

Special Meeting

August 28, 2020 at 10:00am

There will be a special meeting of the Washington City Council on Friday, August 28, 2020 at 10:00 AM. The meeting will stream on Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/CityOfWashingtonNC/> The purpose of the meeting is for the following: public hearing to explain the Kelly Children's Home project. For additional information regarding the meeting, please contact the City Clerk at 252-975-9318 or cbennett@washingtonnc.gov



City of
Washington
NORTH CAROLINA
Special Meeting
August 28, 2020
10:00AM

**Due to COVID-19 precautionary measures, the Washington City Council meeting will be held as a virtual meeting.
* The meeting will be streaming on Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/CityOfWashingtonNC/>*

Opening of Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Roll Call

1. Public Hearing to explain the Kelly Children's Home project (page 2)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86374128980> enter access code 86374128980#
2. Adjourn until Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:30pm.

**City of Washington Project Sunrise
CDBG Public Hearing Agenda Abstract**

Meeting Friday August 28, 2020 10:00 AM

Agenda Title: Second Public Hearing for Project Sunrise

Presenters: Kevin Richards, Mid-East Commission
Martyn Johnson, BC ED Director

Summary of Information:

Alexis & Josh Kelly adopted a child from foster care in 2016, and during that time learned of the significant need for foster parents in North Carolina. Alexis & Josh spent the next few years developing a business plan and searching for the right property to develop the first children's group home in Beaufort County, North Carolina. In 2020, the 501c3 non-profit Kelly Children's Home took off and is in the process of purchasing (closing set from 8/31/20) the property at 300 10th Street, Washington, NC

that will provide residential group housing to approximately 15 (during the pandemic) to 35 (post pandemic) foster kids ages 12-18, and their siblings. In Beaufort County, NC there are close to 140 children in the foster care system, but only 23 licensed foster parents.

Keely Children's Home has raised the necessary \$130,000 of funding to purchase the home through donations and fund raisers. These activities are documented in the following links and statements:

<https://www.wnct.com/local-news/a-local-non-profit-is-addressing-the-need-for-foster-parents-in-the-east/>

<https://www.thewashingtondailynews.com/2020/06/23/yard-sale-advances-childrens-home-in-washington/>

"The Outreach Team at WIMCO was moved to the point of tears hearing Alexis Kelly pour out the heart behind the Kelly Children's Home, a new children's home coming to Beaufort County that will change the trajectory of the lives of so many children in our community."

<https://thekellychildrenshome.org/fundraisers>

Residents:

Teens are the most challenging population to place in traditional foster care settings. Teens are at risk for never learning the necessary life skills, experiencing emotional healing, or growing the self-

confidence to become successful young adults. The Kelly Children's Home will provide residential care, as well as the necessary services to prepare them for the next chapter in life!

Larger sibling sets in foster care are often hard to place together. As a result, they are often separated across the state or even across state lines. The Kelly Children's Home will help keep siblings together under one roof!

In addition to ten (10) full time staff taking care of the children's needs there will be volunteer mentors. The mentors will be matched one-on-one to children through an interview process. The mentors will maintain relationships with residents even as they grow out of The Kelly Children's Home.

Pictures:



300 10th Street, Washington NC 27889



Budget:

Facility Purchase: \$130,000 (Private)

Renovations: \$746,638 (CDBG)

Operations: Payments from social services per child

CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization:

Grant Deadline: 4 PM Monday August 31st, 2020

Maximum Grant: \$750,000

The North Carolina Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NC Neighborhood) offers a non-entitlement municipality or county the opportunity to tailor a project to meet the community development needs specific and most critical to their locality, primarily for their low- and moderate-income residents.

The NC Neighborhood Program supports the three livability principles that helps guide sustainability and

resiliency throughout areas that receive funding. Regardless of the program activity or activities local governments pursue, NC Neighborhood Program projects must incorporate at least one of the following three livability principles as an area of focus:

1. Promote equitable, affordable housing. Expand location and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.

2. Support existing communities. Target federal funding toward existing communities - through strategies like transit-oriented, mixed-use development, and land recycling - to increase community revitalization and the efficiency of public works investments and safeguard rural landscapes.
3. Value communities and neighborhoods. Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in health, safe, and walkable neighborhoods - rural, urban, or suburban.

CDBG Eligible Applicants:

All municipalities and counties are eligible to receive State CDBG funds except for entitlement municipalities and counties, which receive funds directly from HUD.

Housing Activities:

Funds for the housing category may be spent on rehabilitation, acquisition, clearance, relocation, substantial rehabilitation, replacement housing and emergency repairs.

There are no project boundaries for any of the activities in the housing category. The applicant may choose to do scattered site housing or housing in a concentrated area or a combination. There is no limit on the number of houses or the number of activities for the project. The applicant will need to decide how many houses can be treated during the 30-month grant period.

Local Government Role:

As the applicant, the local government is responsible to ensure the following:

1. Management and Oversight: The elected officials are legally, financially, contractually, and programmatically responsible for the CDBG project. The local government is responsible to the State of North Carolina and the Federal government even if they have a contract administrator (Kevin Richards Mid-East Commission) or sub-recipient relationship.
2. Financial Management: The local government must ensure proper accounting of funds to avoid disallowed costs. This includes accurate identification of project costs and cash balances and proper internal controls.
3. Statement of Assurances and Certifications: The local government elected officials and administrators should read and understand these documents and the implementation obligations.

4. If awarded, the local government will receive a grant agreement and funding approval from the State. These documents are contractually binding and cannot be changed without State approval.

Additional information of the CDBG program can be found at the link:

<https://www.nccommerce.com/documents/application-cdbg-neighborhood-revitalization-grant-program-guidance-and-application>

Action: 1. Ask for public hearing comments

2. Request the City Council approve applying for the Community Development Block Grant- Neighborhood Revitalization to provide funding for renovation of the facility at 300 E. 10th Street Washington NC to become the Kelly Children's Home for foster children and that the Mayor be given the authority, under the tutelage of the City Manager, the City Attorney and Kevin Richards, to sign the necessary and appropriate documents.