



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

Council Session

Item G5

#2009-140 - Approving Recovery Act - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Application

Staff Contact: Joni Kuzma

Council Agenda Memo

From: Gary Mader, Utilities Director
Joni Kuzma, Community Development Administrator

Meeting: June 23, 2009

Subject: Approving Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Application

Item #'s: G-5

Presenter(s): Joni Kuzma, Community Development Administrator

Background

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 appropriates funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) to award formula-based grants to states, U.S. territories, units of local government, and Indian tribes under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. The purpose of the EECBG program is to assist eligible entities in creating and implementing strategies to

- Reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and, to the maximum extent practical, maximizes benefits for local and regional communities;
- Reduce the total energy use of the eligible entities; and
- Improve energy efficiency in the building sector, the transportation sector, and other appropriate sectors.

Cities that were eligible for direct formula grants from the DOE were those that had a population of at least 35,000, or that were one of the 10 highest populated cities of the state in which the city is located. Grand Island is an eligible entity and has been allocated \$199,000 in the State and Local Government Formula Allocation. The grant requires eligible units of local government to submit a proposed Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy to the Department of Energy no later than 120 days after the effective date of the grant award. All funds must be obligated/committed within 18 months of the effective date of the award and expended within 36 months of the effective dates of the award. Up to 20% of the grant award may be used for grant administration. The application is due on June 25, 2009

Discussion

At minimum, the grant will fund development of a required Energy and Efficiency Conservation Strategy for the City of Grand Island. Other activities may be included but staff is assessing eligible activities and options. The matrix included in this packet identifies eligible categories that may be used in selecting priorities for the Energy Strategy. This activity will be completed within 120 days of the effective date of the grant award. Any other related activity cannot take place until the Strategy is approved by the Department of Energy.

All units of local government must designate the proper authority to apply for and receive funding based on Title V, Subtitle E, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants. In this case, the Mayor must be authorized to receive grant funds and implement the EECBG Program. Council action is required to designate the Mayor as the duly authorized official.

Alternatives

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

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council designate the Mayor as the duly authorized official to apply for and receive grant funding from the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant and authorize the Mayor to sign all related grant documents.

Sample Motion

Move to designate the Mayor as the duly authorized official to apply for and receive grant funding from the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant and authorize the Mayor to sign all related grant documents.

**U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants Program**

Eligible Activities

The Solution Center - Eligible Activities page is designed as a resource for individuals looking for information on energy efficiency and renewable energy. It includes energy savings information tailored to local and state governments and Indian tribes. Information is arranged by eligible activity, and includes a definition of each as well as related best practices, samples of completed projects that can be used as a reference for your own energy efficiency projects, and links to related project resources.



RESOLUTION 2009-140

WHEREAS, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 appropriates funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) to award formula-based grants to states, U.S. territories, units of local government, and Indian tribes under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program; and

WHEREAS, Grand Island is an eligible entity and has been allocated \$199,000 in the State and Local Government Formula Allocation for energy efficiency planning; and

WHEREAS, the grant will fund development of a required Energy and Efficiency Conservation Strategy for the City of Grand Island to be completed within 120 days of the effective date of the grant award; and

WHEREAS, all units of local government must designate the proper authority to apply for and receive funding based on Title V, Subtitle E, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that

The Mayor is identified as the duly authorized official to apply for and receive funding for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant and is authorized to sign all related grant documents.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, June 23, 2009.

Margaret Hornady, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form ☐ _____
June 19, 2009 ☐ City Attorney