Board of County Commissioners

Budget Discussion Item

Date of Meeting: June 8, 2004
Date Submitted: June 2, 2004

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Alan Rosenzweig, Director Office Management and Budget

Subject: Midyear Funding Requests

Statement of Issue:
Consideration of an additional $15,000 for funding of annual requests from citizens groups, youth groups and civic organizations.

Background:
At the April 13, 204 Board meeting, funding requests from The Challenger Learning Center, The Tallahassee Urban league and The FAMU Chapter of the Golden Key International Honor Society were not approved. The Board directed staff to consider funding these types of requests as part of the FY04/05 budget development process.

Analysis:
As reflected in Attachment #1, the Board has provided approximately $15,000 annually for certain citizens groups, youth groups and civic organizations from the General Fund Contingency account. Often these requests are related to annual events, such as the NAACP Freedom Fund Awards Banquet or the City's Race Relations Summit. These types of requests are typically not eligible for funding through the Cultural Resource Commission (CRC) grant program, the Community Health Services Partnership (CHSP) or the County's Youth Athletic Scholarship program.

Based on the Board's continued desire to provide funding for these types of requests, the FY04/05 budget currently includes $15,000 for this purpose. As these requests often are made at a point int time when the Commission may not be meeting, it is recommended that the expenditure can be authorized either by a majority vote of the Board or by the County Administrator. The account will be restricted to the support of events that have an overriding public purpose in the support of the community and are not eligible for receiving funds through any other grant program. The establishment of this account would provide the Board a maximum amount of funding available and thereby eliminate the use of the General Fund Contingency for such purposes.

Options:
1. Approve the inclusion of $15,000 annually in the budget for funding of citizens groups, youth groups and/or civic organizations not eligible for grants from the Cultural Resource Commission, the Community Health Services Partnership or the County's Youth Athletic Scholarship program and allow the authorization to expend the funds be by majority vote of the Board or in the event time does not permit a vote of the Commisison, then the expenditure can be authorized by the County Administrator.

2. Do not approve the inclusion of $15,000 annually in the budget for funding of citizens groups, youth groups and/or civic organizations not eligible for grants from the Cultural Resource Commission, the Community Health Services Partnership or the County's Youth Athletic Scholarship program.
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:
Option #1, $15,000 of additional funding is currently included in the FY04/05 tentative budget.

Attachment #1: Special Mid-Year Funding Schedule