Chatham County Tax Relief Program (TRP)

Review:





Last year BOC approved allocating \$200,000 to begin a real property tax relief program with the purpose of financially assisting low-income Chatham County homeowners.



Qualifying applicants would receive up to \$500 in direct payment (the program would have the potential to assist 400 residents yearly).



BOC requested that a program be developed to mobilize this program for 2025.

TRP Program Developme nt develop a plan for TRP implementation. This team consisted of:

- Bryan Thompson County Manager
- Darrell Butts Assistant County Manager
- Jennie Kristiansen Director of Social Services
- Jenny Williams Tax Administrator
- Jason Smith Director of Housing and Community Development

• Topics discussed were program eligibility, department responsibilities and potential workflow. Proposed Program Eligibili ty

- Applicants must be a Chatham County resident.
- Must own and resided in their home for at least 5 years (primary residence).
- Must be current on all property taxes. Cannot be used towards unpaid or delinquent tax bills.
- Cannot be receiving any other tax relief or assistance (exclusions, deferments or exceptions).
- Max benefit of up to \$500 (not to exceed 50% of due taxes)

Proposed Program Eligibility (Cont.)

• Applicant must have a current earned income at or below 60% of the area median income (AMI) as defined by HUD.

Household Size	Household Income
1	\$44,520
2	\$50,880
3	\$57,240
4	\$63,540
5	\$68,640
6	\$73,740
7	\$78,840
8	\$83,880

Responsibilities and Next Steps



The Housing Department will be responsible for processing applications and determining eligibility.



Once finalized, applicants will be able to apply online as well as in-person (paper application) at Department of Social Services and the Chatham <u>County Tax Office</u>.



Our goal is to have this program live and accepting applications before late tax notices are sent out in February. Questions or Comments?

Motion to approve the tax relief program guidelines