

Item 23-0446: Request to approve Grant Allocation for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program of \$134,180

Finance Committee

Mon, Apr 24, 2023, 5:30PM

Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3) 16:04

Next is 23-0446 Request to approve grant allocation for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant E C—EEC BG program of \$134,180.

Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 16:20

Move to approve.

Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 16:21

Second.

Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3) 16:22

Motion and a second. Director Gazza you again?

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 16:25

Be the easiest grant we've ever been awarded, or one of the easiest. So what happened is through this Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, they looked at cities over 50,000 in population, and basically through Building Back Better and things like that they allocated a certain amount of money to particular cities. So I think there's cities, counties, tribes, and so forth. Our allocation, how they calculate it, was the 134,180. We have to just let them know by January 31, of 2024, how we're going to use that. But we have to get in our letter of intent here near the end of April.

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 17:08

So, and then we would get that money based on how we use it as long as it complies for one of their uses. It can go for consulting for sustainability and resiliency, or it can go for materials. So if we went out bought, say solar panels, we'd get reimbursed for that. If we use it for consulting, we can use it for that too. Or or a combination of both.

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 17:34

So, one of the things we will have to do from this step forward is trying to figure out, you know, what is the—you know, come forward and identify some projects that we think would be great to use it for. And then, you know, when that time comes, but at this time be just to say, "Yes, we want your money."

Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3) 17:53

All right. Alder Hartzheim and then Van Zeeland.

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 17:56

Thank you, Chair. Director Gazza, do—this memo states that it is seed funding funding. Does that mean that there's any requirement on the part of the city to make additional payments or make additional investments in this particular initiative?

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 18:11

No, that's what they they're encouraging it to be seed money that hopefully it'll it'll perpetuate into something bigger. Like if you go out and do some design work that possibly you'll do something bigger with it. But if you end up buying materials or something like that, no, there's there's no expectation.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 18:28

Great. Thank you.

Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3) 18:30

Alder Van Zeeland.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 18:31

Thank you, Chair. Could something like this be used for like the geothermal at the library or materials for the library that would be energy efficient or sustainable?

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 18:41

Yes.

Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3) 18:44

Anyone else? All right. Seeing none. Oh, sorry. Alder Fenton.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 18:50

Thank you, Chair. Apologies for being so late. Can I ask Director Gazza? So do you plan on involving the Advisory Council in some of the decisions about how to at least start on the some of this grant funding?

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 19:06

Yeah, exactly. We were. It was a discussion that we just had, that this would be—this came along at a perfect time to begin some of those discussions to say, to help us prioritize some of the needs that we've identified as a city, and then help us prioritize them for the best use of the money.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 19:25

Thank you.

Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3) 19:26

All right. One last check. Seeing no one else, all those in favor? Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? Motion passes five zero.