



Office of the Town Manager

Christopher E. Martino

STAFF REPORT

Warrenton Town Council

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James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor

Jay Heroux, Ward 5

Sean Polster, At Large

Renard Carlos, At Large

Council Meeting Date:	October 11, 2022
Agenda Title:	Resolution to Amend the FY 2023 General Fund Budget to accept, budget and appropriate \$2,500 in PATH Foundation Grant Funds to host a community barbeque within the Haiti St. Community.
Requested Action:	Approve the resolution
Department / Agency Lead:	Michael Kochis, Chief of Police
Staff Lead:	Michael Kochis, Chief of Police

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2040, Warrenton Comprehensive Plan identified the need to Protect the rich histories of existing neighborhoods within the Town of Warrenton to Include the Haiti St. Community, which is a historically black community. Furthermore, under community services goals, the comprehensive plan identifies community trust as a priority within Plan Warrenton 2040.

Over the last twelve months, The Warrenton Police Department has responded to approximately 159 calls for service on Haiti St. Most of these incidents are categorized as “quality of life” incidents. The department has also attended several community meetings hosted by the Fauquier County Habitat for Humanity, where residents who attended expressed frustration over open-air narcotics distribution, fights in the middle of the street, people passed out in the road, and threats to residents. As a result of these issues the department has logged over 800, documented focused patrols on this block. And conducted a targeted enforcement action which logged multiple arrests and interventions of bad actors, most of whom do dot reside within the Haiti Community.

As part of a whole of community approach to address the quality-of-life issues, the PATH Foundation has issued a grant in the amount of \$2,500 to the Police Department to host a community barbeque in order to continue fostering trust between public safety and those who live within the Haiti Community.

BACKGROUND

On August 12, 2022, Police Department Staff met with key stakeholders, including The CEO of Fauquier Habitat for Humanity, the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations Commander, and a member of the Blue Ridge Narcotics Task Force. Members of the Warrenton Police Department Community Action Team were also in attendance to discuss the issues residents on Haiti Street are facing and possible actions the department may take to address them.

Along with enforcement actions, significant community outreach, including a community meeting between residents, law enforcement, and key stakeholders, including representatives from the NAACP, were held.

As a result of this outreach, the community expressed a need for increased, targeted enforcement followed up with community outreach.

Staff Recommendation

To approve the Resolution to Amend the FY 2023 General Fund Budget to accept, budget and appropriate \$2,500 in PATH Foundation Grant Funds to host a community barbeque within the Haiti St. Community.

Service Level / Policy Impact

These funds will allow the police department to facilitate a community event, specifically a barbeque involving police officers and members of the Haiti community. This is covered under the Plan Warrenton 2040 goals: HR-5 Protect the rich histories of existing neighborhoods, CF-2 Public safety services and policies are view as amongst the best in similar Virginia towns for the responsiveness, community trust, and effectiveness. H-3 Preserve existing neighborhoods and promote infill that supports the character and heritage of Warrenton.

Fiscal Impact

The Adopted FY 2023 General fund, Police department budget will increase by \$2,500 to cover the cost of the community event.

Legal Impact

The Town Council will need to amend the adopted FY 2023 General Fund budget to accept, budget, and appropriate these funds.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Grant award letter from the PATH Foundation

