City of **JOPLIN** City Council Agenda Item

Requested Council Meeting Date: January 16, 2018

Item: Council Bill No. 2018-402
Originating Department: PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Attachments: 1) 2016 CDBG Recipient Agreement
2) Council Bill No 2018-402

Department Head: Troy Bolander
Finance Director: Leslie Haase
City Attorney: Peter Edwards
City Manager: Sam Anselm

INTRODUCTION:

The following agreement is between the City of Joplin and Legal Aid of Western Missouri for 2016 Community Development Block Grant funds.

DISCUSSION:

The Abandoned Housing Act (S.B. 376, *amended* S.B. 513, *et al.*) allows for not-for-profit organizations to file with the respective circuit court to clean and ultimately retain title of abandoned properties, abandoned being defined by state statute. This act has been well used, in terms of successful implementation and improvement of neighborhood health, in other jurisdictions within the state of Missouri.

Quite Title Action (RS MO Section 527.150) allows for the confirmation of ownership following tax sale or any property with uncertain receivership. The City of Joplin currently holds sixty-three properties deeded by Jasper County or other parties that titles are not "clean."

The attached agreement is funding for a pilot program, in which, Legal Aid of Western Missouri will provide Abandoned Housing Act and Quite Title Action legal services for non-profit affordable housing developers. This Council Bill provides Ten Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents ($10,000.00) from Community Development Block Grant B16MC290008. The funds will be used to subsidize soft-costs for the provision of affordable housing, and familiarize area affordable housing providers with these legal tools for future implementation.

RECOMMENDATION:

These activities have received prior approval from the Council as part of the 2016 Action Plan.

Staff recommends approval of the agreement.