

RESOLUTION NO. 25-_____

APPROVAL OF A SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO PINELLAS COUNTY'S 2024-2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) RAPID UNSHELTERED SURVIVOR HOUSING (RUSH) FUNDS AND ALLOW ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT; AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD); AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AND THE CLERK TO ATTEST APPLICATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS, AND HUD GRANT AGREEMENTS; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO IMPLEMENT ESG-RUSH PROGRAMS; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AND THE CLERK TO ATTEST SUBRECIPIENT AND LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING AMENDMENTS; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TO SERVE AS CERTIFYING OFFICER FOR HUD ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES; AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AND FILE NECESSARY FORMS, REPORTS, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE ANNUAL ACTION PLAN.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS), as authorized by 42.U.S.C. 11364a(c)(1), made a special allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding, known as Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (RUSH), in response to the Presidential major disaster declarations dated September 28, 2024, DR-4828-FL, for Hurricane Helene, October 11, 2024, DR-4834-FL, for Hurricane Milton, and Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) determination that the disasters were severe enough to activate the TSA program; and

WHEREAS, HUD notices provide ESG grantees with flexibilities and authorizes HUD to grant waivers and alternative requirements from any provision of any statute or regulation that HUD administers in connection with the ESG-RUSH grant funds as determined necessary for ESG-RUSH program disaster response; and

WHEREAS, HUD has allocated \$512,336.00 in ESG-RUSH funds to Pinellas County to be used to fund eligible activities that address the needs of homeless individuals or families or individuals or families at risk of homelessness in areas affected by a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.). The ESG funds shall benefit people whose needs are not otherwise served or fully met by existing Federal disaster relief programs, including the Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program under such Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b); and

WHEREAS, Pinellas County desires to include ESG-RUSH funds as part of the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan in order to carry out eligible activities; and

WHEREAS, HUD requires a substantial amendment to the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan to allow eligible activities to be carried out with the funding; and

WHEREAS, a notice was placed on the Pinellas County website on January 23, 2025, notifying the public of the proposed use of ESG-RUSH funding, as required and allowed by RUSH Notice dated July 1, 2024, allowing for suspended consultation and citizen participation for the initial allocation of ESG-RUSH funds; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for Pinellas County to execute Subrecipient, Land Use Restriction, and other appropriate agreements with grant recipients to carry out the activities that will result from adoption of the proposed amendment and to specify grant recipient's financial and regulatory obligations; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary, at times, for Pinellas County to amend Subrecipient and Land Use Restriction Agreements resulting from project cost increases, changes in project scopes, project delays, availability of unanticipated funds, and/or other causes; and

WHEREAS, HUD regulations require that site specific environmental reviews be performed for each project prior to submitting a Request for Release of Funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, in its regular session duly assembled this 11th day of February 2025, does hereby approve the Substantial Amendment to the Pinellas County Pinellas County 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan in the amount of \$512,336.00, to be allocated to Pinellas County by HUD in the manner set forth above, and authorizes submittal of the amendment to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman, or designee, be authorized to sign the Substantial Amendment applications, certifications, grant agreements and the Clerk to attest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that either the Chairman or, pursuant to Section 2-62, Pinellas County Code, the County Administrator, or their designee, be authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest Subrecipient Agreements and Land Use Restriction Agreements, and amendments thereto, pursuant to these grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notwithstanding Section 2-62, Pinellas County Code, the Chairman or the County Administrator, or their designee, be authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest amendments to Subrecipient Agreements and Land Use Restriction Agreements, increasing the amount of the grant award to subrecipients, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 or fifty percent (50%) of the grant award, whichever is greater.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Housing and Community Development Department Director be authorized to carry out the responsibilities of certifying officer as provided in 24 C.F.R. Part 58, its related Federal authorities listed in Sections 58.5 and 58.6, as well as Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its related provisions in 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Housing and Community Development Department Director, or designee, be authorized to sign and file necessary reports, forms, and other documents related to the administration and operation of the ESG-RUSH Program, including the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.

Commissioner _____ offered the foregoing resolution and hereby moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon roll call, the vote was:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING:

APPROVED AS TO FORM
By: Derrill McAteer
Office of the County Attorney