



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Conan Smith
Chair, Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Anthony VanDerworp, Director
Office of Strategic Planning

DATE: December 2nd, 2009

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving Submission of Grant Application for
Department of Energy - Energy Efficiency and Conservation
Block Grant Funds

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Office of Strategic Planning requests that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners approve the submission of the grant application to the United States Department of Energy Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) for a \$766,900 Grant for the period of January 1, 2010 through September 30, 2012.

BACKGROUND:

In March of 2009 the United States Department of Energy issued a notice of funding opportunity for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG). Through this notice, several communities were identified as entitlement communities, which resulted in a formulaic allocation of grant dollars to those communities, subject to the submission of a grant application. The attached resolution authorizes the submission of this application to release the allocation for Washtenaw County in the amount of \$766,900.

DISCUSSION:

The attached grant application represents identification of those project activities that have a high likelihood of resulting in sustained energy efficiency and conservation improvements in Washtenaw County. Of 14 potentially eligible categories of activity identified by the Department of Energy, the attached grant application proposed the following activities here in Washtenaw County:

- County Facility Retrofits - \$242,500 is proposed, with the majority of funds going to actual retrofit projects including solar hot water systems, LED lighting, and insulation installation.
- Revolving Loan Fund - \$275,000 is proposed to seed a revolving loan fund that could be used to assist private, non-profit and/or public partners finance energy efficiency improvements on their own facilities.

- Solar Energy Demonstration Project – \$115,000 is proposed for a solar energy demonstration project that will include the installation of photovoltaic panels on a county facility to be determined that will be leveraged to provide educational opportunities to the community at large in addition to energy savings.
- Southeast Michigan Regional Energy Office – \$76,690 Partnership of SEMCOG, the Michigan Suburbs Alliance and the WARM Training Center to create a regional energy office that will assist member communities with: technical consultant services, residential and commercial building energy audits, financial incentive programs, energy efficiency retrofits, energy efficiency and conservation programs for buildings and facilities, development and implementation of transportation programs, energy distribution, material and conservation programs, traffic signals and street lighting and renewable energy technology on government buildings
- Energy Policy Development/Administrative Costs – \$57,710 dedicated to the development of a series of county energy policies that will establish targets for energy efficiency and conservation, along with three years of reporting on progress toward attaining those targets.

These activities were selected based on their respective opportunities to create programs or other long term commitments to energy efficiency. Improving energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources will have positive environmental impacts through reduced greenhouse gas emissions and financial resource savings to the County and other Washtenaw County partners.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES

None

IMPACT ON BUDGET

The requested Board action would authorize the Administrator to accept the grant award of \$766,900 in federal funding for a three-year period. This includes \$35,000 to support the Economic Development and Energy Department in 2010 and 2011 for a total of \$70,000 in support, which is included in the 2010-11 Recommended budget.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS

None

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES

This project will provide funding which will involve County facility staff work on implementation of facility improvements. Some of these improvements will result in reduced maintenance costs in addition to energy savings (e.g. LED lights will be replaced at less frequent intervals). The grant will enable Washtenaw County to continue partnerships and seek new opportunities with other local units, non-profits, and private partners of the Washtenaw County community.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES

This action is in conformance with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES

Attachment A Final Proposal for EECBG Grant – Washtenaw County

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FOR THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$766,900 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2010 THROUGH 2012; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AMENDING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 2, 2009

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has committed to collaborating with other governmental units and providing leadership for long term county-wide sustainable development and redevelopment incorporating a diversified economy, environmental protection, and social needs; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency and conservation and the development of renewable energy resources contribute to a variety of community improvements; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County is eligible for \$766,900 of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Funds through formula calculation of the Department of Energy; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County seeks to use these funds to capitalize and establish a variety of long-term programs and commitments to continually advance community energy and greenhouse gas emission goals; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Budget Department, Corporation Counsel, Human Resources, County Administrator's Office and the Ways and Means Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes application to the United States Department of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funds for the period of 2010 through 2012, as attached; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the grant application:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the Budget, as attached hereto and made a part here of
3. Authorizing the Administrator to Sign delegate contracts, upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk

Office of Strategic Planning
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant
FY: 1/1/10 – 9/30/12
Proposed BU: 1215104600

REVENUES

50001	Federal Revenue	\$ 0	\$ 766,900	\$ 766,900
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EXPENDITURES

70001	Personal Services	\$ 0	\$ 75,210	\$ 75,210
80000	Other Services & Charges	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 691,690</u>	<u>\$ 691,690</u>
TOTAL		\$0	\$ 766,900	\$ 766,900