

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: September 8, 2025

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Pat Pate, City Manager

Council Action Requested:

Staff requests that the General Government Committee recommend approval of a \$2 million contribution to the Winston-Salem Foundation and Self-Help to support the WS/FC Housing Loan Fund.

Strategic Focus Area: Economic Prosperity

Strategic Plan Objective: EP1: Addressing housing affordability and homelessness

Summary of Information:

In September 2023, the Mayor commissioned staff and City Council Committee chairs to review best practices for establishing a Housing Trust Fund. Information was gathered from various North Carolina cities that created dedicated and restricted funds to address their affordable housing needs.

On September 25, 2023, during a Special Committee Meeting of the Whole, staff reviewed information from benchmark cities to identify strategies and processes for creating a housing trust fund. The Mayor received verbal commitments to seed a potential housing trust fund.

On October 9, 2023, the Council approved the resolution establishing the need to create a dedicated and restricted fund for affordable housing. It directed staff to pursue further recommendations for its administration and management.

After conversations with the Winston-Salem Foundation, it was determined that the Foundation would lead the effort to establish the housing trust fund with the assistance of an ad hoc committee comprised of community members and representatives from nonprofits, churches, the private sector, and local government.

On August 11, last month, Elaine Summerfield, Vice President (Community Impact) at the Winston-Salem Foundation, presented information regarding the WS/FC Housing Loan Fund. This item is returning to the General Government Committee to seek a recommendation to move it to the full Council for a vote.

Committee Action:

Committee	GG	9/8/25	Action	Approval
------------------	----	--------	---------------	----------

For	Unanimous	Against	
------------	-----------	----------------	--

Remarks: