

**City Council – Action Request Form**

**Date:** October 10, 2022

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

**From:** Patrice Toney, Assistant City Manager  
Marla Y. Newman, Community Development Director

**Council Action Requested:**

Resolution Authorizing a Three-Year Funding Commitment to Step Up America for Supportive Services in Permanent Supportive Housing

**Strategic Focus Area:** Livable Neighborhoods

**Strategic Objective:** Expand Housing Assistance Programs

**Strategic Plan Action Item:** No

**Key Work Item:** No



**Summary of Information:**

The City of Winston-Salem has been allocated \$4,887,567 in HOME Investment Partnership funds through the American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) to be utilized for affordable housing and services for individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations. Community Development has been contacted by Step Up America, a program specializing in motel/hotel conversions across the country. Step Up America, in partnership with American Round Table and private investors, is seeking to acquire a local motel of 80-100 rooms to transform into permanent supportive housing. American Roundtable and its private investors will be responsible for the costs of acquiring and rehabbing the property. These private investors will hold ownership of the acquired property. Exhibit A provides additional information about Step Up America and the American Round Table.

**Committee Action:**

<b>Committee</b>	Finance 10/10/22	<b>Action</b>	Approval
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<b>For</b>	Unanimous	<b>Against</b>	
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**Remarks:**

The Housing Authority of Winston-Salem and Department of Veterans Affairs have shown interest in providing Housing Choice Vouchers and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers, respectively, to assist with operational costs. These vouchers will cover the costs of the tenant rent payments.

Step Up America will act as the service provider for the site, providing the supportive case management services in combination with housing that are intended to make permanent supportive housing a cost-effective way to help vulnerable households live more stable and productive lives. These units will be prioritized to chronically disabled people experiencing homelessness. The case managers will work with the tenants daily to build independent living, develop tenancy skills, and connect people with community-based health care, treatment and other needed community services. Step Up America provides case coordination, service linkage, socialization classes, therapy, training on activities of daily living (cooking, cleaning, shopping, budgeting classes) as well as referrals to health, mental health, substance abuse and other community services.

The City of Winston-Salem will be required to provide a three-year commitment of up to \$2,258,234 to cover the costs for supportive services as demonstrated in Exhibit B. After three years, continued funding will be sought out by Step Up America. Sources for continued funding may include Medicaid, CDBG, Continuum of Care, private philanthropy, and other local government dollars. A resolution providing HOME-ARP funds to Step Up America for supportive services is presented for consideration.