

# **Council Communication**

Office of the City Manager

**Date:** June 14, 2010

Agenda Item No. 60

Roll Call No. [Roll Call]

Communication No. 10-330

Submitted by: William G. Stowe,

Assistant City Manager--Public Works Director

### **AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving Amendments to Chapter 118 of the Municipal Code regarding the establishment of a Storm Water Innovative Practices Rebate Program.

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend Council approval of amendments to Chapter 118 of the Municipal Code regarding the Storm Water Management Utility. These amendments of the Municipal Code establish a Storm Water Innovative Practices Rebate Program for customers of the Storm Water Management Utility of the City of Des Moines. Qualifying practices must be installed after July 1, 2010 and completed no later December 31, 2014.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

<u>Amount:</u> The City will provide a rebate to property owners at rate of \$1 per square foot of the surface area of installed green roof or porous pavement, with a maximum rebate dependant on the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) rate of the qualifying property of \$10,000 for properties with 5.1 or more Equivalent Residential Units. The program would be capped at \$250,000 per Fiscal Year.

<u>Funding Source:</u> 2010-2011 Operating Budget, Storm Water Utility Operations, Storm Water Utility Management, EN301, PWK077001, page 271.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources have mandated that municipalities encourage the use of innovative storm water management practices as an alternative to practices that promote quick release of storm water runoff. The goals of this program are to create a cost effective and sustainable incentive for the construction of innovative storm water practices within a city, to increase public awareness of the need to control storm water runoff and to educate the public about sustainable practices to control storm water runoff.

The Storm Water Innovative Practices Rebate Program will provide a rebate to property owners that have installed qualifying practices with plans designed by a professional engineer and approved by the City Engineer. Qualifying practices include a green roof or permeable pavement.

With this program the City will make a Storm Water Innovative Practices Rebate reimbursement to the property owners who meet the requirements of the program, as listed below. The rebate will be by direct payment of the qualifying rebate amount to the property owner. Program requirements include:

- (1) Green roof. A green roof designed by a professional engineer, said design has been approved by the City Engineer, installed on a structure that is a qualifying practice and is eligible to apply for a one-time rebate of \$1.00 per square foot of the area of the installed green roof. All applicable building and other permits are required, and the green roof as-builts must be certified by a professional engineer in order to be eligible for the program.
- (2) Permeable Pavement. A driveway, patio, walkway or parking lot using a permeable pavement material designed by a professional engineer, said design has been approved by the City Engineer and is a qualifying practice which is eligible to apply for a one-time rebate of \$1.00 per square foot of the area of the installed permeable pavement. All applicable building and other permits are required and the permeable pavement as-builts must be certified by a professional engineer in order to be eligible for the program.
- (3) The Storm Water Innovative Practices Rebate Program amount shall not exceed \$10,000 per property for qualifying properties of a qualifying practice or a combination of qualifying practices. The maximum rebate amount shall be based on the ERU rate charged to a property based upon the impervious area of the lot or parcel where qualifying practices have been installed, as reflected in the following table:

ERU of the Property	Maximum Rebate Amount
0.5 to 1	\$1,000
1.1 to 2	\$2,000
2.1 to 3	\$4,000
3.1 to 4	\$6,000
4.1 to 5	\$8,000
5.1 or more	\$10,000

A property which has received the maximum rebate amount is not eligible for additional rebates under this program, regardless of a change in ownership or use, until at least 20 years have passed since the date of issuance of the prior rebate.

- (4) The qualifying practice must have been installed after July 1, 2010 and installation completed by no later than December 31, 2014.
- (5) A completed storm water innovative practices rebate program application form and supporting documentation must be submitted to the Department of Public Works by no later than June 30, 2015, in order to be eligible for the rebate.
- (6) The account for the storm water management fee charges on the property must be current at the time of application.
- (7) The amount of funding for this program will be capped on an annual basis by the City Council. The annual funding amount established by the City Council for Fiscal Year 2010-11 shall remain as the annual cap amount until a different amount is established by the City Council. To the extent that program funds are available, rebates shall be provided to qualified applicants in the order in which completed applications are received.
- (8) The City Manager shall make all procedural and administrative determinations necessary to implement this program as to not conflict with the provisions and intent of this division.

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

# ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Staff review and report to Council on the program effectiveness after June 30, 2015, to determine the ongoing need for the program.

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