



**Agenda
City of Cocoa
Diamond Square Community Redevelopment
Agency Regular Meeting**

**May 18, 2026
6:00 PM
415 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL 32922**

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Invocation
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

1. Agenda: Regular Meeting of Diamond Square CRA for May 18, 2026.
2. Minutes: Regular Meeting of the Diamond Square CRA for April 20, 2026.

III. DELEGATIONS

IV. PRESENTATIONS

V. ACTION ITEMS

1. Request Agency approval to award the \$10,000 Diamond Square Program Initiative to Sherry Amos "Summer Enrichment Program" at the Learning and Achievement Center.
2. Request Agency approval of a budget transfer in the FY26 Budget, BAF# 2026-063-T, to transfer funds of \$100 from Travel & Per Diem and into the Other Charges and Obligations account.
3. Request Agency approval of Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Priorities based on the anticipated budget for the fiscal year.

VI. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

VII. UPDATES AND STAFF REPORTS

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE - JUNE 15, 2026 at 6:00 PM

IX. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE TO PUBLIC:

This is a public meeting. All interested parties may attend. The facility wherein this meeting will be held is accessible to the physically handicapped. Please be advised that more than one member of the City Council may attend. Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, the City hereby advises the public that: if a person decides to appeal any decision made by this board with respect to any matter considered at its meeting or hearing, that person will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose, affected persons may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, and such record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for the introduction or admission into evidence of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals otherwise allowed by law. This agenda is posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and at the Central Brevard Library and Reference Center in Cocoa for public review.

DIAMOND SQUARE CRA AGENDA ITEM

Memo Date: 11/19/2025
Agenda Date: 5/18/2026
Prepared By: Peyton Fink, Redevelopment Coordinator
Through: Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director
Requested Action: Request Agency Approval of the Agenda from the Diamond Square CRA Regular Meeting on May 18, 2026, either as written or with amendments.

BACKGROUND:

Request Agency Approval of the Agenda from the Diamond Square CRA Regular Meeting on May 18, 2026, either as written or with amendments.

PRIORITY AREA CONNECTION:

Economic and Community Development

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

PREVIOUS ACTION:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Request Agency Approval of the Agenda from the Diamond Square CRA Regular Meeting on May 18, 2026, either as written or with amendments.



DIAMOND SQUARE

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Crystal McQueen
Chairperson

Angelia Smith
Vice Chairperson

Larry Brown
Board Member
*(Appointed
by Brevard
County)

Delores Martin
Board Member

Jackie Isom
Board Member

Tracy Moore
Board Member

Amy Robinson
Board Member

DATE: Monday, May 18, 2026
TIME: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Dr. Joe Lee Smith
Community Center
415 Stone Street

I. CALL TO ORDER
INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

AGENDA: Regular Meeting of May 18, 2026
MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2025

III. DELEGATIONS

IV. PRESENTATIONS

V. ACTION ITEMS

1. Request Agency approval to award the \$10,000 Diamond Square Program Initiative to Sherry Almost "Summer Enrichment Program" at the Learning and Achievement Center.
2. Request Agency approval of a budget transfer in the FY26 Budget, BAF# 2026-063-T, to transfer funds of \$100 from Travel & Per Diem and into the Other Charges and Obligations account.
3. Request Agency approval of Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Priorities based on the anticipated budget for the fiscal year.

VI. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

VII. UPDATES AND STAFF REPORTS

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency is Monday, June 15, 2026, at 6:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Dr. Joe Lee Smith Community Center, located at 415 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL 32922.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE TO PUBLIC:

This is a public meeting. All interested parties may attend. The facility wherein this meeting will be held is accessible to the physically handicapped. Please be advised that more than one member of the City Council may attend. Pursuant to Section 286.0105, *Florida Statutes*, the City hereby advises the public that: if a person decides to appeal any decision made by this board with respect to any matter considered at its meeting or hearing, that person will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose, affected persons may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, and such record shall include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for the introduction or admission into evidence of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals otherwise allowed by law. This agenda is posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and at the Central Brevard Library and Reference Center in Cocoa for public review.

DIAMOND SQUARE CRA AGENDA ITEM

Memo Date: 11/19/2025
Agenda Date: 5/18/2026
Prepared By: Peyton Fink, Redevelopment Coordinator
Through: Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director
Requested Action: Request Agency Approval of the Minutes from the Diamond Square CRA Regular Meeting on April 20, 2026, either as written or with amendments.

BACKGROUND:

Request Agency Approval of the Minutes from the Diamond Square CRA Regular Meeting on April 20, 2026, either as written or with amendments.

PRIORITY AREA CONNECTION:

Economic and Community Development

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

PREVIOUS ACTION:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Request Agency Approval of the Minutes from the Diamond Square CRA Regular Meeting on April 20, 2026, either as written or with amendments.

**MINUTES
CITY OF COCOA
DIAMOND SQUARE CRA
REGULAR MEETING
April 20, 2026**

The Regular Meeting of the Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency was held on April 20, 2026, at the City of Cocoa, City Hall, 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL, as publicly noticed.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson McQueen called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Invocation: Chairperson McQueen provided the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairperson McQueen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

Crystal McQueen	Chairperson
Angelia Smith	Vice Chairperson
Larry Brown	Agency Member
Jackie Isom	Agency Member
Tracy Moore	Agency Member
Amy Robinson	Agency Member
Joseph Colombo	Agency Attorney
Peyton Fink	Recording Secretary

PRESENT:

Crystal McQueen	Chairperson
Larry Brown	Agency Member
Jackie Isom	Agency Member
Amy Robinson	Agency Member
Joseph Colombo	Agency Attorney
Peyton Fink	Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Vice Chairperson Smith and Agency Member Moore.

STAFF PRESENT: Community Services Director Neuterman, Community Services Manager Justiniano, Communications & Economic Development Director Senger, and Board Liaison Goins.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

AGENDA:

Agenda - Regular Meeting of April 20, 2026.

***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ROBINSON to approve the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2026, as written.**

AYES: MCQUEEN, ISOM, BROWN, ROBINSON.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

MINUTES:

Minutes- Special Meeting of January 26, 2026

***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ROBINSON to approve the Minutes for the Special Meeting of January 26, 2026, as written.**

AYES: MCQUEEN, ISOM, BROWN, ROBINSON.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

III. Delegations:

1. Anita Gibson inquired about the cold case unit and security in Diamond Square, which are both issues that need to be addressed with the City Council as the police department works under their direction. She also asked about the 55 and older community that had been presented at a past Diamond Square CRA meeting. Director Neuterman responded to her by explaining that the 55 and older community was actually a class project at FIT and is not something that is actually happening. Agency Member Brown and Board Liaison Goins then discussed the security bikes in Diamond Square, with Board Liaison Goins stating that conversations are being had over the consistency of using them.

IV. Presentations:

V. Action Items:

1. Request Agency approval of a Resolution Amending the FY26 Budget, BAF# 26-051-T to transfer funds of \$331 budgeted for training to cover insurance overages for the Diamond Square CRA.

Director Neuterman went over the agenda item and explained how every year we budget funds for insurance and the estimates are not always the exact same as what is owed, so we are asking for agency approval to transfer funds in order to combat the difference. A motion to approve was made by Agency Member Isom and seconded by Agency Member Brown.

***MOTION by Agency Member ISOM; SECONDED by Agency Member BROWN to approve a Resolution Amending the FY26 Budget, BAF# 26-051-T to transfer funds of \$331 budgeted for training to cover insurance overages for the Diamond Square CRA.**

AYES: MCQUEEN, BROWN, ISOM, ROBINSON.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

2. UpStart Cocoa Forgivable Loan Application Award – Wall’s Bangin’ BBQ

Director Senger gave an overview of this agenda item and the program itself. She stated that Tyrone had applied for the Upstart program a year ago with the idea of having an outdoor dining establishment. While working with WeVenture he rebranded and is now going to work as a caterer through the Taste of Elegance Commissary Kitchen. She also stated that he will be working with churches as part of his community give back. He has been successful in the program, so she is asking for agency approval of the remaining loan funds (\$12,500).

Director Senger then gave Kathy from WeVenture and Tyrone the opportunity to speak. Kathy praised Tyrone’s hard work, and she is looking forward to hearing about his success. Tyrone then spoke about what made him want to cook in the first place and how he likes helping out in the community. He is currently catering, and he provided a menu for the agency members to look over. Director Neuterman also spoke highly of Tyrone’s hard work and is in support of helping him with his current goal of catering as well as his future goal of owning an outdoor dining establishment which did not work out due to issues with a building.

There was a discussion among the agency members and staff regarding how many churches Tyrone will be helping as part of the community give back. Agency Member Brown would like to see him help more than just a select few. It was noted by Board Liaison Goins that he can choose who to help and since he is running a business, he needs to be cautious about how many organizations he is working with. Director Senger also commented on this subject by stating that his proposed community give back is not set in stone and there are multiple ways that he can complete this component of the program. The agency members understand but would like to make sure that it is not just one area or organization that is receiving help. It was also noted that this program does not require him to just help out organizations in the Diamond Square CRA.

Agency Member Robinson wondered if there were ways for more people to know about Diamond Square and the businesses/organizations in it. Director Senger responded by saying that we could put a list together.

***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN ; SECONDED by Agency Member ROBINSON to consider the \$12,500 Cocoa Forgivable Loan with Wall’s Bangin’ BBQ according to the procedures, policies, and the conditions of the UpStart Cocoa Small Business Program and approve to reimburse any business-related expenses from the last 8 months while the applicant was completing the 360 Program.**

AYES: MCQUEEN, BROWN, ISOM, ROBINSON

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

3. Request Agency Approval to increase the amount not to exceed for the Diamond Square CRA Paint Grant from \$1,000 to \$1,500 effective in FY27.

Director Neuterman explained that we are currently reviewing the budget and since prices have gone up for supplies and services related to the Cocoa CRA Paint Grant there is a need to raise the amount not to exceed from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Director Neuterman believes that raising the amount to \$1,500 will be a sufficient increase.

***MOTION by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM to increase the amount not to exceed for the Diamond Square CRA Paint Grant from \$1,000 to \$1,500 starting in FY27.**

AYES: MCQUEEN, BROWN, ISOM, ROBINSON

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

4. Request Agency approval to increase the amount not to exceed for the Diamond Square CRA Beautification Grant from \$500 to \$750 effective in FY27.

Director Neuterman discussed the item and similarly to the Paint Grant, prices are going up and the grantees are averaging in the \$400-\$500 range. So, staff are requesting agency approval to increase the amount not to exceed for the Diamond Square Beautification Grant from \$500 to \$750 effective in FY27 to meet the needs of the residents.

Agency Member Brown asked if we used all funds from the Paint and Beautification Grants from last year. Director Neuterman responded that they were not all used but the remaining amount did go back into the fund balance to be used again. The Chairperson then asked if there were any current applications to which Director Neuterman responded that there are none as of right now.

***MOTION by Agency Member ROBINSON; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM to increase the amount not to exceed for the Diamond Square CRA Beautification Grant from \$500 to \$750 starting in FY27.**

AYES: MCQUEEN, BROWN, ISOM, ROBINSON

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

VI. **Attorney's Report:**

1. The Agency Attorney took a moment to express his condolences to Agency Member Moore who just experienced a loss in her family. The Chairperson stated that her prayers are with her.

VII. **Updates and Staff Report:**

1. Director Neuterman announced that we are putting out applications for the summer youth programs which we will bring back for the agency members to review in May. This program includes a \$10,000 grant and it will be up to the agency members to decide how to expend the dollars. She then stated that the Parks and Recreation summer program will also be moving forward. When asked about the new homes being built Director Neuterman stated that 5 are currently under contract that she knows of, and we anticipate 5 homes will close every 6-8 months. There are two houses that are almost finished as of right now.
2. Board Liaison Goins showed the agency members an upcoming project from FDOT for a pedestrian crossing on Fiske Blvd between Barbara Jenkins St and W King St/Hwy 520, which will calm traffic down. He then shared that there will be a movie night on May 2nd at the Dr. Joe Lee Smith Center from 6 pm to 9pm and two movies will be played. He then came up with the idea of having a table set up with the agency

members to promote the Diamond Square programs. To help advertise these programs, staff will print out Diamond Square CRA information and make sure it is given to him before May 2nd. Agency Member Brown wondered if there were more ways to promote the movie night to which Board Liaison Goins responded that he does have digital flyers that can be sent out. He then discussed calls that he has gotten in Virginia Park about properties not being maintained on South Carolina Avenue. He stated that there have been some major issues which he has talked about with Director Neuterman and the City Manager. Some of these issues he said have been overextended for long periods of time and he wants to get this out because there is a resident in attendance who knows about it. Board Liaison Goins stated that accountability is everything, he then went on to say that he wants to let the community know to pass it along that these problems are being worked on and we are going to be better at communicating. After discussing this issue, he discussed another one regarding people living in an RV on a property that does not belong to them. He then stated that he wants to let the community know that they are moving on these issues.

3. Shauna Ginn from Cocoa Housing Authority shared that for the first time since 2023 the two apartment communities have opened their wait list. The one bedrooms and studios will probably be the first to close. They are currently accepting applications Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 1:00-4:00 p.m. but she is meeting with management about having different hours as they require you to fill out the applications while you are there and the times are not very convenient.

VIII. **Next Meeting Date:**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the **Diamond Square Community Redevelopment Agency** will be on **Monday, May 18th**, at **6:00 pm** at the Dr. Joe Lee Smith Community Center unless a business need arises earlier.

IX. **Adjournment**

***MOTION to adjourn by Agency Member BROWN; SECONDED by Agency Member ISOM.**

AYES: MCQUEEN, BROWN, ISOM, ROBINSON

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 6:56 p.m.

Crystal McQueen, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted by:

Peyton Fink, Recording Secretary

DIAMOND SQUARE CRA AGENDA ITEM

Memo Date: 03/31/2026
Agenda Date: 5/18/2026
Prepared By: Peyton Fink, Redevelopment Coordinator
Through: Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director
Requested Action: Agency approval to award the \$10,000 Diamond Square Program Initiative to Sherry Amos "Summer Enrichment Program" at the Learning and Achievement Center.

BACKGROUND:

The Diamond Square Program Initiative was approved by the Agency during the FY2026 Budget Preparation/Approval. It was opened to the public for applications. A proposal was received by the published deadline. Sherry Amos "Summer Enrichment Program" at the Learning & Achievement Academy in Diamond Square submitted a proposal requesting \$10,000 for the summer program.

- Summer Enrichment Program
 - Program runs from June 1–June 30
 - Budget - \$35,000
 - Program — provides academic instruction and partners with Catapult Learning to provide STEM curriculum, educational field trips and creative art projects to reduce the "summer slide" students experience between school years.
 - Request - \$10,000
 - Number of Participants - 40-45 / Number of Participants from Diamond Square - 25-30

Staff reviewed the proposal, per the published guidelines, and confirmed that the candidate has completed the required paperwork and is eligible to receive funding. As part of this process, the candidate is available to present details of the program and request funding. Staff recommends that the Agency determine if the proposal is eligible to receive all or part of the \$10,000 budgeted for the program.

PRIORITY AREA CONNECTION:

Community Outreach and Engagement

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Budgeted? Yes

PREVIOUS ACTION:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Agency approval to award the \$10,000 Diamond Square Program Initiative to Sherry Amos "Summer Enrichment Program" at the Learning and Achievement Center.



DIAMOND SQUARE

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Note: Blacked out box represents company private information that is given upon request for authorized reviewers

PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

APPLICANT NAME: Learning & Achievement Group, Inc.

FEDERAL ID #: 26-4674647

Please attach IRS Determination Letter as support documentation Exhibit A.

ADDRESS: 1040 W King Street

CITY/STATE: Cocoa

ZIP: 32922

CONTACT PERSON: SherryLyons-Amos TITLE: Director

Contact person will be in direct contact with Agency Staff and responsible for administering the funds if awarded.

TELEPHONE #: 321-594-6115

FAX #: 321-600-2033

EMAIL ADDRESS: Sherryamos1@bellsouth.net

FINANCIAL: Provide budget information for your organization by completing the attached Income/Expense Report as Exhibit B. The last filed IRS 990 or 990EZ will be accepted in lieu of the Income/Expense Report.

CURRENT OPERATING BUDGET: [REDACTED] (Company Fiscal)

PROJECT INFORMATION:

NAME OF PROJECT: LA Academy Summer Enrichment Program

TOTAL

PROJECT COST: \$35,000 (Exhibit B1)

AMOUNT OF

MONETARY REQUEST: \$10,000 (Exhibit B1)

ANTICIPATED PARTICIPANTS TO BE SERVED:

40-45

OF DIAMOND SQUARE RESIDENTS TO BE SERVED:

25-30

NEW PROGRAM: ☐ YES ☒ NO

CONTINUING PROGRAM: ☒ YES ☐ NO

PROJECT IMPACT:

1. Please describe in detail, the proposed project objectives. Why is this project needed? Some of the issues the applicant may wish to address include, but are not limited to:

- ♦ How the project meets one or more of the Diamond Square Redevelopment Agency's Goals and Objectives.
- ♦ How quality of life for Diamond Square residents will be enhanced.
- ♦ Who will be served (children, seniors, families, and/or the disabled, etc.).

Please limit response to one typed page and attach as Exhibit C.

2. Will any Diamond Square residents be involved in the selecting, planning, and/or implementation of the proposed project? Yes x No If yes, briefly describe. Program also employs at least 2 staff who live in the Diamond Square area. So, the program provides jobs for Diamond square residents.

We have parent volunteers from the community that work with us to recruit students who live in the Diamond Square Area.

3. Briefly describe your organization's experience and ability to deliver the project as proposed as well as within the timeline for completion.

Learning & Achievement Group has successfully run several Programs including: LA Abstinence-only and Arts Program-Endeavour Elementary School (Sept 2007 – June 2008); LA Mentoring/Tutoring Program (Nov 2009-April 2011). LA Group received funding for these projects and successfully completed all requirements in a timely manner.

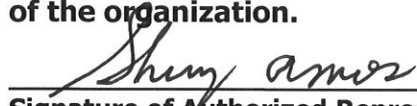
LA Afterschool Program has served over 200 young people in Brevard County, FL (Cocoa, Rockledge, and Melbourne). LA Afterschool Program goes above and beyond the role of an after-school program. We instill in challenged young people the confidence and enthusiasm that are prerequisites for lifelong success.

USE OF FUNDS: Complete Exhibit D. - Use of Funds Statement describing how requested monetary funds are to be used for the program, including costs, potential vendors and a general description of the proposed purchases.

NOTE: Upon completion of the program, an After-Action Statement (Exhibit E) and supporting documentation must be submitted to confirm use of Agency funds and services provided. Failure to do so will result in denial of future requests.

Remember that all expenditures of Agency funds will need to be accounted for by supplying copies of sales receipts, cancelled checks, and/or invoices to Agency Staff.

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is true and accurate, and I have the authority to apply for this Program Sponsorship on behalf of the organization.


Signature of Authorized Representative

5/12/2026
Date

INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT (Fiscal Year)

Fiscal Period: 7/1/2025 to 06/30/2026

**Represent Company
Private Info to be
given upon request**

Exhibit B1

Summer Enrichment Program

INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT

Organization Name: Learning & Achievement Group, Inc.

Fiscal Period: 6/1/2026 to 6/30/2026

INCOME	AMOUNT	EXPENSES	AMOUNT
Support		Salaries and wages	\$ 20200
Govt. grants	\$ 10000	Insurance and Benefits	\$ 675
Foundations	\$ 0	Professional fees	\$ 0
Corporations	\$ 0	Fundraising costs	\$ 0
United Way	\$ 0	Travel	\$ 0
Individual contributions	\$ 750	Equipment	\$ 0
Fundraising efforts	\$ 0	Maintenance & Cleaning	\$ 175
Membership income	\$ 0	Telephone /Utilities/ Internet	\$ 980
In-Kind support	\$ 6250	Consumables & Office Supplies	\$ 1892
Investment income	\$ 0	Rent	\$ 6700
Other (specify)		In-Kind expenses	\$ 0
Transfer from Savings	\$ 15000	Other (program specific)	
	\$	Advertising & Marketing	\$ 650
Revenue		Curriculum / Supplies	\$ 1,000
Govt. contracts	\$ 0	Food Program (Brkfast/Lunch)	\$ 1800
Earned Income	\$ 0	Field Trips	\$ 1823
Scholarship Tuition	\$ 4000	Transportation (Gasoline)	\$ 1,500
Paid Tuition	\$ 2100		
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$38,100.00</u>	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$37,295.00</u>

FUNDING REQUEST FROM DIAMOND SQUARE GRANT: \$10,000

EXHIBIT C

Mission and Purpose

Learning & Achievement Academy's (LA) Academy is a K-8 school that specializes in small class sizes and small group instruction. LA Academy has hosted a summer program for the past 4 years and is currently in its 5th year. The Covid-19 school shutdown caused students to experience a 1.5 – 2 year learning loss. Due to the Covid-19 learning losses, we have been hosting our summer program for the past 4 years and after overwhelming demand, are hosting our 5th year. After the pandemic, we stepped in to meet a need in our community as virtual learning did not work well for our students and when the students returned to brick-and-mortar school, there were serious learning losses. To counter these learning losses, we have created a summer academic program to both regain learning losses and stay on grade level.

“Summer slide” is the tendency for students, especially those from low-income families, to lose some of the achievement gains they made during the previous school year.

What sets our program apart from other summer programs is that we are not just another summer camp where children play all day, we provide an academic component. Research shows that children lose approximately 2 months or 22% of what they learned during the school year over the summer months. Children in low-income households fall behind an average of 2 months in reading and math during the summer and have more difficulty finding access to books and reading programs. Scholastic says that summer reading is critical to a child's ability to retain information learned during the previous year and grow in knowledge and critical thinking skills for the coming year. Reading keeps the brain in shape and is likened to exercise. When you go to the gym after not exercising for 2 months, the muscles in your body are rusty and like a squeaky wheel, protesting this new routine and the pain its causing.

Well, the brain is a muscle, and when the students come back after 2 months of not working the brain, the brain becomes overloaded with all this added information working its muscle at one time. This leads to mental overload, high anxiety levels, and lack of confidence in students. The results are that teachers must use the first quarter of the new semester to review the previous year's work that students have forgotten over the summer. Students have lost ground, and most are not working on grade level when they enter school in the fall. This is the result of “summer slide.” On the other hand, students who do read over the summer may gain a month of proficiency in reading. Summer reading is a critical requirement to help students stay on track for their entire educational career and beyond.

Our program has several components. We have partnered with Catapult Learning to Offer the Summer STEM Program. 2 teachers from Catapult Learning will teach an academic and STEM component to our students, along with our K-8 reading and math programs. The program also has a library field trip each week, so that students can tour the library and check out reading books each week. We have plans to add a life skills gardening component soon to teach our students to grow plants.

The program also includes Art instruction (Arts and Crafts) and Field trips each day.

Needs approach:

A few of the biggest problems our youth face today as well as the youth in the Diamond Square area are the lack of activities to develop their intellectual and physical talents. The purpose of the program is to engage economically disadvantaged youth, mainly African American and Latino youth in the creative process, enabling them to master multidisciplinary art skills, increase understanding of respective cultures, strengthen critical thinking skills, and foster proficiency in performance through team building, discussions, and cultural arts.

Risk factors:

Some of these risk factors include: (1) Academic failure, (2) Lack of commitment to school, (3) Early initiation of problem behaviors, (4) School report of discipline problems. The program will offer academics, arts and crafts, and field trips 5 days per week. LA Enrichment Program

will offer literacy and math through its academic enrichment program. There will also be a computer lab and STEM component onsite to offer technology-based learning.

Referrals:

Students will be referred by teachers, counselors, parents, churches, and community agencies. Schools will refer students using factors such as poor discipline, academic performance, and/or attendance records.

Goals/objectives:

Our mission is to provide a positive and supportive environment as well as to increase the students' overall literacy.

1. 70% of participants will increase their English grammar knowledge 1-3% from pre-assessment (Renaissance testing software) results within 30 -45 days after completing the Renaissance, I-Ready, IXL, and other grammar- based materials.
2. K-2nd grade will practice Reading Eggs, oral and written phonics, story time, and weekly library trips to check out 2 reading books of their choice per week.

SEE EXHIBIT D on next page for Use of Funds

Exhibit D

Diamond Square Redevelopment Agency Use of Funds Statement

(To be submitted with Program Sponsorship Application)

Date: 05/12/2026

Project Dates: 06/01/2026 to 06/30/2026

Organization: Learning & Achievement Group INC Project: LA Summer Enrichment

1.) Please list the amount of monetary funds requested from the Agency, describing how the requested funds are to be used, including individual costs, potential vendors, and a general description of the purposed purchases: Learning & Achievement Group requests \$10000 to be used to expand its summer program by providing curriculum, books, assessments, and field trips. We are also requesting funds to provide free breakfast, lunch, and transportation to the student population. We would also use funds to buy testing and tutoring software for computers for the technology portion of our program. The program provides academic instruction and partners with Catapult Learning to provide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) in its morning sessions as well as a hot breakfast and a hot lunch. The afternoon program consists of field trips and art projects as creative outlets for our students.

Certification: I hereby certify that the purchases will be used to support this project.

Sherry Amos
Project Administrator

5/12/2026
Date

Certification: I hereby certify that the purchases will be used to support this project.

[Signature]
Project Financial Officer

5/12/2026
Date

DIAMOND SQUARE CRA AGENDA ITEM

Memo Date: 05/01/2026
Agenda Date: 5/18/2026
Prepared By: Peyton Fink, Redevelopment Coordinator
Through: Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director
Requested Action: Request Agency approval of a budget transfer in the FY26 Budget, BAF# 2026-063-T, to transfer funds of \$100 from Travel & Per Diem and into the Other Charges and Obligations account.

BACKGROUND:

In January 2026, the Diamond Square CRA paid \$100 for funeral flowers. It has been identified that this purchase was initially coded incorrectly and needs to be coded to Other Current Charges. FY26 Budget transfer BAF #2026-063-T will transfer \$100 from Travel & Per Diem and into the Other Current Charges account. This transfer of funds will provide budget in the correct account for this purchase.

PRIORITY AREA CONNECTION:

Economic and Community Development

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Budgeted? Yes/No

If not budgeted, is amendment / transfer attached?

Source/Use of Funds

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
111-3230-559.40-00	(\$100)
111-3230-559.49-00	\$100

PREVIOUS ACTION:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Request Agency approval of a budget transfer in the FY26 Budget, BAF# 2026-063-T, to transfer funds of \$100 from Travel & Per Diem and into the Other Charges and Obligations account.

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DIAMOND SQUARE CRA AGENDA ITEM

Memo Date: 05/06/2026
Agenda Date: 5/18/2026
Prepared By: Peyton Fink, Redevelopment Coordinator
Through: Charlene Neuterman, Community Services Director
Requested Action: Request Agency approval of Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Priorities based on the anticipated budget for the fiscal year.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, Staff request a list of Budget Priorities from the Agency as the Staff prepares the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget. In the FY 2026 Diamond Square CRA Budget, the following high-level expenses were budgeted:

- Personnel - \$38,486
- Operating - \$355,557
- Capital - \$60,000
 - Infrastructure \$60,000
- Other Grants/Aids - \$204,500
 - Commercial Facade - \$20,000
 - Residential Paint Grant - \$10,000
 - Residential Beautification Grant - \$5,000
 - Brevard County Parks and Rec. Scholarship - \$6,000
 - Homebuyer Assistance Program - \$111,000
 - Upstart Diamond Square - \$52,500

Total FY2026 Budget - \$621,043

In FY 2027, the following high-level expenses are proposed (approximate):

- Personnel - \$41,180
- Operating - \$366,224
- Capital - \$0
- Other Grants/Aids - \$159,500
 - Commercial Facade - \$20,000
 - Residential Paint Grant - \$15,000
 - Residential Beautification Grant - \$7,500
 - Brevard County Parks and Rec. Scholarship - \$6,000
 - Homebuyer Assistance Program - \$111,000
 - Upstart Diamond Square - \$15,000

Total approximate budget for FY2027 — \$566,904

Any additional funds necessary to balance revenue to expenses will be placed in the Contingency Account with specific project goals identified.

Staff requests Agency consensus and approval on potential project priorities for Fiscal Year 2027. Projects must meet the Goals and Objectives listed in the 2025 Cocoa CRA Plan Update. Staff will return with approximate costs, if necessary.

PRIORITY AREA CONNECTION:

Economic and Community Development
Organizational Effectiveness

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

PREVIOUS ACTION:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Request Agency approval of Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Priorities based on the anticipated budget for the fiscal year.