

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(4)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: November 20, 2007

TITLE: Creation of a Land Trust Affordable Housing Maintenance Task Force

DEPARTMENT: Economic Development and Community Development	PUBLIC HEARING: YES or <u>NO</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Task force structure, appointment, and timeline	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: James R Harris , Director of Economic and Community Development (918-7319)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to review issues related to the long term maintenance of affordable housing managed by the Orange County Housing and Land Trust (OCHLT) and make specific recommendations to the Towns and Orange County regarding how these units may be maintained in order to achieve long-term affordability. It is also to review capital needs of the Orange County 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness and make recommendations regarding how OCHLT housing units may be used to meet the identified needs.

INFORMATION

OCHLT was created by and continues to be supported by the governmental units for the purpose of ensuring the development and availability of affordable housing in the county. Thus, the housing stock managed by the Land Trust represents an important community asset that must be maintained in perpetuity in order to achieve its organizational goals.

It is noted that affordable housing developed by various organizations may also be developed with considerable public support and also represents an asset that should be preserved for the benefit of the greater community. However, the administrative and legal structure of their organizations and the affordable housing they produce may require their potential long-term maintenance needs to be addressed differently. The work of this Task Force can be used to inform future discussions regarding the long-term maintenance needs of other housing organizations.

It is also noted that there is a need for capital resources to provide 40 permanent housing units for chronically homeless individuals and there may be an opportunity to provide this housing in partnership with OCHLT.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen appoint a representative to this Task Force to review issues related to the long term maintenance of affordable housing managed by the Orange County Housing and Land Trust (OCHLT) and make specific recommendations to the Towns and Orange County regarding how these units may be maintained in order to achieve long-term affordability. It is also to review capital needs of the Orange County 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness and make recommendations regarding how OCHLT housing units may be used to meet the identified needs.

