

PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: 10/22/2024

Consent  
 Ordinance

Regular  
 Public Hearing

Department: OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

Submitted By: OFFICE OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to:

A) approve the following agreements (FY 2025 NEAT Grant Agreements) to implement various community improvement projects and initiatives through the Office of Community Revitalization's (OCR) Neighborhood Engagement and Transformation (NEAT) Grants Program for a total of \$150,000:

1. an Agreement with West Jupiter Housing 2 Homeowner's Association, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for a landscaping project in the Kennedy Estates Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) area;
2. an Agreement with Limestone Creek Advocates, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$8,000 for a mailbox project in the Limestone Creek CCRT area;
3. an Agreement with Caleb Ephraim Project, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for a landscaping project in the Cam Estates CCRT area;
4. an Agreement with Country Club Acres Association Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$16,300 for a lake fountain project (\$9,500); and a playground shade project (\$6,800) in the County Club Acres CCRT area;
5. an Agreement with the City of Belle Glade in an amount not-to-exceed \$61,200 for a mural project (\$10,000); a trash receptacle project (\$8,000); a fencing and marquee board project (\$7,000); a community garden project (\$9,500); a mobile theater project (\$8,000); an outdoor exercise equipment project (\$9,000); and a landscaping project (\$9,700);
6. an Agreement with the City of South Bay in an amount not-to-exceed \$16,600 for a neighborhood watch signs project (\$9,200); and a matrix message board project (\$7,400);
7. an Agreement with KTM Youth and Community Network, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$7,900 for a community healthy cooking demonstration project;
8. an Agreement with Paint Your Heart Out Palm Beach County, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for a painting project in various CCRT neighborhoods; and
9. an Agreement with Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 for critical home repairs for low-income homeowners in various CCRT neighborhoods; and

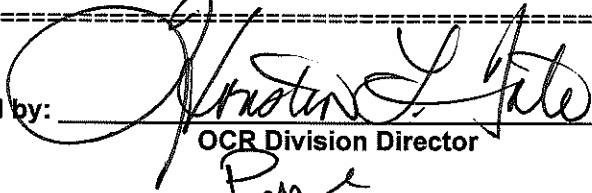
B) authorize: the County Administrator, or designee to execute amendments and administrative documents associated with the above agreements that do not increase the grant award or change the scope of work or overall intent of the program, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), after approval of legal sufficiency by the County Attorney's Office, and within budgeted allocations.


Summary: The NEAT Grants Program was established by the BCC on March 13, 2018, and amended on December 6, 2022 to clarify the program guidelines and eligibility requirements, focus County funding on areas that are under OCR's purview, and to allow for critical neighborhood improvements. The program provides funding to neighborhood-based groups and/or organizations for projects that improve the quality of life in their communities. This agenda item includes nine (9) Agreements for the recommended 18 projects for this year's cycle. The projects will be completed in FY 2025 and include a variety of activities. Staff is requesting BCC approval of the agreements and related funding, as well as, the delegation of authority to the County Administrator or designee to approve minor changes to the scope of work. Countywide (RS)

Background and Justification: See Page 3.

Attachments:

1. Neighborhood Engagement and Transformation (NEAT) Grants Program - Recommended Projects For Funding
2. Grant Agreements

Recommended by:  10/1/2024  
 OCR Division Director Date

Approved By:  10/11/24  
 County/Deputy/Assistant County Administrator Date



(Continued from Page 1)

**Background and Justification:** By offering financial assistance, training, and technical support, the NEAT Grants Program enables residents to develop small collaborative grassroots community projects, and see their ideas through to completion. NEAT Grants are currently available for projects located within CCRT areas in unincorporated Palm Beach County and the Glades region, including the municipalities of Belle Glade, South Bay, and Pahokee. The NEAT Grants Program provides reimbursable grants of up to \$10,000 per project to individuals, neighborhood-based groups and/or organizations for eligible projects and initiatives that promote neighborhood improvement, community identity, and community outreach and capacity building; help reenergize existing organizations and/or create new ones; and develop safe and healthy neighborhoods.

In July of 2024, the NEAT Agency Review Committee comprised of representatives from the Planning, Zoning and Building Department, Engineering, Land Development, Parks and Recreation, the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, and Risk Management was formed to review and recommend projects for funding. The NEAT Agency Review Committee evaluated and recommended for funding 18 of the 21 projects submitted for the NEAT FY 2025 funding cycle in an amount totaling \$150,000. Applications submitted from the same organization were consolidated into one agreement. The projects will be completed in FY 2025 and consist of various activities within the 9 eligible categories listed below:

1. Neighborhood Beautification: Cleanup projects, landscape/aesthetic improvement projects, community gardens/benches, exterior painting on clusters of homes.
2. Neighborhood Identification Projects: Community banners, unified address plaques, and uniformed address numbers, and uniformed mailboxes.
3. Neighborhood Organizing and Sustainability: Projects promoting neighborhood unification, obtaining 501(c) (3) designation (incorporated groups only), newsletters, and community organizing events related to neighborhood revitalization.
4. Neighborhood Outreach and Capacity Building: Community bulletin boards, yard signs, newsletters, neighborhood-based events, and celebrations.
5. Public Safety and Crime Prevention: Crime watch projects and crime prevention events.
6. Community Gardens: Community Gardens, butterfly gardens, and community cookbooks.
7. Neighborhood Green Projects: Community tool exchange library, recycling events for electronics, appliances, etc., lake and canal improvements.
8. Emergency Preparedness: Creation of a neighborhood directory and neighborhood preparedness tool kits.
9. Other: Little Free Libraries, minor playground improvements, benches, gazebos, pavilions, infrastructure, resiliency, and other neighborhood improvement projects.

Authorizes the County Administrator, or designee to execute amendments and administrative documents associated with the above agreements that do not increase the grant award or change the scope of work or overall intent of the program, on behalf of the BCC, after approval of legal sufficiency by the County Attorney's Office, and within budgeted allocations.