

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: May 25, 2017

To: The City Manager

From: D. Ritchie Brooks, Director – Community Development Department

Council Action Requested:

Authorize extension of the HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Winston-Salem and addition of \$75,000 to the agreement

Summary of Information:

The Housing Authority of the City of Winston-Salem (HAWS) was approved for \$240,000 in federal HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds through the City's FY17 budget to administer a rental assistance program for low-income households. The agreement ends June 30, 2017, and of the \$240,000, \$239,885 has been expended. The households that were being assisted during FY17 have been transitioned by HAWS to the Housing Choice Voucher Program or other permanent housing.

In the FY18 budget, it is anticipated that \$240,000 will be appropriated to continue the HOME TBRA program. In the meantime, there continues to be a need for the HOME TBRA program. A portion of the slots for HOME TBRA are allocated for homeless referrals from the Community Intake Center, and there are currently 25 households waiting for assistance. Given that HAWS must pay rental assistance to landlords at the beginning of each month, and given the expected delay in FFY 2017 HUD funding, without the extension and the additional funding, assistance to eligible families may be delayed by up to three months. Also, since the program will be starting the year with no tenants and filling each slot may take 60 to 90 days, if execution of an agreement for the FY18 program year is delayed until October, the program will not be able to fully use the FY18 funds and meet the existing needs during FY18.

Committee Action:

Committee	Finance 6/12/17	Action	Approval
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For	Unanimous	Against	
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Remarks:

This item requests extension of the HAWS HOME TBRA agreement through December 31, 2017 and adding \$75,000 in HOME funds to the agreement. This will allow HAWS to provide rental assistance to eligible low-income households immediately so that they can obtain stable housing. Approval will also assist the City in meeting the HOME expenditure deadline. An appropriate resolution is attached.