

# Office of the INDIAN RIVER COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Jason E. Brown, County Administrator Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

# **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Members of the Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Jason E. Brown

**County Administrator** 

**DATE:** October 22, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Resolution Granting Area of Operation Authority for the Escambia

County Housing Finance Authority to Issue Multifamily Housing Revenue

Bonds to Finance a Project in Indian River County

(Orange Blossom Village)

### **BACKGROUND**

On July 11, 2017, the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (the Board") granted continuing Area of Operation authority to the Escambia County Housing Finance Authority (the "Escambia Authority") for purposes of allowing the Escambia Authority to operate its TBA single-family mortgage loan program and its mortgage credit certificate program within Indian River County (the "County"). Recently, the Escambia Authority received an application requesting the Escambia Authority to consider issuance of its multifamily housing revenue bonds to finance or refinance the acquisition, upgrading, reconditioning, rehabilitating, improving, and beautifying of the 80-unit Orange Blossom Village, located at 3300 12<sup>th</sup> Court, Vero Beach, Florida 32967 (the "Apartments") (collectively, the "Improvement Project").

Because the Apartments are located within the territorial limits of the County, Chapter 159.603, Florida Statutes, requires that the Board grant "Area of Operation" authority to the Escambia Authority to provide the legal authority to the Escambia Authority to undertake the financing of the Improvement Project. Accordingly, the Escambia Authority is requesting Area of Operation authority from the Board pursuant to Section 159.603, Florida Statutes, to authorize the Escambia Authority to provide financing for the Improvement Project. If the Escambia Authority decides to issue debt to finance the project, a public hearing must be held in Indian River County at a later date, and the Escambia Authority's

issuance of the debt must be approved by the Board as required by section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The application was submitted to the Escambia Authority by SHAG Development, LLC (the "Company") as the primary contact. The Company is affiliated with Mansermar, Inc., Rebuild America, Inc., and Psalms 127, LLC. The Company is engaged in developing, rehabilitating, owning, and operating multifamily rental housing for elderly/special needs persons of very low, low, middle, and moderate incomes. The Improvement Project contemplated will allow the Company to make needed improvements and enhancements to the Apartments, while continuing to comply with all applicable tenant eligibility requirements and delivery of tenant services. The Company advises that it expects that the current tenants will be not be significantly inconvenienced by the renovation process, though temporary relocation to other units within the complex might be required in limited instances for the safety and convenience of the tenant.

The Authority submitted a similar request for area of operation permission for financing in connection with the Taylor Pointe Apartments (formerly known as the Lindsey Apartments/Phases I & II). The Taylor Pointe TEFRA process has since been completed and the bond issuance process by the Authority is underway.

# **FUNDING**

No funding is required from Indian River County for this item. Any Bonds issued as a result of the permission granted through Board approval of this Area of Operation Resolution will be obligations of the Authority and will not be deemed to constitute a debt, liability, or obligation of or pledge of the faith and credit of Indian River County.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board of County Commission adopt the resolution granting area of operation permission to the Escambia County Housing Finance Authority to undertake the financing through multi-family housing revenue bonds for improvements in connection with the Orange Blossom Village Project.

### **ATTACHMENT**

Application for Tax Exempt Financing Proposed Resolution