



Memo

To: Mayor and Board of Commissioners
From: Karen Lemmons, Economic Development Manager
Date: 12/7/2018
Re: **Resolution #18-32, Consent to Apply for a Grant through Forward Pinellas**

Forward Pinellas, the County's planning organization, has created a grant program for municipalities called the Planning & Place-Making (PPM) Grant Pilot Program. The grant program funds activities and initiatives that help establish or reinforce a sense of place and strengthen the character of cities within Pinellas County. The City applied in 2017 for the grant but was not successful.

The City seeks to again apply, and the project, titled "Activate Tarpon Springs!," is intended to illuminate the opportunities for quality economic development and redevelopment in the Tarpon Springs Sponge Docks and Community Redevelopment Area. Work will include a professional market analysis, a business retention / recruitment strategy tailored to the Sponge Docks and the Community Redevelopment Area, and best and highest use redevelopment scenarios for the Spring Bayou District, specifically the CRA-owned parcel and the privately-owned vacant lot located on the west side of Tarpon Avenue at Spring Bayou. The City is seeking a grant of \$50,000.

The grant application requires a resolution from the Board of Commissioners that supports the project. Applications are due by December 21, 2018. If awarded the grant, the City will enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Forward Pinellas, and issue an RFP for the professional services.

Attachment:

1. Resolution 18-32

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA; AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS THROUGH FORWARD PINELLAS THROUGH THE PLANNING & PLACE-MAKING (PPM) GRANT PILOT PROGRAM, STATING THE ASSURANCE OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, \$50,000 of planning funds are available to local governments through the Planning & Place-Making Grant Pilot Program in Fiscal Year 2018; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tarpon Springs wishes to receive \$50,000 in grant funds for the “Activate Tarpon Springs!” project; and,

WHEREAS, “Activate Tarpon Springs!” will include a professional market analysis, a business retention / recruitment strategy tailored to the Sponge Docks and the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), and a best and highest use analysis of the Spring Bayou District that will illuminate the opportunities and quality economic development potential made possible by the CRA’s acquisition of the Sunbay Motel and the Special Area Plan.

WHEREAS, The City of Tarpon Springs understands that funding through the Planning & Place-Making Grant Pilot Program is fixed at the budgeted amount, and therefore any cost increase cannot be expected to be funded through this grant program; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Tarpon Springs understands that if selected, an interlocal agreement with Forward Pinellas must be executed to access the funds, or the project award will be rescinded.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA:

Section 1. That the Tarpon Springs Economic Development Manager is authorized to proceed with the application process with Forward Pinellas for the Planning & Place-Making Grant Pilot Program in the amount of \$50,000 for “Activate Tarpon Springs!”

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to record a certified copy of this resolution upon the public records of Pinellas County, Florida and to notify all pertinent governmental agencies of the provisions hereof.

Section 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be transmitted to Forward Pinellas.