

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU FISCAL ANALYSIS

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MARCH 3, 2008

Item 3, File #071449

File Number 071449 is a resolution relating to expenditures from the Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative capital account.

Background

1. The Mayor's 2008 Proposed Budget for the Department of City Development included \$100,000 in new capital funding for a Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative ("HNI"). The Common Council, through its adoption of 2008 Budget Amendment #75, increased the level of funding for this project to \$200,000.
2. The HNI, which is modeled after a similar program of the same name in Baltimore, focuses on marketing the positive attributes of relatively strong urban neighborhoods and encouraging homeowner investment and aesthetic improvements in those neighborhoods.
3. The Greater Milwaukee Foundation has been sponsoring and financing an HNI for almost 3 years in 5 Milwaukee neighborhoods – Enderis Park, Layton Boulevard West, Martin Drive, Sherman Park and Thurston Woods. However, the City of Milwaukee had no direct financial participation in the HNI until the 2008 Budget year.

Discussion

1. This resolution authorizes the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation to administer the Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative and directs NIDC to provide a report to the Common Council on implementation of the HNI no later than September 30, 2008.
2. The resolution also establishes the following conditions for expenditures from the HNI capital account:
 - a. No expenditure shall be made until NIDC receives documentation that non-City-government entities have made at least \$200,000 in financial commitments to the Initiative. **Note: in the Proposed Substitute, this condition reads "Every expenditure shall be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by financial commitments from non-City-government entities." This change would allow expenditures to be made on an incremental, on-going basis, rather than only after at least \$200,000 has been committed by non-City sources.**
 - b. No expenditure shall be made until NIDC receives documentation of involvement of a community organization or neighborhood association in any project selected for City funding through the HNI.

- c. City funds from the HNI capital account shall be used to fund residential improvement loans or grants and neighborhood improvements.
3. This resolution also directs NIDC, in administering the HNI, to give priority to expenditures in neighborhoods that are already participating in the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's HNI and to neighborhoods not located within the Community Development Block Grant area, since there are few public dollars available for home improvement or neighborhood improvement efforts in those neighborhoods.

Fiscal Impact

This resolution has no fiscal impact on the City. The capital funding to which it relates is already included in the 2008 City Budget.

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