



ST. PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
Meeting of October 15, 2009

TO: The Honorable Jeff Danner, Chair and Members of City Council  
FROM: Todd Yost, Director, Codes Compliance Assistance Department  
DATE: Meeting of October 15, 2009  
SUBJECT: Lien Amnesty Program Extension

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Background

Council passed Resolution 2009-173 on March 19, 2009 to establish the Lien Amnesty Program. This program allowed for property owners that meet certain conditions and terms that have Code Enforcement liens placed on their property to be able to pay twenty percent (20%) of the outstanding balance of the lien and have eighty percent (80%) released. The Resolution established that the program would end on September 30, 2009.

Current Status

The Codes Compliance Assistance Department mailed approximately 2000 letters notifying property owners that there were current Code Enforcement liens placed on their property. The department has received over 500 phone call responses and over 70 applications. Currently there are over 50 properties that have obtained or are in process of obtaining release of the Code Enforcement liens. The department has collected over \$50,000 in lien payments. The department has been receiving applications and inquiries for the program on a daily basis.

Recommendation

Administration recommends that Council pass an amendment to Resolution 2009-173 to establish that the lien amnesty program be extended until November 30, 2009.

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH THE AMNESTY PROGRAM FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT FINES AND LIENS MAY OPERATE; AMENDING RESOLUTION 2009-173 WHICH AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO REDUCE CODE ENFORCEMENT FINES AND TO RECORD RELEASES OF CODE ENFORCEMENT LIENS IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS, TO ALLOW THE PROGRAM TO BE AVAILABLE FOR PERSONS WHO APPLY ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 30, 2009; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, by adopting Resolution 2009-173 on March 19, 2009, the City Council authorized the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to reduce certain code enforcement fines and to release code enforcement liens, subject to terms and conditions set forth in the resolution; and

WHEREAS, the lien amnesty program has allowed more than fifty (50) property owners to obtain releases of code enforcement liens upon properties where the code violations had been corrected, thus promoting the economic recovery of the City; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2009-173 established a deadline of September 30, 2009, for applications to reduce code enforcement fines and release code enforcement liens, and the City Council wishes to extend the deadline for such applications as provided herein;

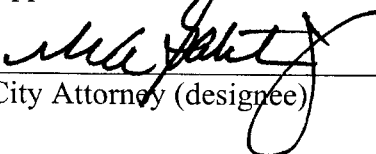
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, that:


1. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to accept applications for the reduction of code enforcement fines and the release of code enforcement liens, which applications may be filed on or before November 30, 2009. The Mayor or the Mayor's designee is further authorized to reduce code enforcement fines and execute and record in the public records releases from code enforcement liens in any case in which the application is timely filed and the limits, terms and conditions of Resolution 2009-173 are satisfied.

2. This Resolution shall be deemed an amendment to Resolution 2009-173 to the extent that the deadline set forth in Paragraph 1 has been extended. Otherwise, the limits, terms and conditions of Resolution 2009-173 shall continue in full force and effect as if incorporated herein.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Approved as to form and content:

  
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City Attorney (designee)

  
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Department