



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, January 25, 2005

Council Session

Item G10

**#2005-27 - Approving Authorization of Application for Household
Hazardous Waste Grant Funds**

Staff Contact: Paul Bresino

Council Agenda Memo

From: Paul M. Briseno, Assistant to the City Administrator

Meeting: January 25, 2005

Subject: Household Hazardous Waste Facility

Item #'s: G-10

Presenter(s): Paul M. Briseno, Assistant to the City Administrator
Betty Curtis, Executive Director GIACCS
Joni Kuzma, Development Specialist

Background

In February 2004 the Grand Island City Council identified development of a permanent, regional Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility as a community goal. The need was based on public health issues in and around the area. Based on the direction given by Council, information regarding the Central Nebraska Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Recycling Facility was presented at the January 4th City Council Study Session.

Discussion

The City of Grand Island continues to grow and consequently, the population increase will result in the generation of more household hazardous waste. According to the Department of Environmental Quality, an average single household can produce 20 pounds of household hazardous waste a year. A growing population combined with the mounting list of household hazardous materials and chemicals identified as hazardous by the federal government and banned from landfills; indicate a need for a permanent facility. The need has become more important based these issues as well as the mass production, purchase, and storage of these dangerous materials throughout our community.

One-day household hazardous waste collection events, coordinated by the Clean Community System, provide a limited, but valuable disposal option to a portion of the Grand Island and Central Nebraska population. However, one-day events only capture a small portion of the HHW in the community and attendance can be hampered by a variety of external circumstances.

Last year, one-day HHW collection events in Grand Island and Central Nebraska provided the benefit of diverting 113,815 pounds of household hazardous waste from the landfill. This represented HHW from 1.8% of central Nebraska's population. This diversion of HHW from the landfill saved residents and the environment from the effects of improper disposal of household hazardous waste. In addition, many of these toxic items were either recycled or disposed of appropriately. Safety for the environment, households, first responders and communities increased as well through a decreased risk of explosion, fire, burns and other injury to residents, first responders and community members.

Although Grand Island Area Clean Community System was successful in collecting household hazardous waste from 1.8% of the central Nebraska population there is still 98.2% of the population from whom HHW is uncollected. A permanent, accessible Household Hazardous Waste & Recycling Facility, associated with the City of Grand Island transfer station, will provide more households an opportunity to properly dispose of their hazardous waste. As stated, although one-day collections events have been successful, participation in one-day events is limited and restrictive. A permanent facility with set hours, clear guidelines and trained professionals will encourage long-term, sustained disposal efforts.

The first step in funding the proposed permanent Household Hazardous Waste & Recycling Facility is to apply for a grant through the Department of Environmental Quality to fund the cost of hiring a Facility Architect and Engineer. The grant request will be for the total cost of professional architectural and engineering services. The City will not be required to provide any matching funds for this grant.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve the grant application and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Sample Motion

Move to approve the grant application and authorize the Mayor to sign all related documents.

RESOLUTION 2005-27

WHEREAS, at its City Council Retreat last spring, the City Council identified the development of a permanent regional Household Hazardous Waste facility as a community health goal; and

WHEREAS, such facility, associated with the City of Grand Island Transfer Station, could provide safe, appropriate collection methods for household hazardous waste with established hours of operation and trained professionals; and

WHEREAS, in order to further pursue the construction of such facility, it is recommended that grant funding be received; and

WHEREAS, grant funding is available through the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality to fund the cost of hiring a facility architect and engineer; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that a grant application be submitted on behalf of the City of Grand Island in the amount of \$150,000 for the cost of hiring such architect and engineer; and

WHEREAS, it is intended that the architect and engineer could be retained for the total amount of grant funds requested; no additional funding would be necessary from the City of Grand Island for this phase of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the City of Grand Island supports the concept of the construction of a permanent, regional Household Hazardous Waste Facility, and further approves and authorizes an application for assistance from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality for the purpose of hiring a facility architect and engineer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute such application and other documentation on behalf of the City of Grand Island for such grant process.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska on January 25, 2005.

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form ? _____
January 20, 2005 ? City Attorney