



**Date:** December 3, 2019

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Reginald J. Johnson, Director, Community Development Department  
**Subject:** Participatory Budgeting Accessibility Ramps Project

### **Executive Summary**

In June, 2019, the City Council allocated \$169,950 to three Council Wards for the construction of accessibility ramps during the Participatory Budgeting (PB) process. This program will provide accessibility ramps to low-income residents who are either elderly or disabled, allowing them to safely enter and exit their home. Each of the three City Council Wards has been allocated \$56,650 in program funds. The ramps will meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and include handrails along the full length.

### **Recommendation**

The Community Development Department (CDD) recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to execute the Participatory Budgeting Accessibility Ramps Contract between Habitat for Humanity of Durham, Inc. and the City of Durham in the amount of \$169,950 for the construction of accessibility ramps in three Council Wards.

### **Background**

During the Participatory Budgeting (PB) idea collection phase, residents submitted over 500 project ideas to enhance communities throughout the City of Durham. Volunteers, also known as budget delegates, then vetted and developed these ideas into project proposals. Through the approval of the PB Steering Committee, approximately 40 projects were put forth on a public ballot for voting with over 10,000 residents voting. Winning projects were then announced and approved by the PB Steering Committee last June. Amongst the 18 winning projects, the three accessible ramps projects were the top vote receivers for each of the three Wards. In addition, each accessible ramps project equated to \$56,650 per Ward totaling \$169,950 in all three Wards. Upon the approval by City Council, the City would grant Habitat for Humanity of Durham \$169,950 to purchase aluminum ramps and install ramps in all three Wards.

### **Issues and Analysis**

Selection of Habitat for Humanity of Durham will assist the City in meeting its neighborhood stabilization goals. Specifically, Habitat will use the funding to construct 35-40 accessibility ramps. This funding will provide ramps to low-income residents in three Council Wards who are elderly or disabled.

### **Alternatives**

The City Council could elect not to provide the requested funding for this activity. If the project does not receive General Funds, it will not move forward. Approval of the project would represent another incremental step towards addressing Durham's neighborhood stabilization needs for low-income, elderly, and disabled residents.

**Financial Impact**

General funds in the total amount of \$169,950 are budgeted and available for this project, which \$56,650 is allocated for each Ward as listed in the below chart with the assigned MUNIS codes.

<b>WARD</b>	<b>ORG CODE</b>	<b>OBJECT CODE</b>	<b>PROJECT CODE</b>	<b>BUDGETED AMOUNT</b>
<b>1</b>	30006000	728600	62030	\$56,650
<b>2</b>	30006000	728600	62031	\$56,650
<b>3</b>	30006000	728600	62032	\$56,650

**Equal Business Opportunity Summary**

This is a grant and was not reviewed by the Equity and Inclusion Department for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

**Attachments**

Contract