



Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Jun 14, 2023 - City Commission Meeting
Category	8. CONSENT
Subject	8.06 Sunset Review and Reapproval of City Commission Policies 1100-Permanent Relocation and 1101-Temporary Relocation -- Dr. Kimball Thomas, Housing and Community Resilience
Access	Public
Type	Action (Consent)
Fiscal Impact	Yes
Dollar Amount	150,000.00
Budgeted	Yes
Budget Source	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Recommended Action	Option 1: Reapprove City Commission Policy 1100 Permanent Relocation and City Commission Policy 1101 Temporary Relocation with the updates as proposed.

Public Content

For more information, please contact: Dr. Kimball Thomas, Housing and Community Resilience, (850) 891-8770.

Statement of Issue

The City Commission adopted the “Local Option Relocation Policy in 1991 to address the need for permanent relocation of low-income citizens displaced by code enforcement action and temporary relocation of participants in the City’s Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program. In 1998, this policy was separated into 1100 CP Permanent Relocation and 1101 CP Temporary Relocation with a provision for a sunset review every five years. The City Commission last reauthorized the Permanent Relocation and Temporary Relocation policies in May 2018 and is due for a review at this time. The relocation policies have proven beneficial to the City and program participants. This item recommends maintaining these policies with updates that reflect administrative changes and enhance program offerings to enable continued success.

Recommended Action

Option 1: Reapprove City Commission Policy 1100 Permanent Relocation and City Commission Policy 1101 Temporary Relocation with the updates as proposed.

Fiscal Impact

The City budgets funds from CDBG each year for both Permanent Relocation and Temporary Relocation related to rehabilitation or reconstruction activities. For FY 2022-2023, \$50,000 was budgeted for Permanent Relocation, and \$25,000 was budgeted for Temporary Relocation. For FY 2023-2024, it is expected that \$100,000 from CDBG will be budgeted for Permanent Relocation. Temporary Relocation is currently funded and no additional funds for the coming year will be needed.

Supplemental Material/Issue Analysis

History/Facts & Issues

The Uniform Relocation Act requires the City of Tallahassee to provide relocation assistance when using federal funds resulting in the displacement of citizens. Federal regulations allow the City to use federal grant funds for relocation expenses beyond the mandatory cases if the City implements a local policy to regulate relocation expenses and practices. The City

adopted the first Local Option Relocation Policy in 1991, using federal funds managed by the Department of Housing and Community Resilience (HCR). Commission Policies 1100 and 1101 were last reviewed and approved on May 23, 2018.

Through the Permanent Relocation program, the City ensures that citizens who are displaced when their home is deemed unsafe by code enforcement action are not forced into homelessness. The program is funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. City staff works with local nonprofit partners to find immediate emergency shelter and long-term housing to ensure households are rehoused safely. The current maximum award for Permanent Relocation program recipients is \$4,000. Staff recommends increasing this maximum award based on an increase in both relocation costs and the length of time needed to find suitable and affordable housing. To address this increased need, it is recommended that Commission Policy 1100 be revised to increase the maximum award amount per household to \$6,000 to increase the number of days the program can assist with hotel/motel nights to up to 30 days. These changes will allow more flexibility in supporting families safely transitioning to new homes. Case management services will still be provided to ensure the relocation is sustainable.

The Temporary Relocation program is used in conjunction with the City's Home Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Programs. Program recipients may be temporarily housed while their homes undergo major rehabilitation or reconstruction of their homes. Most expenses related to temporary relocation are paid by the City. Program recipients are encouraged to stay with family and friends briefly when their homes are uninhabitable and only use the Temporary Relocation program as a last resort. Most expenses are related to temporary storage of personal belongings such as furniture; however, if reconstructing the home, it is important to temporarily place the homeowner in safe and healthy housing while their home is under construction. For this reason, this program remains vital to the City carrying out its primary housing activities.

In addition to the changes detailed above, minor administrative changes are proposed to bring both policies up to date (Ex: a change in department name).

Department(s) Review

Resource Management, Treasurer-Clerk's Office

Options

1. Reapprove City Commission Policy 1100 Permanent Relocation and City Commission Policy 1101 Temporary Relocation with the updates as proposed.

Pros:

- Residents in need would be relocated if they became homeless due to code action.
- Residents would be relocated if major rehabilitation was being performed on their homes and they could not temporarily live with friends or relatives.

Cons:

- Federal funds not spent on permanent and temporary relocation may be used for other projects.

2. Do not reapprove City Commission Policy 1100 Permanent Relocation and City Commission Policy 1101 Temporary Relocation with proposed changes and provide alternate direction.

Pros:

- Federal funds not spent on permanent and temporary relocation may be used for other projects.

Cons:

- Residents in need would be relocated if they became homeless due to code action.
- Residents would be relocated if major rehabilitation was being performed on their homes and they could not temporarily live with friends or relatives.

Attachments/References

Attachment 1 - 1100 CP Permanent Relocation with revised sunset review date

Attachment 2 - 1101 CP Temporary Relocation with revised sunset review date

[Attachment 1 - 1100 CP Temporary Relocation.pdf \(139 KB\)](#)

[Attachment 2 - 1101 CP Temporary Relocation.pdf \(139 KB\)](#)