



Legislation Text

File #: 2019-3907, Version: 1

Substitute

Public Hearing: YES NO

Department: Community Development

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): Serves All

Local Government Agreement to Re-Establish the DeKalb Regional Land Bank Authority

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PURPOSE:

o consider approving the attached standard intergovernmental agreement to re-establish the DeKalb Regional Land Bank Authority pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 48-4-60 et seq., with the City of Lithonia, contingent upon the City of Lithonia's governing authority to participate, and authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to execute all necessary documents.

NEED/IMPACT:

DeKalb County in 2010 engaged in a comprehensive study on workforce housing. That report produced a major recommendation to establish a land bank in DeKalb County because at the time DeKalb County suffered a fallout of the housing crises, with a large stock of vacant, abandoned and derelict properties. Such properties present a public safety issue as it attracts crime and vandalism, brings nearby property values down and leads to further blight and unnecessary loss of otherwise decent, affordable housing. A DeKalb Regional Land Bank was established in 2011; however, became defunct after the City of Decatur pulled out. There is still a need to mitigate blighted properties and bring vacant properties back onto the tax roll.

Local Jurisdictions in Georgia are authorized to establish land banks pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 48-4-60 et seq. Local jurisdictions establish land banks by adopting an intergovernmental agreement between the County and at least one municipality.

All municipalities within DeKalb County are welcome to join.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No cost to the County for Memorandum of Understanding.

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the attached standard intergovernmental agreement to re-establish the DeKalb Regional Land Bank pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 48-4-60 et seq., with the City of Lithonia contingent upon the City of Lithonia's governing authority's approval to participate and authorizing the Chief Executive

Officer to execute all necessary documents.