



## Interoffice Memorandum

## AGENDA ITEM

APPROVED BY ORANGE  
COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

BCC Mtg. Date: Aug. 02, 2016

July 7, 2016

TO: Mayor Teresa Jacobs  
-AND-  
Board of County Commissioners

THRU: Lonnie C. Bell, Jr., Director *Lonnie C. Bell Jr.*  
Family Services Department

FROM: Lavon B. Williams, Manager, Esq., AICP *LBW*  
Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division

SUBJECT: Consent Agenda Item – August 2, 2016  
Countywide Sustainable Communities Grant Recipients

Orange County Board of County Commissioners accepted and adopted the Orange County Sustainability Plan "Our Home for Life" on May 13, 2014. The Orange County Sustainability Plan's purpose is to provide a framework for working towards sustainability, as well as goals and strategies that will serve to integrate sustainability into our culture, decision-making and governance. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program is a part of the Neighborhood Pride Grants program created in 2011 to offer beautification grants to neighborhood organizations. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program allows neighborhood organizations to take charge and implement sustainable projects in their community.

The Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division administers the Sustainable Communities Grant Program, which provides funds for citizen organizations to help reduce pollution and their carbon footprint. The grant is available countywide between \$500 and \$5,000. The Sustainable Communities Grant Program accepts applications on a monthly basis.

The Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division staff performs a detailed technical review on each application received. The staff examines various aspects of the project, including the potential reduction in pollution and carbon footprint, the project cost, impact on the community, and the ability of the organization to execute the project and maintain any physical improvements. The Environmental Protection Division helped to develop the grant program criteria and assists applicants in developing projects that reduce pollution and their carbon footprint. Organizations are required to provide a letter of support from the Environmental Protection Division, which has been provided for these projects.

Several measures are in place to ensure proper monitoring and compliance with the program guidelines. All grant funds are distributed through the County's purchase order process, and there are no direct cash payments to the selected organizations. Applicants are required to complete projects, as documented on the invoices from vendors and their status reports.

Every organization that completes a physical improvement project must also demonstrate the ability to independently maintain the improvement. Staff concludes the monitoring process for each grant awarded by conducting detailed site visits to ensure compliance with the requirements.

The Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board (NGAB) is recommending approval of five Sustainable Communities Grants for August 2016: Braemar HOA, Summerport Park, Wekiva Springs, EstatesFriends of Lake LaGrange and South Hiawassee Village (see Attachment A). The grant requests were reviewed by Orange County staff and presented to the NGAB for recommendation. The applications were reviewed based on project feasibility, organizational readiness, and benefit to the community. The grant requests are displayed in greater detail in Attachment B through F.

**ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of the August 2016 Sustainable Communities Grants as recommended by the Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board for Braemar HOA (\$2,050); Summerport Park (\$1,725); Wekiva Springs Estates(\$2,150); Friends of Lake LaGrange (\$3,300) and South Hiawassee Village (\$2,000). Districts 1,2,3 and 6.**

Attachments

- c: Lori Cunniff, Deputy Director, Community, Environmental and Development Services  
Antwan Nelson, Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division  
Lyndon Carter, Chairperson, Neighborhood Grants Advisory Board

Orange County Board of County Commissioners  
 August 2, 2016 Consent Agenda  
 Countywide Sustainable Communities Grants – **ATTACHMENT A**

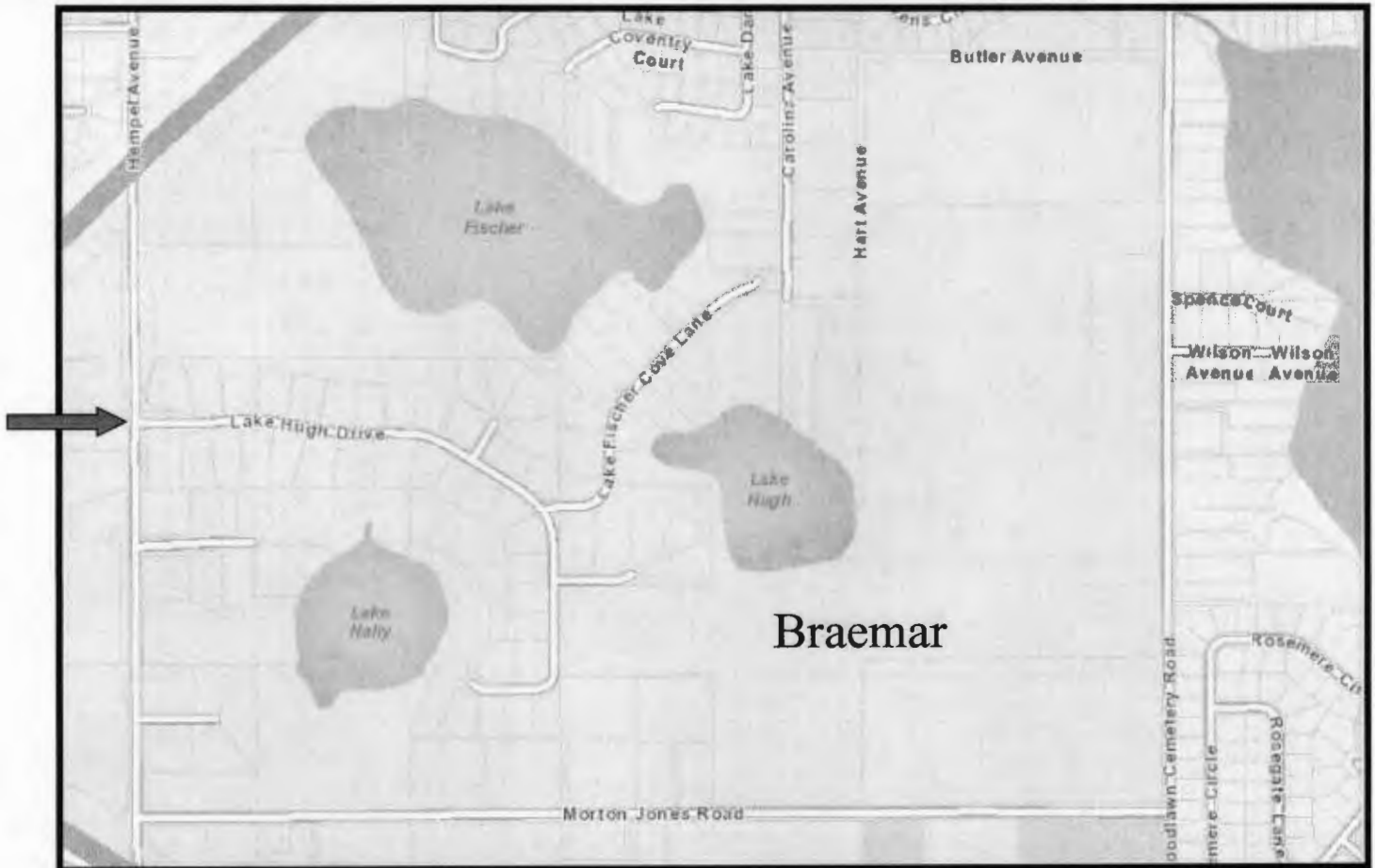
<b>District</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Description of the Project</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>	<b>NGAB Recommendation</b>	<b>EPD Review</b>
1	Braemar HOA	LED Lighting Improvement	\$2,050	Yes	Yes
1	Summerport Park	Community Garden Improvement	\$1,725	Yes	Yes
2	Wekiva Springs Estates	LED Lighting Improvement	\$2,150	Yes	Yes
3	Friends of Lake LaGrange	Lake Restoration	\$3,300	Yes	Yes
6	South Hiawassee Village	LED Lighting Improvement	\$2,000	Yes	Yes
		<b>Total Requests</b>	<b>\$11,225</b>		

**Attachment B**

**Sustainable Communities Grant  
Profile**

Organization Name: Braemar HOA	Request Amount: <b>\$2,050</b>
Commission District 1: Scott Boyd	Matching Amount: <b>\$2,050</b>
Municipality Jurisdiction: Un-Incorporated	Total Project Cost: <b>\$4,100</b>
Property Ownership: Private	Type of Grant: Sustainable Communities Grant

**Summary:** The neighborhood wishes to improve the entranceway by upgrading ground lighting and replacing lighting fixtures to LED.



## Sustainable Communities Grant Profile

Organization Name: Summerport Park	Request Amount: \$1,725
Commission District 1: Scott Boyd	Matching Amount: \$1,725
Municipality Jurisdiction: Un-Incorporated	Total Project Cost: \$3,450
Property Ownership: Private	Type of Grant: Sustainable Communities Grant

**Summary:** The neighborhood wishes to make upgrades to an existing community garden previously (2014) approved by Orange County and purchase 2 compost machines.



## Sustainable Communities Grant Profile

Organization Name: Wekiva Springs Estates	Request Amount: \$2,150
Commission District 2: Bryan Nelson	Matching Amount: \$2,150
Municipality Jurisdiction: Un-Incorporated	Total Project Cost: \$4,300
Property Ownership: Private	Type of Grant: Sustainable Communities Grant

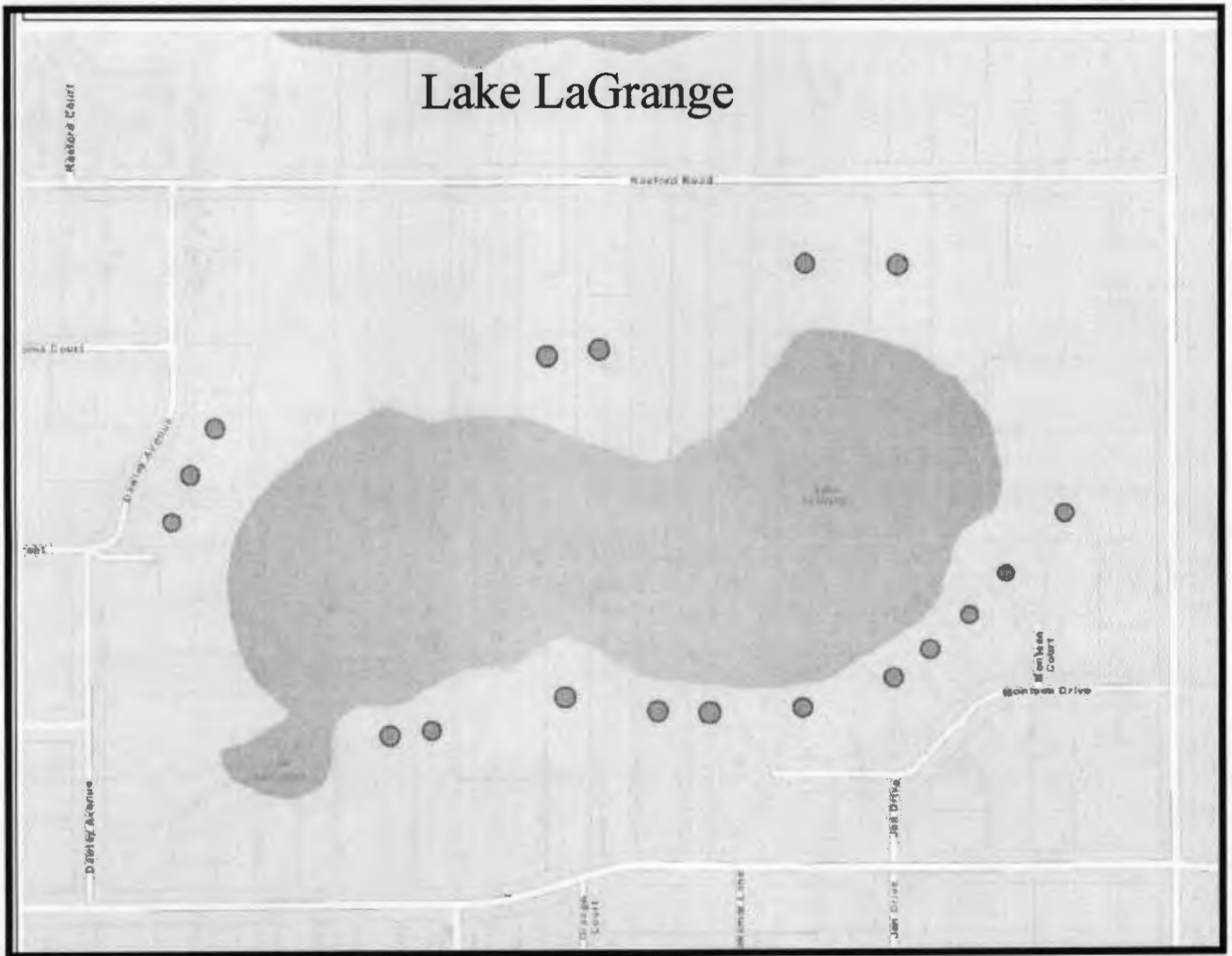
**Summary:** The neighborhood wishes to improve the entranceway by upgrading ground lighting and replacing lighting fixtures to LED.



## Sustainable Communities Grant Profile

Organization Name: Friends of Lake LaGrange	Request Amount: \$3,300
Commission District 3 – Pete Clarke	Matching Amount: N/A
Municipality Jurisdiction: Un-Incorporated	Total Project Cost: \$3,300
Property Ownership: Private	Type of Grant: Sustainable Communities Grant

**Summary:** The neighborhood wishes to restore the health of Lake LaGrange by installing aquatic shore plants on properties around the lake. The homes within this neighborhood have met taxable value guidelines.



## Sustainable Communities Grant Profile

Organization Name: South Hiawassee Village	Request Amount: <b>\$2,000</b>
Commission District 6: Victoria P. Siplin	Matching Amount: <b>\$2,000</b>
Municipality Jurisdiction: Un-Incorporated	Total Project Cost: <b>\$4,000</b>
Property Ownership: Private	Type of Grant: Sustainable Communities Grant

**Summary:** The neighborhood wishes to improve the entranceway by upgrading lighting and replacing lighting fixtures to LED, on community light poles. The homes within this neighborhood have met taxable value guidelines.

