

 <div style="text-align: center;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">Council Communication</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Office of the City Manager</p> </div>	<b>Date</b>	December 7, 2009
	<b>Agenda Item No.      59</b> <b>Roll Call No.         <u>09-</u></b> <b>Communication No.   <u>09-848</u></b> <b>Submitted by: Randy Wetmore, Assistant City Manager and Chris Johansen, Assistant City Manager</b>	

## **AGENDA HEADING:**

Resolution Authorizing the City of Des Moines to submit a joint application with other Des Moines metropolitan cities and other Des Moines area cities for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), Retrofit Ramp-Up Program, funding made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

## **SYNOPSIS:**

Several area metro communities will be collaborating on the grant program. The cities of Urbandale, Windsor Heights and West Des Moines have passed resolutions. The cities of Altoona, Ankeny, Carlisle, Clive, Johnston, and Waukee will be considering the item at their upcoming meetings. All cities need to decide by December 8, 2009 if they are going to be a party to the application.

In addition to the Iowa cities, Orlando, Florida, Ft. Worth, Texas, and Salt Lake City, Utah are considering to be a part of the application. Total funding requested is \$75 million with between \$20 and \$25 million for the Iowa group of cities.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: The city's share of the application cost will be less than \$2,000.

Funding Source: Fiscal Year 2010 Operating Budget, SP020, CDD049900, page 68.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Cadmus Group, Inc. (Cadmus) will prepare the grant application for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) competitive funding announcement, under the Retrofit Ramp-up Program. The EECBG funding is administered by the Department of Energy (DOE) and is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The competitive EECBG funds are to be used for projects that fundamentally and permanently transform energy markets in a way that makes energy efficiency and renewable energy the options of first choice, and sustain themselves beyond the grant monies and grant period.

The proposed Retrofit Ramp-up Program would aim to stimulate activities and investments which would:

- Deliver a targeted marketing and public education campaign, leveraging existing ENERGY STAR and US Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).
- A lead-by-example program targeting demonstration facilities showcasing energy efficiency upgrades.
- Train existing vendors and home renovation companies on how to weatherize a home or business efficiently and effectively using Home Performance with ENERGY STAR, Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET), Building Performance Institute (BPI) or North American Board of Certified Energy Providers (NABCEP) standards.
- Leverage funds from financial institutions, utility entities, manufacturers, performance contracts, existing federal and state funds, and home/business owners.
- Provide a field of organizers to provide the outreach, technical support, evaluation and removal of energy efficiency barriers to continue long term sustainability of the program.
- Leverage economies of scale to decrease the cost of energy efficiency retrofits
- Provide economic financing options to reduce the barriers for property owners and businesses to conduct energy efficiency retrofits.

Cadmus will lead the implementation team, which will include the US Green Council (USGBC), Public Technology Institute (PTI), Catalyst-Financial Group, Steven Winters Associates, First Environment, and local companies and not-for-profits. This grant opportunity would provide for major revitalization of neighborhoods and businesses, create new energy service, home improvement, construction and related services jobs, increase home values and provide a replicable model that could be continued after the 36-month grant period. The EECBG grant filing date is December 14, 2009.

The City of Des Moines will be collaborating with other cities and proposes to request up to \$20 million to \$25 million in program funding to implement energy efficiency measures and sustainable strategies. The City has initiated discussion with the cities of Altoona, Ames, Ankeny, Carlisle, Clive, Johnston, Urbandale, Waukee, West Des Moines and Windsor Heights to create an "Iowa cluster" of cities to jointly apply for this EECBG grant opportunity. In addition, the Iowa cluster would apply in conjunction with other Cadmus identified metro area clusters. Due to the short turn-around time, the discussion and final decision by the Des Moines Metro cities and the other cluster metros has not been finalized at this time. However, a final authorizing act by each City would be required by December 8, 2009 to submit the EECBG competitive grant application by the application submittal deadline of December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Therefore, it is recommended that approval for authorizing a submittal of the EECBG grant application with the other cities to the U.S. Department of Energy, as outlined above.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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