



TO: City Council

FROM: Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Neighborhood Enhancement Program

DATE: October 26, 2021

On your City Council agenda is a resolution to authorize application to the MSHDA Neighborhood Enhancement Program for grant funds in the amount of \$75,000.

The purpose of this application is to secure funds that can be used to assist residential property owners address interior and exterior issues that are identified during rental inspection or code enforcement activities in 2022. \$75,000 is the maximum award, with a minimum of 50 percent of the funds required to be dedicated to exterior improvements, and a maximum of 25 percent dedicated to interior improvements. Ten percent of the funds can be used for administration of the grant. We are proposing that 10 percent be used for administration, 25 percent for interior improvements, and 65 percent for exterior improvement.

It is our hope that, if awarded, these funds could be used to help those residents and property owners who may have financial difficulty making the improvements identified as necessary during rental inspection or code enforcement. The city will be required to develop an application process for residents hoping to tap into these funds. We will also work to ensure that the new rental inspection and code enforcement employees are familiar with the availability and application of these funds, so that they can promote their use directly to affected property owners.

The program requires that the funds be targeted to certain neighborhoods. We are recommending that they be targeted to the central portions of the community with the oldest homes and a high percentage of residential rentals.

Please contact me at (517) 543-8853 if you have any questions about this application.