



**City of Lakeland**



**COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
HOUSING DIVISION  
SHIP LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN (LHAP)**

**2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026**

**May 2, 2023**

**Revised April 17, 2024**



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**I. Program Details:**

**A. LG(s)**

Name of Local Government	City of Lakeland
Does this LHAP contain an interlocal agreement?	No
If yes, name of other local government(s)	N/A

**B. Purpose of the program:**

- To meet the housing needs of the very low, low and moderate-income households;
- To expand production of and preserve affordable housing; and
- To further the housing element of the local government comprehensive plan specific to affordable housing.

**C. Fiscal years covered by the Plan: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026**

**D. Governance:** The SHIP Program is established in accordance with Section 420.907-9079, Florida Statutes and Chapter 67-37, Florida Administrative Code. Cities and Counties must be in compliance with these applicable statutes, rules and any additional requirements as established through the Legislative process.

**E. Local Housing Partnership:** The SHIP Program encourages building active partnerships between government, lending institutions, builders and developers, not-for-profit and community-based housing providers and service organizations, providers of professional services related to affordable housing, advocates for low-income persons, real estate professionals, persons or entities that can provide housing or support services and lead agencies of the local continuums of care.

**F. Leveraging:** The Plan is intended to increase the availability of affordable residential units by combining local resources and cost saving measures into a local housing partnership and using public and private funds to reduce the cost of housing. SHIP funds may be leveraged with or used to supplement other Florida Housing Finance Corporation programs and to provide local match to obtain federal housing grants or programs.

**G. Public Input:** Public input was solicited through face-to-face meetings with housing providers, social service providers and local lenders and neighborhood associations. Public input was solicited through the local newspaper in the advertising of the Local Housing Assistance Plan and the Notice of Funding Availability.

**H. Advertising and Outreach:** SHIP funding availability shall be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation and periodicals serving ethnic and diverse neighborhoods, at least 30 days before the beginning of the application period. If no funding is available due to a waiting list, no notice of funding availability is required.

**I. Waiting List/Priorities:** A waiting list will be established when there are eligible applicants for strategies that no longer have funding available. Those households on the waiting list will be notified of their status. Applicants will be maintained in an order that is consistent with the time completed applications were submitted as well as any established funding priorities as described in this plan.



The following priorities for funding (very low income, Special Needs, etc.) described/listed here apply to all strategies unless otherwise stated in an individual strategy in Section II:

The city will accept applications for assistance continuously. Applications are placed in the order they are received. All applications are date stamped. When funds are available, the applicant is contacted to update the application for SHIP assistance. Applicants will be placed in line for assistance when the required documentation has been received and has been deemed eligible under SHIP. Applicants will be processed on a first qualified, first served basis unless otherwise stated in a specific strategy.

- J. **Discrimination** : In accordance with the provisions of ss.760.20-760.37, it is unlawful to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status in the award application process for eligible housing.
- K. **Support Services and Counseling**: Support services are available from various sources. Available support services may include but are not limited to: Homeownership Counseling (Pre and Post), Credit Counseling, Tenant Counseling, Foreclosure Counseling and Transportation.
- L. **Purchase Price Limits**: The sales price or value of new or existing eligible housing may not exceed 90% of the average area purchase price in the statistical area in which the eligible housing is located. Such average area purchase price may be that calculated for any 12-month period beginning not earlier than the fourth calendar year prior to the year in which the award occurs. The sales price of new and existing units, which can be lower but may not exceed 90% of the average area purchase price established by the U.S. Treasury Department or as described above.

The methodology used is:

U.S. Treasury Department	X
Local HFA Numbers	

- M. **Income Limits, Rent Limits and Affordability**: The Income and Rent Limits used in the SHIP Program are updated annually by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and posted at [www.floridahousing.org](http://www.floridahousing.org).

*“Affordable” means that monthly rents or mortgage payments including taxes and insurance do not exceed 30 percent of that amount which represents the percentage of the median annual gross income for the households as indicated in Sections 420.9071, F.S. However, it is not the intent to limit an individual household’s ability to devote more than 30% of its income for housing, and housing for which a household devotes more than 30% of its income shall be deemed Affordable if the first institutional mortgage lender is satisfied that the household can afford mortgage payments in excess of the 30% benchmark and in the case of rental housing does not exceed those rental limits adjusted for bedroom size.*

- N. **Welfare Transition Program**: Should an eligible sponsor be used, a qualification system and selection criteria for applications for Awards to eligible sponsors shall be developed, which includes a description that demonstrates how eligible sponsors that employ personnel from the Welfare Transition Program will be given preference in the selection process.



**O. Monitoring and First Right of Refusal:** In the case of rental housing, the staff and any entity that has administrative authority for implementing the local housing assistance plan assisting rental developments shall annually monitor and determine tenant eligibility or, to the extent another governmental entity provides periodic monitoring and determination, a municipality, county or local housing financing authority may rely on such monitoring and determination of tenant eligibility. However, any loan or grant in the original amount of \$10,000 or less shall not be subject to these annual monitoring and determination of tenant eligibility requirements. Tenant eligibility will be monitored annually for no less than 15 years or the term of assistance whichever is longer unless as specified above. Eligible sponsors that offer rental housing for sale before 15 years or that have remaining mortgages funded under this program must give a first right of refusal to eligible nonprofit organizations for purchase at the current market value for continued occupancy by eligible persons.

**P. Administrative Budget:** A line-item budget is attached as Exhibit A. The city/county finds that the moneys deposited in the local housing assistance trust fund are necessary to administer and implement the local housing assistance plan.

**Section 420.9075 Florida Statute and Chapter 67-37, Florida Administrative Code, states:** “A county or an eligible municipality may not exceed the 5 percent limitation on administrative costs, unless its governing body finds, by resolution, that 5 percent of the local housing distribution plus 5 percent of program income is insufficient to adequately pay the necessary costs of administering the local housing assistance plan.”

**Section 420.9075 Florida Statute and Chapter 67-37, Florida Administrative Code, further states:** “The cost of administering the program may not exceed 10 percent of the local housing distribution plus 5 percent of program income deposited into the trust fund, except that small counties, as defined in s. 120.52(19), and eligible municipalities receiving a local housing distribution of up to \$350,000 may use up to 10 percent of program income for administrative costs.” The applicable local jurisdiction has adopted the above findings in the resolution attached as Exhibit E.

**Q. Program Administration:** Administration of the local housing assistance plan will be performed by:

Entity	Duties	Admin. Fee Percentage
Local Government	Wholly performed and maintained by the City of Lakeland	10%
Third Party Entity/Sub-recipient		

**R. First-time Homebuyer Definition:** For any strategies designed for first-time homebuyers, the following definition will apply: *An individual who has had no ownership in a principal residence during the 3-year period ending on the date of purchase of the property. This includes a spouse (if either meets the above test, they are considered first-time homebuyers). A single parent who has only owned a home with a former spouse while married. An individual who is a displaced homemaker and has only owned with a spouse. An individual who has only owned a principal residence not permanently affixed to a permanent foundation in accordance with applicable regulations. An individual who has only owned a property that was not in compliance with state, local or model building codes and which cannot be brought into compliance for less than the cost of constructing a permanent structure.*

**S. Project Delivery Costs:** The city project delivery costs include inspections, work writeups, client meetings, payment



processing, and other staff hours associated with its Rehabilitation/Reconstruction projects. This cost will not exceed 2% of the contracted SHIP award. The project delivery cost for the Home Purchase Assistance program is \$2,000 per closing.

**T. Essential Service Personnel Definition (ESP):** ESP includes teachers and educators, other school district, community college, and university employees, police and fire personnel, health care personnel, and skilled building trades personnel.

**U. Describe efforts to incorporate Green Building and Energy Saving products and processes:** The city is committed to the production of energy efficient housing for long term affordability. Such improvements will be incorporated to reduce energy costs, based on funding availability. Specific improvements may include and are not limited to installation of energy efficient doors and windows; Replacement of heating and/or cooling systems with high energy efficient 15 SEER; Installing R30 insulation; Energy Star appliances and water heaters and low consumption toilets and faucets.

**V. Describe efforts to meet the 20% Special Needs set-aside:** In order to identify persons with Special Needs as defined in 420.0004 (13), the City has included a question on its client application inquiring if the applicant or the household meets this definition. If the answer is yes, staff sends a letter and/or calls to explain and asks for more detail, then determines eligibility based on the client’s explanation.

**W. Describe efforts to reduce homelessness:** The City coordinates efforts with the Homeless Coalition of Polk County and the Continuum of Care (CoC) through active participation in strategic planning and the Point-in-Time (PIT) count. The city staff works closely with the local homeless and special needs providers to support their efforts in their program, to reduce and/or prevent homelessness. The City increases housing opportunities through its Homebuyer Education & Down Payment Assistance programs.

The City’s Mayor’s Taskforce to End Homelessness awards funds to a local non-profit agency along with City’s SHIP funds to assist households and clients with homeless efforts.

**Section II. LHAP Strategies:**

<b>A. Strategy Name</b> Purchase Assistance without Rehab	Code 2
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Summary: The City of Lakeland will provide home purchase assistance for down payment and closing costs. It is anticipated that the homes purchased will include new and existing homes. Applications will be made through a nonprofit agency that will provide required and approved home ownership counseling and application processing.

b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026

c. Income Categories to be served: Very low, low, moderate and workforce

d. Maximum award: \$60,500

e. Terms:

1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: The loan is secured by a recorded subordinate lien in the



- amount of assistance awarded.
2. Interest Rate: 0%
  3. Years in loan term: 10 years
  4. Forgiveness: Forgiven 50% at end of five years, remainder forgiven at end of the term.
  5. Repayment: No repayment as long as the loan is in good standing
  6. Default: The principal balance (100% of the loan up to year 5, 50% of the loan from years 6-10) of the deferred payment loan shall be due at the occurrence of the earliest of the following events:
    - a. Death of a recipient(s)
    - b. Sale or transfer of title
    - c. Property is no longer maintained as the principal residence
    - d. Property is not maintained to minimum housing standards
    - e. Foreclosure

In cases where the qualifying homeowner(s) die(s) during the loan term, the loan may be assumed by a SHIP eligible heir who will occupy the home as a primary resident. If the legal heir is not SHIP eligible or chooses not to occupy the home, the outstanding balance of the loan will be due and payable.

- f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: Eligible applicants are assisted on a first qualified, first served basis. Completed applications will be forwarded to a lending consortium member for approval on first mortgage financing by the Sponsor and to the City of Lakeland’s Housing Division for home purchase assistance approval. Applicants must contribute a minimum of \$1,000 of their own funds towards the purchase of the home. If the applicant is a Habitat for Humanity buyer, they may use \$250 and 500 hours of sweat equity in place of the required \$1,000.
- g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: This strategy shall be implemented by an eligible sponsor. The eligible sponsor will be selected by a Request for proposal (RFP) process. The successful respondent will have a proven record with administration of very low, low, moderate income and workforce, home buyer programs. The sponsor will have demonstrated capacity to process the anticipated number of loans, provide the required home buyer education, have experience with lenders, and has attended SHIP training within the last 12 months.
- h. Additional Information: Mobile Homes and homes with pools are not eligible for assistance. Closing costs up to \$8,000 and Sponsor fees at \$2,500 will be provided as a grant, as part of the maximum award.

<b>B. Strategy Name:</b> Owner Occupied Rehabilitation	Code 3
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<p>a. Summary: Funds will be used to perform substantial owner-occupied housing rehabilitation. Rehabilitation will include repair to correct code violations and to provide general renovation of the housing stock. Rehabilitation is intended to extend the life of the housing stock. When the cost to rehabilitate the existing home exceeds 65% of the cost to construct a new home, the applicant may be eligible for a replacement home (see Strategy E).</p>
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- b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026



- c. Income Categories to be served: Very low and low
- d. Maximum award: \$150,000
- e. Terms:
  - 1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: The loan is secured by a deferred payment loan. Temporary relocation expenses (if needed), ownership and encumbrance reports and preliminary service costs such as payroll and inspections are provided to the clients as grants (included within the maximum award).
  - 2. Interest Rate: 0%
  - 3. Years in loan term:
 

Up to \$5,000	Grant
\$5,001 to \$40,000	10 years
Over \$40,000	15 years
  - 4. Forgiveness: Ten-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at a rate of 10% per year. Fifteen-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at the rate of 6.5% per year for the first fourteen years and the final 9% is forgiven at the end of the fifteenth year.
  - 5. Repayment: No repayment if loan is in good standing.
  - 6. Default: The portion of the deferred payment loan remaining will be due at the occurrence of the earliest of one of the following events:
    - a. Death of recipient(s)
    - b. Sale or transfer of title
    - c. Property is no longer maintained as principal residence
    - d. Property is not maintained to minimum housing standard
    - e. Foreclosure

In cases where the qualifying homeowner(s) die(s) during the loan term, the loan may be assumed by a SHIP eligible heir who will occupy the home as a primary residence. If the legal heir is not SHIP eligible or chooses not to occupy the home, the outstanding balance of the loan will be due and payable.

- f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: The Housing Division staff will accept applications, determine the extent of the needed rehabilitation, and qualify the clients based on income requirements. Clients are assisted on a “first-qualified, first-served” basis. Additional assistance in this regard may include relocation.
- g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: N/A
- h. Additional Information: Mobile homes are not eligible for rehabilitation assistance.

<b>C. Strategy Name:</b> Disaster Assistance	Code 5
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a. Summary: SHIP funds may be used to provide assistance related to a disaster as declared by the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Florida provided in section 420.9078(1) F.S. Funds will be used to address emergency housing repair. The intent of this strategy is to address immediate health and safety needs of eligible clients in the event of disaster. Relocation assistance may be provided.





Generally, such needs may include purchase of emergency supplies for income eligible households to weatherproof damaged homes; provide interim repairs to avoid further damage; tree and debris removal; or other assistance may be necessary to make individual housing units habitable. This assistance would additionally be for non-insured repairs such as insurance deductible expenses. New construction or reconstruction of housing units will be eligible under Strategy E.

- b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026
- c. Income Categories to be served: Very low and low
- d. Maximum award: \$85,000
- e. Terms:
  - 1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: The loan is secured by a deferred payment loan. Temporary relocation expenses (if needed), ownership and encumbrance reports and preliminary service costs such as payroll and inspections, are provide to the clients as grants (included in the maximum award).
  - 2. Interest Rate: 0%
  - 3. Years in loan term: 

Up to \$5,000	Grant
\$5,001 to \$40,000	10 years
Over \$40,000	15 years
  - 4. Forgiveness: Ten-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at the rate of 10% per year. Fifteen-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at the rate of 6.5% for the first fourteen years and the final 9% is forgiven at the end of the fifteenth year.
  - 5. Repayment: No repayment if loan is in good standing.
  - 6. Default: The portion of the deferred payment loan remaining will be due at the occurrence of the earliest of one of the following events:
    - a. Death of recipient(s)
    - b. Sale or transfer of title
    - c. Property is no longer maintained as principal residence
    - d. Property is not maintained to minimum housing standard
    - e. Foreclosure

In cases where the qualifying homeowner(s) die(s) during the loan term, the loan may be assumed by a SHIP eligible heir who will occupy the home as a primary residence. If the legal heir is not SHIP eligible or chooses not to occupy the home, the outstanding balance of the loan will be due and payable.

- f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: The Housing Division staff will accept applications, determine the extent of the needed rehabilitation, and qualify the clients based on income requirements. Clients are assisted on a “first-qualified, first-served” basis. Additional assistance in this regard may include relocation.
- g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: N/A
- h. Additional Information: Mobile homes are not eligible for assistance.



<b>D. Strategy Name:</b> Emergency Repairs	Code 6
<p>a. Summary: The City will provide owner-occupied emergency repair. Funds will be used to eliminate conditions that create a health or safety threat to the owners who occupy the housing. The City's eligible emergency repairs policy can be found under Exhibit H.</p>	

- b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026
- c. Income Categories to be served: Very low, and low
- d. Maximum award: \$25,000
- e. Terms:
  - 1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: The loan is secured by a deferred payment loan. Temporary relocation expenses (if needed), ownership and encumbrance reports and preliminary service costs such as payroll and inspections, are provide to the clients as grants (included within the maximum award).
  - 2. Interest Rate: 0%
  - 3. Years in loan term:
 

Up to \$5,000	Grant
\$5,001 to \$25,000	10 years
  - 4. Forgiveness: Ten-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at the rate of 10% per year.
  - 5. Repayment: No repayment if loan is in good standing.
  - 6. Default: The portion of the deferred payment loan remaining will be due at the occurrence of the earliest of one of the following events:
    - a. Death of recipient(s)
    - b. Sale or transfer of title
    - c. Property is no longer maintained as principal residence
    - d. Property is not maintained to minimum housing standard
    - e. Foreclosure

In cases where the qualifying homeowner(s) die(s) during the loan term, the loan may be assumed by a SHIP eligible heir who will occupy the home as a primary residence. If the legal heir is not SHIP eligible or chooses not to occupy the home, the outstanding balance of the loan will be due and payable.

- f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: The Housing Division staff will accept applications, determine the extent of the needed rehabilitation, and qualify the clients based on income requirements. Clients are assisted on a "first-qualified, first-served" basis. Additional assistance in this regard may include relocation.
- g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: N/A
- h. Additional Information: Mobile homes are not eligible for assistance.

<b>E. Strategy Name:</b> Demolition/Reconstruction	Code 4
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a. Summary: Funds will be used to build new housing units for clients whose current owner-occupied unit is scheduled to be demolished due to the cost to rehabilitate the existing home exceeding 65% of the cost to reconstruct a replacement home.

b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026

c. Income Categories to be served: Very low and low

d. Maximum award: \$225,000

e. Terms:

1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: The loan is secured by a deferred payment loan. Temporary relocation expenses (if needed), ownership and encumbrance reports and preliminary service costs such as payroll and inspections, are provide to the clients as grants (included within the maximum award).
2. Interest Rate: 0%
3. Years in loan term: 30
4. Forgiveness: Thirty-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at the rate of 3.5% per year for the first 14 years, 4.5% at the end of the fifteenth year and the remaining 50% will be forgiven at the end of the thirtieth year.
5. Repayment: No repayment if loan is in good standing.
6. Default: The portion of the deferred payment loan remaining will be due at the occurrence of the earliest of one of the following events:
  - a. Death of recipient(s)
  - b. Sale or transfer of title
  - c. Property is no longer maintained as principal residence
  - d. Property is not maintained to minimum housing standard
  - e. Foreclosure

In cases where the qualifying homeowner(s) die(s) during the loan term, the loan may be assumed by a SHIP eligible heir who will occupy the home as a primary residence. If the legal heir is not SHIP eligible or chooses not to occupy the home, the outstanding balance of the loan will be due and payable.

f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: The Housing Division staff will accept applications, determine if the home qualifies for demolition, and qualify the clients based on income requirements. Clients are assisted on a "first-qualified, first-served" basis. Additional assistance in this regard may include relocation.

g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: N/A

h. Additional Information: Mobile homes may be eligible for demolition only and consideration to reconstruct as single family residence only.

<b>F. Strategy Name:</b> Special Needs	Code 11
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a. Summary: SHIP funds must be used to assist special needs households (as defined in Fla. Stat. 420.0004 (13)), particularly developmental disabilities. Home modifications, including technological enhancements and devices, may allow the homeowner to remain independent in their home.

b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026

c. Income Categories to be served: Very low and low

d. Maximum award: \$225,000

e. Terms :

1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: The loan is secured by a deferred payment loan. Temporary Relocation expenses (if needed), ownership and encumbrance reports and preliminary service costs such as payroll and inspections are provided to the clients as grants
2. Interest Rate: 0 %
3. Years in loan term:
 

Up to \$5,000	Grant
\$5,001 to \$40,000	10 years
Over \$40,000	15 years
4. Forgiveness: Ten-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at the rate of 10% per year. Fifteen-year deferred payment loans are forgiven at the rate of 6.5% for the first fourteen years and the final 9% is forgiven at the end of the fifteenth year.
5. Repayment: No repayment if loan is in good standing.
6. Default: The portion of the deferred payment loan remaining will be due at the occurrence of the earliest of one of the following events:
  - a. Death of recipient(s)
  - b. Sale or transfer of title
  - c. Property is no longer maintained as principal residence
  - d. Property is not maintained to minimum housing standard
  - e. Foreclosure

In cases where the qualifying homeowner(s) die(s) during the loan term, the loan may be assumed by a SHIP eligible heir who will occupy the home as a primary residence. If the legal heir is not SHIP eligible or chooses not to occupy the home, the outstanding balance of the loan will be due and payable.

f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: The Housing Division staff will accept applications, determine the extent of the needed rehabilitation, and qualify the clients based on income requirements. Clients are assisted on a “first-qualified, first-served” basis. Additional assistance in this regard may include relocation.

g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: N/A

h. Additional Information: Mobile homes are not eligible for assistance.

<b>G. Strategy Name:</b> Rapid Rehousing	Code 26
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a. Summary: This strategy will provide housing relocation and stabilization services rental assistance up to six months not to exceed the maximum award amount.

b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026

c. Income Categories to be served: Very low

d. Maximum award: \$5,000

e. Terms:

1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: Grant
2. Interest Rate: N/A
3. Years in loan term: N/A
4. Forgiveness: N/A
5. Repayment: N/A
6. Default: N/A

f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: Applicants who meet the State of Florida’s definition of homelessness will be referred by the local Continuum of Care Coordinated Entry system, and be assisted on a first-qualified, first-served basis.

g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: The program will be advertised county wide for eligible sponsors that are interested in participating in Lakeland Housing’s Rapid Re-Housing Program.

The Program may be implemented by a single entity or a consortium of eligible sponsors. The eligible sponsors or eligible sub-recipients will be chosen by a Request for Proposal process. The successful respondents will have a proven record with experience managing similar programs and background information on many applicants (through the Homeless Management Information System). In addition, they will have successfully demonstrated capacity to handle the administrative process for the service.

h. Additional Information: This strategy will provide housing relocation and stabilization services as necessary to help individuals living in shelters or in places not meant for human habitation.

<b>H. Strategy Name:</b> Rental Development	Code 14, 21
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a. Summary: Funds will be awarded to developers of affordable rental units that are awarded construction financing through other state or federal housing programs to construct or rehabilitate affordable rental units. This funding is intended to be used as gap financing for the projects.

b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026

c. Income Categories to be served: Very low, low and moderate



- d. Maximum award: \$50,000 per unit and maximum of 350,000 per development
- e. Terms:
  1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: The loan is secured by a mortgage and a note.
  2. Interest Rate: Non-Profit 0%, For-Profit 2%
  3. Years in loan term: 20
  4. Forgiveness: The loan is forgiven at the end of the term.
  5. Repayment: Interest on the principal balance will be collected on an annual basis.
  6. Default: For all awards, a default will be determined as sale, transfer, or conveyance of property conversion to another use; failure to maintain standards for compliance as required by and performed through any of the funding sources. If any of these occur, the outstanding balance will be due and payable.
- f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: All applicants for residence in a SHIP-assisted unit must meet income qualifications of the program as determined and reported by the developer’s management company for development.
- g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: Developers will apply to the city through an RFA process. The RFA will require proof of developer experience in providing affordable rental housing, proof of financial capacity, evidence of site control (or contract for sale), proof of ability to proceed once all funding is closed, and a housing unit design plan that meets with the City’s Land Development Code.
- h. Additional Information: Developers will be required to meet statutory requirements for compliance reporting.

<b>I. Strategy Name:</b> New Construction/Home Ownership	Code 10
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a. Summary: Funds will be awarded to non-profit and for-profit developer/sponsor for construction of single-family housing units and resale to income eligible buyers. The program is designed to maintain the City’s housing stock, reduce the number of vacant and blighted properties and encourage the development of new affordable single-family homes, townhouses, and duplex units on infill lots, throughout the city.

- b. Fiscal Years Covered: 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026
- c. Income Categories to be served: Very low, low, moderate and workforce
- d. Maximum award: Sponsor/Developer-Up to \$225,000  
Homebuyer- \$50,000
- e. Terms :
  1. Repayment loan/deferred loan/grant: Sponsor/Developer is secured by a deferred mortgage and note. Homebuyer is secured by a subordinate mortgage and note for the Down Payment.
  2. Interest Rate: Sponsor/developer - Determined by the type of developer.



- Non-Profit - 0%
- For-Profit - 2%
- Homebuyer - 0 %
- 3. Years in loan term: Sponsor/Developer - 1.5  
Homebuyer - 10
- 4. Forgiveness: Sponsor/Developer - N/A  
Homebuyer - Forgiven at the end of the term
- 5. Repayment: Sponsor/Developer - The loan will be due upon sale to an eligible homebuyer. If the home is not sold within 1.5 years, the loan will be due. When the home is sold, SHIP funds not passed through to the homebuyer (minus a developer fee) shall be paid to the city.  
Homebuyer - No repayment if loan is in good standing.
- 6. Default: Sponsor/Developer - A default will occur if the developer fails to meet any of the following: Program Requirements, loan terms, or home is sold to an ineligible homebuyer.  
Homebuyer - The portion of the deferred payment loan remaining will be due at the occurrence of the earliest of one of the following events:
  - a. Death of recipient(s)
  - b. Sale or transfer of title
  - c. Property is no longer maintained as principal residence
  - d. Property is not maintained to minimum housing standard
  - e. Foreclosure

In cases where the qualifying homeowner(s) die(s) during the loan term, the loan may be assumed by a SHIP eligible heir who will occupy the home as a primary residence. If the legal heir is not SHIP eligible or chooses not to occupy the home, the outstanding balance of the loan will be due and payable.

- f. Recipient/Tenant Selection Criteria: Eligible Clients are assisted on a first-qualifies, first served basis. Completed applications will be forwarded to a consortium member for approval of first mortgage financing by the Sponsor and the city of Lakeland's Housing Division for home purchase assistance approval.
- g. Sponsor Selection Criteria: The eligible sponsor/developer will be selected by a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The RFP will require proof of previous experience in providing affordable housing, proof of financial capacity, and ability to leverage other financing resources to complete the project. Other factors may also be considered in the selection process.
- h. Additional Information: Completion of a HUD approved Homebuyer's Education course will be required to become an eligible buyer. Closing costs up to \$8,000 and Sponsor fees at \$2,000 will be provided as a grant, as part of the maximum award.

### III. LHAP Incentive Strategies

In addition to the **required Incentive Strategy A and Strategy B**, include all adopted incentives with the policies and procedures used for implementation as provided in Section 420.9076, F.S.:

- A. Name of the Strategy: **Expedited Permitting**  
Permits as defined in s. 163.3177 (6) (f) (3) for affordable housing



projects are expedited to a greater degree than other projects.  
Provide a description of the procedures used to implement this strategy:

1. Single Family Infill Construction: The City’s Building Inspection Division has a relatively short turnaround time for permitting single family infill construction. Special consideration will be given to speed the process of issuing building permits to those developers who have qualified as “affordable housing projects”. The Housing Staff will email the Building Inspection Division by submitting a notification to [buildinginspection@lakelandgov.net](mailto:buildinginspection@lakelandgov.net) to let the Division that a specific general contractors/contractors are ready to submit a permit for an affordable housing project. The notification should include the address for the project. When the notification is received and the permit is submitted, the permit clerks may put that permit request in a “green alert” status which in turn will alert the plans examiner to expedite that plan. This “green alert” will draw attention of the plans examiner to the fact that the plans are to be treated as priority before non-affordable housing or commercial development and handled in an expeditious manner, resulting in the early issuance of building permits.
2. Multi-Family Developments: Affordable housing builders of multi-family developments shall be approved by the Affordable Housing Review Committee (AHRC). Multi-family developments shall receive expedited permitting as referenced above. However, by their nature, larger multi-family developments must be reviewed and approved by multiple City service areas such as plans examiner, planning and zoning, traffic, landscape, electric, water, fire, etc. Multi-family developers are encouraged to schedule early preliminary meetings with the different departments and the Development Review Team (DRT) to assist in an early resolution of any development/plan requirements. Definitions: “Affordable housing” - Housing offered for sale at or below the City’s State Housing Initiatives Program (SHIP) maximum purchase price limit for new construction shall be defined as affordable. Purchase Price limits for the City’s housing program shall correspond with the maximum area purchase price published by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (see attached Goals Charts). Rental housing meets the affordable definition if the units are offered to tenants with rent at or below the Rents Adjusted to Number of Bedrooms in the Unit as published annually by Florida Housing Finance Corporation. The rents represent the maximum gross rents which must include an allowance for utilities. Household income cannot exceed 120% of the area median income.

“Affordable housing developer” - Developers who have made application and been approved for incentives through the City’s Affordable Housing Review Committee (AHRC) and contractors working through the City’s Housing Division’s grant programs to provide housing through rehabilitation, reconstruction, emergency repair, and new construction under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP). Such developers provide housing assistance to low- income residents of the city who earn less than 120% of the area median income as provided under said grants.

- B. Name of the Strategy: **Ongoing Review Process**  
An ongoing process for review of local policies, ordinances, regulations and plan provisions that increase the cost of housing prior to their adoption.





Provide a description of the procedures used to implement this strategy:

The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee was established by resolution to review established policies and procedures, ordinances, and development regulations, and the adopted local comprehensive plan of the City, and shall recommend specific initiatives to encourage or facilitate affordable housing while protecting the ability of the property to increase in value. The Staff meets with AHAC for their input and recommendations on City's Plans, Reports, and policy & procedures. Those plans and recommendations are then presented to the City Commission.

C. Other Incentive Strategies Adopted: **Inventory of Publicly Owned Land Suitable for Affordable Housing**

Established policy and procedures: The City maintains a list of properties that are suitable for affordable housing. This inventory list is available on the City's website under the Affordable Housing Land Bank and is a tool to encourage the development of new affordable housing units, reduce the number of vacant and blighted, contribute to neighborhood stabilization, reduce City maintenance costs, and increase tax base.

**IV. EXHIBITS:**

Required

- A. Administrative Budget for each fiscal year covered in the Plan.
- B. Timeline for Estimated Encumbrance and Expenditure.
- C. Housing Delivery Goals Chart (HDGC) For Each Fiscal Year Covered in the plan.
- D. Signed LHAP Certification.
- E. Signed, dated, witnessed, or attested adopting resolution.

Optional

- F. Ordinance: (If changed from the original creating ordinance).
- G. Interlocal Agreement (Required if applicable).
- H. Other Documents Incorporated by Reference-Emergency Repairs Policy

**City of Lakeland**

Fiscal Year: 2023-2024	
Estimated SHIP Funds for Fiscal Year:	\$ 1,381,848.00
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 135,184.00
Office Supplies and Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
Travel Per diem Workshops, etc.	\$ 1,000.00
Advertising	\$ 1,000.00
Other*	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 138,184.00</b>
Admin %	10.00%
<b>OK</b>	

Fiscal Year 2024-2025	
Estimated SHIP Funds for Fiscal Year:	\$ 1,381,848.00
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 135,184.00
Office Supplies and Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
Travel Per diem Workshops, etc.	\$ 1,000.00
Advertising	\$ 1,000.00
Other*	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 138,184.00</b>
Admin %	10.00%
<b>OK</b>	

Fiscal Year 2025-2026	
Estimated SHIP Funds for Fiscal Year:	\$ 1,381,848.00
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 135,184.00
Office Supplies and Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
Travel Per diem Workshops, etc.	\$ 1,000.00
Advertising	\$ 1,000.00
Other*	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 138,184.00</b>
Admin %	10.00%
<b>OK</b>	

\*All "other" items need to be detailed here and are subject to review and approval by the SHIP review committee. Project Delivery Costs that are outside of administrative costs are not to be included here, but must be detailed in the LHAP main document.

Details:

2023

**Timeline for SHIP Expenditures**

The City of Lakeland, Florida \_\_\_\_\_ affirms that funds allocated for these fiscal years will  
(local government)  
meet the following deadlines:

Fiscal Year	Encumbered	Expended	Interim Report	Closeout Report
<b>2023-2024</b>	6/30/2025	6/30/2026	9/15/2025	9/15/2026
<b>2024-2025</b>	6/30/2026	6/30/2027	9/15/2026	9/15/2027
<b>2025-2026</b>	6/30/2027	6/30/2028	9/15/2027	9/15/2028

If funds allocated for these fiscal years is not anticipated to meet expenditure deadlines, Florida Housing Finance Corporation will be notified according to the following chart:

Fiscal Year	Funds Not Expended	Closeout AR Not Submitted
<b>2023-2024</b>	3/30/2026	6/15/2026
<b>2024-2025</b>	3/30/2027	6/15/2027
<b>2025-2026</b>	3/30/2028	6/15/2028

**Requests for Expenditure Extensions (close-out year ONLY) must be received by FHFC by June 15 of the year in which funds are required to be expended. The extension request shall be emailed to [robert.dearduff@floridahousing.org](mailto:robert.dearduff@floridahousing.org) and [cameka.gardner@floridahousing.org](mailto:cameka.gardner@floridahousing.org) and include:**

1. A statement that “(city/county) requests an extension to the expenditure deadline for fiscal year\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The amount of funds that is not expended.
3. The amount of funds that is not encumbered or has been recaptured.
4. A detailed plan of how/when the money will be expended.

*Note: an extension to the expenditure deadline (June 30) does not relieve the requirement to submit (September 15) the annual report online detailing all funds that have been expended. Please email [cameka.gardner@floridahousing.org](mailto:cameka.gardner@floridahousing.org) when you are ready to “submit” the AR.*

**Other Key Deadlines:**

AHAC reports are now due annually by December 31. Local governments receiving the minimum (or less) allocation may choose not to report.







**CERTIFICATION TO  
FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION**

Local Government or Interlocal Entity:

City of Lakeland, Florida

Certifies that:

- (1) The availability of SHIP funds will be advertised pursuant to program requirements in 420.907-420.9079, Florida Statutes.
- (2) All SHIP funds will be expended in a manner which will ensure that there will be no discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, familial status, or religion.
- (3) A process to determine eligibility and for selection of recipients for funds has been developed.
- (4) Recipients of funds will be required to contractually commit to program guidelines and loan terms.
- (5) Florida Housing will be notified promptly if the local government /interlocal entity will be unable to comply with any provision of the local housing assistance plan (LHAP).
- (6) The LHAP provides a plan for the encumbrance of funds within twelve months of the end of the State fiscal year in which they are received and a plan for the expenditure of SHIP funds including allocation, program income and recaptured funds within 24 months following the end of the State fiscal year in which they are received.
- (7) The LHAP conforms to the Local Government Comprehensive Plan, or that an amendment to the Local Government Comprehensive Plan will be initiated at the next available opportunity to insure conformance with the LHAP.
- (8) Amendments to the approved LHAP shall be provided to the Florida Housing for review and/or approval within 21 days after adoption.
- (9) The trust fund exists with a qualified depository for all SHIP funds as well as program income or recaptured funds.
- (10) Amounts on deposit in the local housing assistance trust fund shall be invested as permitted by law.

- (11) The local housing assistance trust fund shall be separately stated as a special revenue fund in the local governments audited financial statements (CAFR). An electronic copy of the CAFR or a hyperlink shall be provided to Florida Housing by June 30 of the applicable year.
- (12) Evidence of compliance with the Florida Single Audit Act, as referenced in Section 215.97, F.S. shall be provided to Florida Housing by June 30 of the applicable year.
- (13) SHIP funds will not be pledged for debt service on bonds.
- (14) Developers receiving assistance from both SHIP and the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program shall comply with the income, affordability and other LIHTC requirements, similarly, any units receiving assistance from other federal programs shall comply with all Federal and SHIP program requirements.
- (15) Loans shall be provided for periods not exceeding 30 years, except for deferred payment loans or loans that extend beyond 30 years which continue to serve eligible persons.
- (16) Rental Units constructed or rehabilitated with SHIP funds shall be monitored for compliance with tenant income requirements and affordability requirements or as required in Section 420.9075 (3)(e). To the extent another governmental entity provides periodic monitoring and determination, a municipality, county or local housing financing authority may rely on such monitoring and determination of tenant eligibility.
- (17) The LHAP meets the requirements of Section 420.907-9079 FS, and Rule Chapter 67-37 FAC.
- (18) The provisions of Chapter 83-220, Laws of Florida have not been implemented (except for Miami-Dade County).

Mani Strickland  
Witness

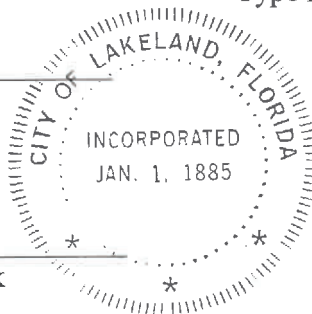
Pamela Todd  
Witness

H. William Mutz  
Chief Elected Official or designee

H. William Mutz, Mayor  
Type Name and Title

04-20-2023  
Date

OR  
Kelly S. Koos  
Attest: Kelly S. Koos, City Clerk



(Seal)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND CORRECTNESS:  
Palmer C. Davis  
Palmer C. Davis, City Attorney



**RESOLUTION NO. 5812**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 23-017**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA APPROVING A LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM ACT, SUBSECTIONS 420.907-420.9079, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND RULE CHAPTER 67-37, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATIONS NEEDED BY THE STATE; AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida enacted the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act, Chapter 92-317 of Florida Sessions Laws, allocating a portion of documentary stamp taxes on deeds to local governments for the development and maintenance of affordable housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Act, ss. 420.907-420.9079, Florida Statutes (1992), and Rule Chapter 67-37, Florida Administrative Code, requires local governments to develop a one to three-year Local Housing Assistance Plan outlining how funds will be used; and

**WHEREAS**, the SHIP Act requires local governments to establish the maximum SHIP funds allowable for each strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, the SHIP Act further requires local governments to establish an average area purchase price for new and existing housing benefiting from awards made pursuant to the Act, with the methodology and purchase prices used as

defined in the attached Local Housing Assistance Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, as required by section 420.9075, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 67-37.005(6)(f)3, Florida Administrative Code, the City Commission finds that 5 percent of the local housing distribution plus 5 percent of program income is insufficient to adequately pay the necessary costs of administering the local housing assistance plan and the City wishes to avail itself of the provisions of the above authorities providing that the cost of administering the program may not exceed 10 percent of the local housing distribution plus 5 percent of program income deposited into the trust fund, except that small counties, as defined in s. 120.52(17), and eligible municipalities receiving a local housing distribution of up to \$350,000 may use up to 10 percent of program income for administrative costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Community and Economic Development Department has prepared a three-year Local Housing Assistance Plan for submission to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission finds that it is in the best interest of the public for the City of Lakeland, Florida to submit the attached Local Housing Assistance Plan for review and approval so as to qualify for said documentary stamp tax funds;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKELAND, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1:** The foregoing findings are true and correct and are hereby adopted and made a part hereof.

**SECTION 2:** The City Commission of the City of Lakeland hereby

approves the Local Housing Assistance Plan, as attached and incorporated hereto, for submission to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation as required by ss. 420.907-420-9079, Florida Statutes, for fiscal years 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and said Local Housing Assistance Plan shall be in effect from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026.

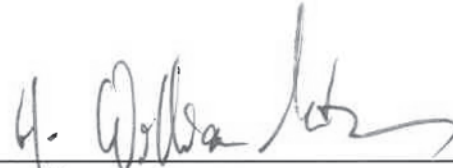
**SECTION 3:** H. William Mutz, Mayor, is hereby designated and authorized to execute any documents and certifications required by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation as related to the Local Housing Assistance Plan, and to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the terms and conditions of said program.

**SECTION 4:** The maximum SHIP award for each strategy and the SHIP maximum allowable purchase price for new and existing housing as set forth in the Local Housing Assistance Plan shall apply to the funding received under the new 2023-2026 Plan and to any unexpended SHIP funding for the non-close out program years of 2020-2023.

**SECTION 5:** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.


**PASSED AND CERTIFIED AS TO PASSAGE** this 3rd day of April, A.D.

2023.



H. WILLIAM MUTZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:   
KELLY S. KOOS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:   
PALMER C. DAVIS  
CITY ATTORNEY



## **Emergency Repairs**

The City may provide owner occupied emergency repair to assist very low, low, and moderate income clients in their housing needs. City funding may be used to correct limited housing code violations or other conditions that create an immediate health or safety threat to the owners who occupy the housing.

Emergency repairs are generally considered to be events that are unforeseen and not due to a lack of maintenance or neglect of the homeowner's residence. Repairs that may be addressed under this emergency repair strategy include, but are not limited to, roofing, plumbing (supply line leak, sewer/septic tank systems failure, no water, etc.), heating, air conditioning and dangerous electrical hazards constituting an immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of the occupants. Damage resulting from crime including theft and vandalism may be considered for repair provided it is fully documented by the Lakeland Police Department and the damage is not otherwise covered by the owner's property insurance.

Emergency repairs not exceeding \$5,000 require a soft income certification and use of Dixieland funds. Emergency repairs which exceed \$5,000 shall require full income certification and fall under the strategy of Home Owner Occupied Emergency Repair. Emergency repair assistance shall be limited to a maximum \$25,000.

Air Conditioning will be deemed an emergency repair if; the external temperature exceeds 90 degrees Fahrenheit or, it is deemed a medical necessity for an occupant of the home by a medical professional.

Roofing will be deemed an emergency repair if; repair /replacement is necessary in order to carry a homeowners' insurance policy or, there is an active roof leak and/or water intrusion.

Emergency repair of a home may be considered a priority need and eligible for immediate assistance without the client waiting until their name comes to the top of the applicant list. Determination of priority need shall be made through an assessment by the Housing Rehabilitation Specialist with the approval of the Housing Programs Supervisor. To facilitate rapid assistance projects that have been determined to qualify as an emergency shall be assigned to eligible contractors on a rotating basis.

In order for a client to receive emergency repair assistance, that client must have the above mentioned emergency needs. If after the emergency repairs are complete the homeowner requires further rehabilitation assistance, they may submit an application during the Open Enrollment period of the Community Planning & Housing Division's Owner- Occupied Rehabilitation Program. If a client is currently on the applicant list and a dire emergency arises, the emergency repairs may be completed and the date for placing the client's name on the applicant list shall be the date of the first request for assistance.

Although emergency repair as a priority as referenced above is a strategy available for use by the Community Planning & Housing Division staff in assisting qualified clients, the strategy may not necessarily be open for use at all times. The Housing Programs Supervisor may suspend the emergency repair strategy's use as priority assistance for

various reasons, including but not limited to, lengthy waiting list, comparative needs of applicants who have been waiting for some time for assistance, limited funding, and staffing considerations.

Revised 1/22/2016  
Revised 09/16/2019  
Revised 03/08/2022  
Revised 04/17/2024