



TOWN OF EATONVILLE

"THE OLDEST BLACK INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITY IN AMERICA"

February 20, 2024

MEMORANDUM

To: N.Y. Nathiri, Executive Director

From: Demetris Pressley, Chief Administrative Officer 

Re: Conceptual Master Planning Proposal Submitted by Baker Barrios Architects, Inc.

Thank you for your thoughtful and well-intended memorandum regarding the Conceptual Master Planning Proposal submitted by Baker Barrios Architects. We appreciate your valuable feedback and commitment to preserving the unique character of the Eatonville community.

We acknowledge and understand your concerns about the firm, the process and revision of the proposal along with the subject expert you have consultant. Town Planner -Tara Salmieri, AICP, NTHP – Christopher Cody, Attorney (Focus in Preservation Planning), Town Attorney – Clifford Shepard, board certified - city, county & local government law, Town Staff: Cobbin Magee, Valerie Mundy, and Demetris Pressley, CPM. (Our team along with the Baker Barrios Architects, Inc. (BBA) bring well over 50 years of experience with local/state/federal agency with major planning for communities.) To address these, we propose the following:

- **Was the proposal solicited as an “exclusive” executive request, or was request for proposal (RFP) solicited through open market advertisement?** This proposal was formulated through the administration conversation with desiring a master plan and reaching out to pass firms who have assisted the community with prior projects. No RFP was completed due to no cost for services.
- **Historic Preservation Scope:** The Firm along with the collaboration of the master plan team, will have a chance to ensure the unique and rich heritage is covered in the planning exercise. We will collaborate with the P.E.C. to ensure this specific area is included.
- **OCPS Property (Hungerford Site) & Museum:** While these areas are not explicitly complete it was included in the current proposal to ensure we capture the potential of this site in the planning staging. We recognize its importance and plan to continue communication with OCPS District / State of Florida to find a resolution for this matter. (The National Museum in our opinion is not jeopardize by the Town’s pursuit of property and museum)
- **Additional Services:** This matter was discussed in the revisions and several of the additional services such as: (utilities updates, comp plan, zoning, civil engineering & surveys, attorney, transportation, etc..) are covered in our current contractual continue services agreements.

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We understand that some of the specific items you mentioned are not directly outlined in the current proposal. However, please be assured that the strong and unique character of the Eatonville Community is at the heart of this project. Your concerns will be reflected in the following ways:

- **P.E.C. Representative:** We are happy to invite a P.E.C. representative to participate in meetings and workshops throughout the planning process. Please let us know who you would like to designate.
- **Proposal Update:** With your permission, we will attach your memorandum to the revised proposal to ensure all perspectives are considered.

We believe that open communication and collaboration with the community are essential for the success of this master plan. We value your input and look forward to working with you throughout this process.

Regards,
DCP/jr

CC: *Mayor Angie Gardner, Mayor the Town of Eatonville*

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