

Isabel Cosio Carballo, MPA  
Executive Director



Senator Steve Geller, Chair  
Broward County Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 18, 2024

Contact: Jeffrey Tart, Senior Loan Officer  
954.924.3653 | jtart@sfrpc.com

**THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND, INC. EXPANDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE WITH A \$900,000 COMMITMENT TO CONSTRUCT AFFORDABLE SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES WITHIN THE CITY OF WEST PARK, LOCATED IN BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Through the leadership of the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC), the Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. (SFCDFI), has become recognized as a regional leader by the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), governmental, public, and private entities by providing single-family affordable housing.

**WEST PARK, FL, June 18, 2024** – The Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. (SFCDFI), has committed \$900,000 to the Housing Foundation of America, Inc. to help finance the construction of three affordable, single-family residential homes located in the City of West Park, Florida. Subject lots consist of lot 22 and lot 23 block 66 West Carver Ranches and lot 6 Block 53 West Carver Ranches.



*Figure 1: Anthony McCray, Incom Roofing Inc.; Mayor Felicia Brunson, City of West Park; Chester Bishop, Housing Foundation of America, Inc.; Jeffrey Tart, SFRPC*

The project is a collaborative effort among the SFCDFI, the City of West Park, the Housing Foundation of America, and the Housing Opportunities for Excellence, Inc. The SFCDFI is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to promote community and economic development, access to capital for small businesses, and job creation.



*Figure 2: Example of model home*

The SFCDFI contracts with the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) for lending expertise, loan management, and administrative and staff support.

Known as the West Park In-Fill Lot Affordable Housing Development Program, the program was launched in 2022 to

mirror the pilot Broward Municipal Services District (BMSD) In-Fill Lot Development Program. This program was designed to enhance and preserve neighborhoods by awarding lots and buyer down payment/purchase assistance funds to eligible developers or contractors to construct in-fill housing or develop single-family housing for resale within unincorporated Broward County.

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The three single-family homes, now under construction, will be available to pre-approved low- to moderate-income families. Each property will be energy efficient and encompass approximately 1,800 square feet with three bedrooms, bathrooms, a two-car garage, and a tile roof.

“The City of West Park’s In-Fill Lot Affordable Housing Program gives priority to first-time homeowners living in the City of West Park. The goal is to preserve the integrity of the neighborhood and encourage homeownership for city residents. Broward County has a housing affordability crisis, and it is refreshing to know that we have a partner who genuinely cares about the residents achieving the American dream of home ownership in our communities. The South Florida Regional Planning Council and its Affordable Housing Initiative is helping address this housing need.” ~ **Commissioner Beam Furr, Broward County Commissioner, District 6, SFRPC Board Member**

On June 7, 2022, the Broward County Commission approved an additional \$1,000,000 line of credit to the Southeast Florida Community Development Fund, Inc. to fund affordable housing projects in the county including the City of West Park’s affordable housing project for first-time homebuyers in Broward County. This is in addition to the existing \$1,000,000 revolving line of credit approved by the Housing Finance Authority (HFA) of Broward County in late 2019.

The SFCDI is supporting the development of much needed affordable housing with loans to all minority-owned businesses engaged in affordable housing development. The SFCDI is helping to address the affordable housing crisis in Broward County by providing the loans needed to build single-family homes for first-time minority homebuyers in low- and moderate-income census tracts in the Cities of Fort Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Lauderdale Lakes, and surrounding unincorporated Broward County.



*Figure 3: Group photo at the groundbreaking ceremony on May 31, 2024*

The SFCDI program partners with minority-owned businesses that focus on building affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents in the market where traditional financing is not available for affordable housing. The SFCDI utilizes a revolving loan fund financing structure, a self-replenishing pool of money, utilizing interest and principal payments from repaid loans to issue new loans, meet current financing projects, and provide future sustainability.

For more information about the SFCDI’s Affordable Housing Initiative, please contact Jeffrey Tart, SFRPC/SFCDI Senior Loan Officer at 954.924.3653 or [jtart@sfrpc.com](mailto:jtart@sfrpc.com).

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