

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2009

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER

BY: LOUIS CELAYA, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. 09-1559 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION'S ENERGY EFFICENCY CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT (EECBG) SMALL CITY AND COUNTY PROGRAM

In February 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA), which, for the first time, appropriated funds to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. The purpose of the ARRA is to preserve and create jobs, promote economic recovery and to assist those most impacted by the recession. Under the EECBG program, the California Energy Commission (CEC) was charged with the responsibility of administering the State's share of EECBG funding within California. The CEC received \$35.5 million in funding to eligible small cities and counties under the funding solicitation. The EECBG is a formulaic block grant program designed to provide eligible small cities and counties within the State of California grant funding to install eligible cost effective energy efficiency retrofits within their jurisdictions. Under the EECBG, Agoura Hills has been allocated \$124,741, pending an application submittal and approval. There are no matching funds required with this grant.

At the request of the CEC, all eligible participants were required to submit an "Intent to Apply" letter to secure their funding. The City has submitted it's letter and is in the process of preparing the application. The City will participate in the direct equipment purchase program, and will be retrofitting existing traffic signal lights to LED varieties, and also retrofit exterior lights with upgraded energy efficient varieties to various City facilities. Because this is a direct equipment purchase, there will be no feasibility study required as with other programs under this grant. The deadline for submittal of the grant is January 12, 2010. However, as the CEC has been charged with obligating 60% of the funds by March 2010, all applicants are being asked to submit applications prior to the deadline date, if possible. The EECBG program requires projects demonstrate both energy efficiency and cost efficiency.

As part of the application package, all participating agencies must provide a resolution from the governing body authorizing participation in program. The attached resolution authorizes participation in the grant program, identifies the projects as California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exempted (CEQA clearance required as part of the application package), and authorizes the City Manager to execute all agreements and related documents associated with the grant. As this is federal funding under the ARRA, monthly reporting will be required. All approved projects must be completed by February 13, 2012.

This is an excellent opportunity to secure funding to provide for even more energy efficient systems in the City. Presently, the City Hall facility was designed as an energy efficient facility. In addition to the City's potential to realizing energy savings with the proposed projects, it also continues to demonstrate the City's commitment to moving in the direction of a "sustainable community".

RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends the City Council approved Resolution No. 09-1559 authorizing participation in the California Energy Commission's Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary agreements, amendments, and documents associated with the grant.

Attachment: Resolution No. 09-1559

RESOLUTION NO. 09-1559

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ENERGY EFFICENCY CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT (EECBG) SMALL CITY AND COUNTY GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Agoura Hills recognizes that it is in the interest of the regional, state, and national economy to stimulate the economy; create and retain jobs; reduce fossil fuel emissions; and reduce total energy usage and improve energy efficiency within our jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funds are available through the California Energy Commission's EECBG Program for grants to eligible local governments for cost-effective energy efficiency projects; and

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills is eligible for EECBG funding under the California Energy Commission's EECBG Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills is proposing to implement the energy efficiency projects described in Exhibit A, in order to qualify for EECBG funds from the California Energy Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills has considered the application of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to the approval of the energy efficiency project(s) described in Exhibit A; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the CEQA, the City Council of the City of Agoura Hills finds that the approval of the energy efficiency project/s described in Exhibit A are "a project under CEQA that is exempt under Section 15303, because it is categorized as New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Agoura Hills authorizes the submittal of the application to the California Energy Commission's EECBG Program for funds to execute the proposed projects, described in Exhibit A.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, if recommended for funding by the California Energy Commission, the City Council of the City of Agoura Hills authorizes the City of Agoura Hills to accept a grant award up to the amount of this application for \$124,741, and, that the City Manager acting for the City of Agoura Hills is hereby authorized and empowered to execute, in the name of City of Agoura Hills, all necessary contracts and agreements, and amendments hereto, to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the application.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 10th day of November, 2009, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: ()
NOES: ()
ABSTAIN: ()
ABSENT: ()

Denis Weber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly M. Rodrigues, MMC

EXHIBIT A

Light Emitting Diode (LED) Traffic Signals Replacement Program

This project proposes to retrofit all existing traffic signal heads with new LED modules. By replacing traffic signals with LED modules, the City will remain consistent with the CEC standard for LED technology, reducing its energy consumption at traffic head signal heads.

LED Pedestrian Head Replacement Program

The City has a total of 14 signaled intersections. Of the 14 intersections, 11 are identified for LED retrofit. There are a total of 78 pedestrian heads requiring retrofit of existing pedestrian head indication with new LED countdown.

City Facilities Exterior Lighting Replacement

The City has a total of 19 exterior lighting fixtures at the civic center facility. Of the 19 fixtures, all 19 are identified for new light head retrofit with LED conversions.