

Information Item

Date: August 12, 2019

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of City Council

From: Evan Raleigh, Assistant City Manager

Subject:

Information on Previously Approved Job Creation and Economic Development Agreement between the City of Winston-Salem and S.G. Atkins Community Development Corporation to Acquire and Assemble Commercially-Zoned Properties and Others as Allowed by Law in the East End for Economic Development Purposes, and the Agreement between the City of Winston-Salem and S.G. Atkins Community Development Corporation to Support Project Management Services Associated with Implementation of the East End Master Plan

Strategic Focus Area: Economic Vitality and Diversity

Strategic Objective: Promote Commercial/Economic Development in Economically Disadvantaged Areas

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



During the May meetings of the Finance and Community Development/Housing/General Government Committees, staff presented information on a request from Council Member Scippio for the Mayor and City Council to consider rescinding the approval for two separate agreements between the City and S.G. Atkins Community Development Corporation (CDC). The first agreement authorized the CDC to access up to \$3 million in 2014 general obligation bond funding to support the acquisition and assemblage of commercial properties and others as allowed by law in the East End area for the purpose of economic development, business and job creation. The second agreement authorized the City to enter into a second three-year agreement with the CDC which allocated \$60,000 per year from the Economic Development Project Reserve Fund to support project management and a Real Estate Development Project Manager position tasked with implementing elements of the East End Master Plan.

Staff has prepared a memo which responds to the various questions that were raised during the May committee meetings. The memo and responses are attached to this information item. Based upon direction from the Mayor and City Council, staff could prepare a resolution that would rescind both agreements between the City and the CDC while also stipulating that the \$3 million in 2014 general obligation bond funds would remain designated to support qualifying economic development projects within the East Ward. The resolution would also make clear that the CDC would remain eligible to access the GO bond funds should it present a qualifying project in the project area.