

RESOLUTION #2018-17

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE “TRANSFORMING ALBION” PROJECT, UNDER A HUD CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT APPLICATION; AUTHORIZING TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY’S SCHOOL OF PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR THE GRANT ACTIVITIES; AND AUTHORIZING A COMMITMENT OF LOCAL CONTRIBUTION

Background: The three pillars of the ‘Choice Neighborhood’ grant program, made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development are based on 1) People 2) Housing and 3) Neighborhood. The mission of the “Transforming Albion” Project is to develop strategies that will enhance access to health, education, transportation, employment, crime-free communities, recreational activities and designs that promote the well-being of its residents. In coordination with the City of Albion and the Albion Housing Commission, Michigan State University’s School of Planning, Design and Construction will co-lead the planning and activities of the “Transformation Plan” alongside Albion residents and leaders. The “Transformation Plan” is a participatory planning process that will culminate in the development of a plan for three Albion neighborhoods (Precincts 1, 2 & 3) with goals pertaining to housing, people and neighborhoods. Residents of all ages, abilities and backgrounds will be the driving force behind this project mainly through engagement activities such as ‘strategic doing,” charrette design and engagement meetings, learning opportunities and other civic engagement activities. Early conversations with neighborhood residents indicate interest in potential grant ‘Action Activities’ revolving around youth activities, transportation options, and neighborhood design that improves personal safety. In addition to this *Resolution*, a *Memorandum of Understanding* between the City of Albion and Michigan State University’s School of Planning, Design and Construction sets out the principles that will guide the activities of the grant, if funded: A 3 ½ year project for \$1.3 million that encompasses both planning and action items within Albion’s Precincts 1, 2 & 3. Since this grant application and its goals closely align with Albion’s Comprehensive Plan, support for this process is being requested in the form of local contribution. Approval for this grant submission and local contribution is requested in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). Administrative staff recommends city approval of the *Memorandum of Understanding*, a local contribution amount of \$10,000.00 and of the “Transformation Plan” process.

WHEREAS the Albion City Council hereby supports the “Transforming Albion” project under a HUD Choice Neighborhood Planning and Action grant application and supports entering into a partnership between the City of Albion, the Albion Housing Commission, Michigan State University’s School of Planning, Design and Construction; and

WHEREAS the Albion City Council shall not seek through this grant process, to reduce the overall number of public housing units presently available in the City; and

WHEREAS any members of the Committees formed for the implementation of the activities funded under this grant shall be appointed to said committees by the City Council in the same manner as other board appointments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Albion hereby authorizes a local contribution for the grant in the amount of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars, in addition to staff time and resources; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Albion Mayor and City Manager are authorized to sign documents related to the HUD Choice Neighborhood grant application.

Date: May 21, 2018

Ayes: 17

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

I certify that this resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Albion on May 21, 2018.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Domingo". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jill Domingo

City Clerk