial Grant Incentive Program Applications to assist local businesses to complete improvements on their existing business located in the Community Redevelopment Area.

BACKGROUND

In February of 2017 the CRA Board approved the Commercial Grant Incentive Program with a dollar amount not to exceed \$350,000 dollars, to complete external improvement projects to existing businesses within the CRA district. In August of 2017, the program launch event was held at the Marina Village Event Center. The purpose of the event was to introduce the program to the business owners in attendance, furnish copies of the Property Improvement and Property Beautification Program applications and provide any technical assistance needed. In September and October of 2017 technical assistance meetings were held to provide one on one assistance to any applicant having challenges with completing the application and or having challenges securing quotes for their proposed projects. As a result of the South Florida area being struck by the Hurricane, many of our applicants expressed difficulty securing quotes from contractors due to the enormous back log, so the closing date was extended to December 22, 2018.

CURRENT STATUS

The RBCRA received (8) eight applications for review and consideration. Two of the applications are requesting the Property Beautification Grant, which is for a reimbursable amount not to exceed \$4,000 dollars. It is the recommendation of staff that both of the applicant's projects be awarded

the full reimbursable amount. The remaining (6) six were reviewed for the Property Improvement Grant, which provides up to \$40,000 dollars in matching funds, which consist of \$4 dollars of public funds for every \$1 dollar invested by the applicant.

REVIEW PROCESS

All grant applications were reviewed and scored by two persons, RBCRA Project Manager Andre' Lewis and RBCRA Consultant Paul Skyers under the supervision of the Executive Director. Applicants were scored based on the underwriting criteria approved by the RBCRA Commission February 28, 2018, See (Exhibit A) for scoring results and project summary.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the approval of the (6) six Property Improvement grant applications and the (2) two Property Beautification application for a total of \$207,293.81 dollars.