R2023-4: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A WORKFORCE HOUSING STRATEGIC PLAN.

Applicant/Purpose: Staff / to adopt a workforce housing strategic plan

Brief:

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- The Myrtle Beach area faces unique challenges to housing inventory, including the region's popularity among those desiring to relocate, the second-homeowner market, the comparatively high cost of land and construction labor shortages, all of which have constrained the available supply of housing
- Shortage of workforce housing makes it more difficult for local businesses to recruit and retain a dependable workforce, which affects the local economy.
- The City tasked Habitat for Humanity of Horry County, Inc. with preparing a Workforce Housing Strategic Plan, outlining strategies in partnership with private and non-profit entities to increase housing options for workers who serve the local community
- The Workforce Housing Strategic Plan prepared by Habitat for Humanity of Horry County, Inc. was developed with input from employers, residents, workers, advocates, City staff and City Council and includes recommendations for a comprehensive plan to address the City's workforce housing needs

Issues:

 The City desires to increase the quantity of affordable workforce housing so our medical workers, teachers, firefighters, law enforcement officers, service workers and other critical members of the workforce can afford to live in the same community they serve

<u>Public Notification</u>: Normal meeting notification.

<u>Alternatives:</u> Amend or deny the Resolution.

Financial Impact:

- The Resolution itself does not have any financial impact.
- There is a separate Resolution requesting the City enter into a contract with Habitat of Humanity of Horry County (R2023-04), which will have a financial impact on the City. The funds from this engagement will come from the City's Workforce Housing monies.

<u>Manager's Recommendation</u>: I recommend approval.

Attachment(s): Resolution, Strategic Plan

RESOLUTION R2023-4

CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH COUNTY OF HORRY STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ADOPTING A WORKFORCE HOUSING STRATEGIC PLAN

WHEREAS, it is essential to the local economy and sense of community in Myrtle Beach that our workers and their families live in the City of Myrtle Beach or the nearby surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the Myrtle Beach area faces unique challenges to housing inventory, including the region's popularity among those desiring to relocate, the second-homeowner market, the comparatively high cost of land and construction labor shortages, all of which have constrained the available supply of housing; and

WHEREAS, because Myrtle Beach area lacks a sufficient supply of affordable housing for many workers and their families, the Myrtle Beach City Council desires to increase the quantity of affordable workforce housing so that our medical workers, teachers, firefighters, law enforcement officers, service workers and other critical members of the workforce can afford to live in the same community that they serve; and

WHEREAS, this shortage of workforce housing makes it more difficult for local businesses to recruit and retain a dependable workforce, which affects the local economy; and

WHEREAS, dislocation from the communities in which they work burdens workers both financially and personally by requiring they commute longer distances; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need to increase affordable workforce housing, the Myrtle Beach City Council passed Resolution 2019-44, creating an *ad hoc* Workforce Housing Advisory Board, open to community members and City staff, to plan and execute solutions resulting in additional affordable workforce housing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Myrtle Beach tasked Habitat for Humanity of Horry County, Inc. with preparing a Workforce Housing Strategic Plan, outlining strategies in partnership with private and non-profit entities to increase housing options for workers who serve the local community; and

WHEREAS, on February 3, 2022, Habitat for Humanity of Horry County, Inc., a local non-profit whose mission is to eliminate substandard housing, presented the Workforce Housing Strategic Plan to the Myrtle Beach City Council during a public workshop; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Housing Strategic Plan prepared by Habitat for Humanity of Horry County, Inc. was developed with input from employers, residents, workers, advocates, City staff and City Council and includes recommendations for a comprehensive plan to address the City's workforce housing needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Habitat for Humanity of Horry County, Inc. is an appropriate entity to develop a strategic plan related to workforce housing, and it is in the public's interest and welfare for the City of Myrtle Beach to hereby formally adopt the Workforce Housing Strategic Plan presented by Habitat for Humanity of Horry County, Inc., attached as Exhibit A.

1	SIGNED, SEALED and DATED on this 14 th day of February, 2023.		
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4	ATTEST:		
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7		BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR	
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10	JENNIFER ADKINS, CITY CLERK		
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