



## Commission Meeting

April 2, 2024

HCD\_ Community Foundation of the CSRA Approval Request

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**Department:** HCD

**Presenter:** Hawthorne Welcher, Jr. and/or HCD Staff

**Caption:** (a) Motion to approve request to enter Agreement with Augusta, GA (c/o HCD) and Community Foundation of the CSRA (CFCSSRA). (b) To accept grant funds from CFCSSRA. (c.) To instruct the Finance Dept. to add available funding to HCD's budget for immediate use and implementation (upon receipt and Finance grant application completion). **(Approved by Administrative Services Committee March 26, 2024)**

**Background:** (b)  
In 2008, the Augusta Commission passed legislation supporting community development in Laney Walker/Bethlehem. Since that time, the Augusta Housing & Community Development Department has developed a master plan and development guidelines for the area, set up financial incentive programs for developers and home buyers, selected a team of development partners to focus on catalytic change, and created a marketing strategy to promote the overall effort.

The Community Foundation for the CSRA runs deep in Augusta and its surrounding communities. For more than 25 years, they have faithfully connected the philanthropic spirit of our community members with nonprofits and community initiatives throughout Richmond, Columbia, McDuffie and Burke counties in Georgia and Aiken and Edgefield counties in South Carolina.

The greater initiative is designed to facilitate neighborhood redevelopment to include development of Grocer / Market/ Wellness Center and Upgrades- to facilities providing foodservices and sustenance to improve the quality of life within the Laney Walker and Bethlehem communities; in partnership CFCSSRA. Augusta, GA has concluded that it is beneficial to receive grant funding for the purpose of redevelopment within Laney Walker Bethlehem.

**Analysis:**

The approval of the grant agreement will further provide leverage funding for Laney Walker Bethlehem Revitalization activity.

**Financial Impact:**

HCD to receive grant funds \$500,000.00 From Community Foundation of the CFCSRA which funding was originally intended for Augusta, GA and on effort to continue and revitalization.

**Alternatives:**

Deny

**Recommendation:**

(a) Motion to approve request to enter Agreement with Augusta, GA (c/o HCD) and Community Foundation of the CSRA (CFCSRA). (b) To accept grant funds from CFCSRA. (c.) To instruct the Finance Dept to add available funding to HCD's budget for immediate use and implementation (upon receipt and Finance grant application completion)

**Funds are available in the following accounts:**

Funding: Laney Walker/Bethlehem Revitalization funding  
GL Code: 220000000/3361131

**REVIEWED AND  
APPROVED BY:**

Procurement  
Finance  
Law  
Administrator  
Clerk of Commission