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"To enrich lives through effective and caring service"

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September 21, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#16 SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT AND INCENTIVES PROGRAM
ADMINISTERED BY THE CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL
(ALL DISTRICTS – 3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval of a resolution authorizing an application for Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program funds under the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Adopt the attached resolution approving an application for Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program funds and authorizing the Director of Internal Services, or his designee, to act as the County's agent to negotiate, execute and submit all documents that may be required, if the County is awarded funds.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The recommended actions will enable the County to apply for funds available through the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program, which is funded through Proposition 84, for use in developing a Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP) in partnership with the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability (Regional Collaborative).

In June 2009, your Board authorized the County's participation in the Regional Collaborative, and instructed staff to utilize stimulus funds for the development of the RCAP. In October 2009, your Board accepted the County's formula-allocated Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and authorized the use of a portion of those funds for the development of the RCAP in conjunction with the Regional Collaborative. In November 2009, the City of Los Angeles also committed a portion of its formula-allocated EECBG to contribute to the development of the RCAP.

The development of the RCAP will include the following tasks:

1. Establish baselines of current greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions levels for the region
2. Identify greenhouse gas emission reductions targets
3. Develop a mechanism for tracking progress in reducing regional emissions
4. Provide strategies to help meet those goals.

Utilizing EECBG funds, the City and County are working to establish a GHG emissions baseline for the region, analyze potential impacts of climate change and GHG emissions, create County-wide forecasts and scenarios, and begin to identify realistic targets for the reduction of GHG emissions. The funding pursued under the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant, if awarded, will augment existing RCAP activities and provide for more detailed analysis and development of strategies for achieving GHG reductions across various industry sectors in the region. The activities are discussed in more detail below.

Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Requirements

The County is requesting \$1 million in Sustainable Communities Planning Grant funding for use over a three-year term. The Strategic Growth Council has the option of partially funding applications, and the specific terms of the agreement, including the length of the grant term, will not be finalized until after the awards have been announced. The current timeline for the grant application process indicates that awards will be announced in November or December 2010.

As part of the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant guidelines, your Board must adopt the attached resolution authorizing the County's application and designating an agent for future negotiations. The resolution also memorializes the County's commitment to utilize any funds received to become a sustainable community by implementing the Strategic Growth Council's goals for this grant program. Per the grant guidelines, sustainable communities "promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote healthy, safe communities."

Work Proposed Under the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Application

The funds requested under this grant will integrate the RCAP work that is already underway and pursue the completion tasks 3 and 4, as listed above. Utilizing the strong technical foundation provided by the baseline inventory and forecasts, outreach will be conducted to finalize and gain support for the reduction targets that will be preliminarily developed through the technical studies. Staff from the County and the Regional Collaborative, and consultant resources, will work to engage regional stakeholders to identify and address their needs and detail strategies that will aid in reducing County-wide GHG emissions.

Through this outreach, the Regional Collaborative hopes to grow its membership and gain support for the RCAP. This public presence and wide-ranging representation will ensure that the strategies developed under the RCAP are realistic and implementable, while still providing significant GHG emissions reductions in the region. These strategies will call on a variety of entities, including local governments and other public agencies, local non-profit organizations, and academia. This outreach effort is important to create regional consensus and to ensure the success of the RCAP.

The funds requested under this grant will also serve to identify best practices for local governments to implement GHG emissions reductions strategies. The Regional Collaborative will evaluate the effectiveness of various implementation measures that local jurisdictions could integrate into their regulations and policies. Once best practices are identified, the Regional Collaborative will develop template ordinances and policies to be used by local governments to reach their GHG emissions reduction goals.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These actions support Goal 3, Community and Municipal Services by promoting energy efficiency and conservation to enhance health and sustainable living in the County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of the attached resolution. If the County is awarded funding under this opportunity, staff will return to your Board for authorization to accept and administer any funds provided.

Under the grant terms, the County is not required to provide a match of funding or in-kind contribution, but will be responsible to oversee the work completed under the grant and report progress to the Strategic Growth Council. The County's grant application will request funding for administrative costs required to manage the grant. There will be no impact on net County cost.

The grant guidelines state that, if awarded, payments will be made on a reimbursement basis, and that fifteen percent (i.e., \$150,000 of the County's total grant request) of amounts submitted for reimbursement will be retained by the State and issued as a final payment upon completion of the work proposed. This would require the County to work with the Regional Collaborative and any contractors to ensure all work is completed prior to the reimbursement of the fifteen percent.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, or Proposition 84, was approved by voters in November, 2006. Proposition 84 authorizes more than \$5 billion in general obligation bonds for projects that protect water quality and promote resource conservation. The Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program is directly funded through Proposition 84 monies and is administered by the State's Strategic Growth Council.

The County submitted an application for the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant opportunity, in partnership with the Regional Collaborative and its member organizations, on August 31, 2010. An errata sheet to the grant guidelines published by the Strategic Growth Council requires that a resolution approving the application and authorizing an agent for further negotiations be adopted by the legislative body of the lead applicant no later than October 5, 2010, in order for an application to be considered for funding.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of these actions will allow the County, in partnership with the Regional Collaborative, to continue to pursue the goal of developing and implementing a comprehensive Regional Climate Action Plan for Los Angeles County. By leveraging resources already committed to portions of this project, this grant opportunity provides the additional funding needed to unite the various project pieces, conduct public and stakeholder outreach, and finalize strategies to ensure the RCAP is successfully implemented.

The RCAP will help the State achieve greenhouse gas reduction targets under Assembly Bill 32 by providing data resources and consistent greenhouse gas reduction strategies region-wide.

CONCLUSION

The Executive Office, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one stamped copy of the approved resolution to the Director of ISD.

Respectfully submitted,



TOM TINDALL
Director

TT:JJ:HC:LR

Attachment

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 74418

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR
THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT AND INCENTIVES
PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND
SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF
2006 (PROPOSITION 84)

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Growth Council has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Strategic Growth Council require a resolution certifying the approval of an application by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the development of the proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Los Angeles County Regional Climate Action Plan, in order to become a sustainable community;
2. Certifies that applicant understands the contents of the application and the work proposed within it, and
3. Certifies that applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to develop the Proposal or will secure the resources to do so, and
4. Certifies that the Proposal will comply with any applicable laws and regulations.
5. Appoints the Director of Internal Services, or his designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

Approved and adopted the 21st day of September, 2010. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution Number 74418 was duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

By: _____

Gloria Molina
Chair, Board of Supervisors



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Andrea Sheridan Ordin
County Counsel

By: _____

Behnaz Jashaknia
Deputy

ATTEST:

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Los Angeles

By: _____

Sachi A. Hamai