

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-14

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, TEXAS AND SERVOLUTION NETWORK AND ADOPTING THE GOOD NEIGHBORS PROGRAM AS PART OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, TEXAS PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDNCE WITH TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 380.

WHEREAS, as part of the long-range strategic planning and future revitalization efforts the City of Lake Worth, the City Council desires to authorize the City Manager's Office to embark on a program of residential structure rehabilitation for the purpose of preservation and protection of the ad valorem property tax base of the City; and

WHEREAS, home restoration project are deemed to be of economic benefit to the City of Lake Worth and contribute to sustaining the City's property values; and

WHEREAS, state statutes and the City Charter have been reviewed and determined that the City of Lake Worth can establish grant funds for purposes of promoting local economic development and business and commercial activity within the City, and the stabilization of the ad valorem tax base directly impact the economic development of the City at both the residential and commercial levels, pursuant to and in accordance with Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 380; and

WHEREAS, multiple houses in Lake Worth are exhibiting various stages of decline which has a major impact on the deterioration of the real estate property tax base throughout the City through a ripple effect; and

WHEREAS, the demand for city government services may remain constant or expand over time even though the older residential tax base may decline, thereby creating a situation where remaining property owners have to assume the burden of paying a larger portion of tax revenue in order to maintain city service levels; and

WHEREAS, Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 380, allows a city to provide incentive consisting of loans and grants of city funds; use of city personnel, facilities and services with or without charge, for the promotion of economic development; and

WHEREAS, the promotion of the redevelopment of existing housing stock in the City promoted economic development within the City and is essential for the continued economic growth of the City; and it is well established that the availability of quality housing stock encourages the relocation of businesses and attracts new business enterprises, as well as the expansion of existing business enterprise within the City, which in turn stimulates growth, creates jobs, and increases housing stock to meet the needs of management and the work force; and

WHEREAS, preservation and improvement of the housing stock is a major contributing factor to the economic health and growth of the City, which in turn stimulated trade and commerce, reduces unemployment, and contributes to the well-being and economic growth of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Lake Worth support and approves the Good Neighbors Program in cooperation with Servolution Community Network as a valuable and important economic development tool.

SECTION 2. The City Council of the City of Lake Worth adopts the Good Neighbors Program as described as a part of the City's economic development efforts to help stabilize the residential tax base of Lake Worth for future generations as well as for the health, safety, and welfare for the entire citizenry of Lake Worth. The City Council encourages participation in this program and supports the ability of non-profit organizations to partner in the Good Neighbors Program.

SECTION 3. The City Council of the City of Lake Worth authorizes the City Manager to pay Servolution Community Network a lump sum of \$30,000 for Good Neighbors Program administrative support, which may be renewed annually during the budget approval process.

SECTION 4. The City Council of the City of Lake Worth authorizes the City Manager to reimburse Servolution Community Network a 40% local match for materials, supplies, and labor and waive all applicable city permit and inspection fees for all Good Neighbor Program sponsored home renovations or construction in Lake Worth. All reimbursements to Servolution will be based on verifiable receipts and total reimbursements shall not exceed \$30,000 for the year, which may be renewed annually during the budget approval process. Expenses to be match may include actual or donated goods, labor, or services but may not exceed what a project would have cost if all the material and labor were actually paid for on each project or activity.

SECTION 5. In such cases which are deemed appropriate by the City Manager, said funds may be used for grant matching requirements to bring additional funds into project in Lake Worth. The City Manager may use his or her discretion in determining whether a particular expense will be considered for reimbursement by the City of Lake Worth as part of this program.

SECTION 6. The City Council of the City of Lake Worth authorizes the City Manager to enter an Economic Development Program Agreement with Servolution Network reflecting the terms and matters described above.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 20th day of September 2022.

CITY OF LAKE WORTH

By: Walter Bowen
Walter Bowen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Holly Fimbres
Holly Fimbres, City Secretary

