GRANT

through the HOPE VI program. "It'd be nice if everyone who applied for the grant got the money," said Milligan in a phone interview. A housing authority's chances depend heavily on commitments from its city and local businesses.

Winston-Salem has already invested about \$9 million into the target area, Kimberly Park Terrace, and HAWS project coordinator Evelyn Terry said that about 50 businesses, organizations and institutions have pledged support if the grant, estimated at \$30 million, is awarded.

The money would go toward rehabilitating Kimberly Park's 556 units and the surrounding neighborhood.

Tampa is applying for \$35 million, to renovate its 700-unit Ponce de Leon and 710-unit College Hill housing communities. Work has already been starting in the area, which was designated an "enterprise com-

munity" and awarded \$3 million in federal money. Existing small businesses have been renovated, and job development and social programs established.

"I feel pretty good (about THA's chances)," said Milligan.

Tampa's enterprise community designation could give its housing authority an edge. Winston-Salem also applied for the enterprise community program in 1993, but did not receive the funding.

If Kimberly Park is awarded the HOPE grant, HAWS plans to double the size of each unit and create a duplex look in the buildings. Milligan's housing authority has lined up blueprints for singlefamily homes. The grants will be announced by the latter part of

About 20,000 people live in Tampa's public housing; HAWS is about one-fourth that size.

Both Milligan and his HAWS replacement, Marie Roseboro, stress the importance of home ownership, which follows the sentiment of Chris Hornig, HUD's deputy assistant secretary for

public housing investments.

"We're not trying to replace bad projects with good projects," Hornig was quoted as saying in a Florida daily paper. "We're trying to get rid of the idea of projects."

Guiding long-term tenants into home ownership programs was the first goal Roseboro set as HAWS director. In his Tampa position, Milligan has initiated a program that allows the housing authority to act as a developer and turn former projects into affordable housing.

If HUD gives the go-ahead, THA will replace the 70 condemned units of the dilapidated Moses White Estates with 40 to 45 private single-family homes. A private partner would be contracted to sell the properties.

"I cannot take the credit for the idea. This was something already in the works," Milligan told the Florida Sentinel-Bulletin. But THA residents and administrators credit Milligan with the initiative to get the program off the ground.

People elsewhere have taken

note of Milligan. Housing authorities in Detroit, New Tucson, Orleans, Jacksonville and Orlando, Fla. have contacted Milligan, interested in the programs he has developed.

"What he's doing is exactly what he needs to do," said Wells. Milligan said that he expected an answer from HUD on the Moses White project before the end of the week.

Milligan's attempts to autonomize Tampa's housing budget are already well-known. Since he took on the job, management teams have tackled and driven down unpaid rent balances. All but two or three of the housing authority's 15 properties have a zero balance due on rent, said

Milligan said his memories of Winston are fond, but "you can't get hung up in the past.'

"I wish Marie a lot of luck in her new position. If she gets proper support from people in Winston, she'll do well," he said.

Roseboro could be reached for comment by press time.

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