



CITY OF CLEARWATER

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CITY MANAGER

November 17, 2020

Barry Burton, County Administrator
Pinellas County
315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

Re: Clearwater City Council Adoption of Resolution No. 20-52 Initiating the Creation of the North Greenwood Community Redevelopment Area

Dear Pinellas County Administrator Burton:

Please accept this writing as a formal request from the City of Clearwater for the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners to take certain administrative action toward the creation of a Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) in the North Greenwood Community in accordance with § 163.410, Fla. Stat.

On October 14, 2020, Clearwater City Council took the first administrative step in establishing the North Greenwood CRA. City of Clearwater Resolution No. 20-52 directs city staff to initiate several administrative actions and directs staff to request that the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners consider the following actions:

- Delegation to the City of Clearwater City Council all authority and powers conferred upon Pinellas County through the Community Redevelopment Act of 1969 (Part III, Chapter 163, Florida Statutes) for the North Greenwood Community Redevelopment Area; and
- Establishment of a tax increment financing district and a redevelopment trust fund within the North Greenwood Community Redevelopment Area to implement needed improvements that will remedy the stated blighted conditions pursuant to §§ 163.370 and 163.387, Florida Statutes.

More than one year ago, the Clearwater Urban Leadership Coalition (Coalition) approached the City of Clearwater with a request for the City to pursue the creation of a Community Redevelopment Area as defined by Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, for the North Greenwood Neighborhood. North Greenwood is one of several large pockets of poverty in Pinellas County and is the largest low-income area in the City of Clearwater.

Frank V. Hibbard, Mayor

Mark Bunker, Councilmember
Kathleen Beckman, Councilmember



David Allbritton, Councilmember
Hoyt Hamilton, Councilmember

“Equal Employment and Affirmative Action Employer”

Through the adoption of Resolution 20-52, the Clearwater City Council has shown unanimous support of this community-led initiative to create a North Greenwood CRA and improve the lives of many struggling Clearwater residents. City staff believes the structure of a CRA will provide the City with tools to affect socio-economic improvement in the community to achieve economic prosperity, and to improve the health, self-sufficiency and resiliency of its residents.

City staff procured consultant Wade Trim to conduct a study of the North Greenwood area and to prepare a Findings of Necessity Report with Report Addendum (together, FON Report) to determine whether the area is blighted and in need of governmental intervention in the form of a CRA. The FON Report provides a recommendation to establish a CRA over the proposed area and has been made available to your staff through electronic communication to Evan Johnson, Pinellas County Strategic Initiatives Manager. Based on the information provided in this report, Clearwater City Council declared the area to be a blighted area as defined by § 163.370(8), Florida Statutes and found that there is a need for a community redevelopment agency to function in the City to carry out the community redevelopment purposes of the Community Redevelopment Act in the North Greenwood Community Redevelopment Area.

The City of Clearwater is grateful for your dedication of County staff to prepare a presentation and staff recommendation for the consideration of the Board of County Commissioners. City staff is available to support the efforts of County staff as needed. Please instruct County staff to contact Gina Clayton, Planning and Development Director or Chuck Lane, Economic Development and Housing Assistant Director as needed. Their respective contact information is Gina.Clayton@myClearwater.com, (727) 562-4587 and Charles.Lane@MyClearwater.com, (727) 562-4023.

I want to thank you in advance for the time and dedication County staff will put towards this effort. The North Greenwood Community is truly part of the fabric of the City of Clearwater. On behalf of City staff and City Council, I can tell you that this is an exciting opportunity to address long-standing socio-economic conditions that have prevented people in this community from reaching individual and collective potential. As Clearwater City Manager, I am proud to announce that our City Council has taken this very important step.

Sincerely,



William B. Horne, II

City Manager

Encl: City of Clearwater Resolution 20-52
North Greenwood Area Finding of Necessity Study with Report Addendum (via electronic Communication)

cc: Mayor and City Council
Pam Akin
Micah Maxwell
Michael Delk
Gina Clayton
Denise Sanderson
Chuck Lane
Carol Strickland
Evan Johnson