

<h1 style="margin: 0;">County Of Sonoma</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Agenda Item</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Summary Report</h3>			Clerk of the Board Use Only	
			Meeting Date / /	Held Until / /
			Agenda Item No: _____	Agenda Item No: _____
Department: General Services			<input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Not Required	
Contact: Jose Obregon	Phone: (707) 565-2977	Board Date: 10/06/2009	Deadline for Board Action:	
<p>AGENDA SHORT TITLE: American Reinvestment & Recovery Act (A.R.R.A.), State Energy Program (S.E.P.), (Part B) California Comprehensive Residential Building Retrofit Program.</p>				
<p>REQUESTED BOARD ACTION: Designate the Director of General Services as the County Representative to the Regional Climate Protection Partnership to act on behalf of the County and help prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, and file a grant application for the A.R.R.A., S.E.P. (Part B), California Comprehensive Residential Building Retrofit Program.</p> <p>Direct the Director of General Services or his designee to report back to the Board on any application filed on behalf of the County for a Comprehensive Residential Building Retrofit Program indicating the purpose of the filing, the benefits to be attained, and the relationship such funds have to County initiatives, programs and strategic goals.</p>				
<p>CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT - None.</p>				
<p>Explanation (if required): None.</p>				
<p>Prior Board Action: 7-8-2008 - The Board endorsed the Climate Protection Partnership as a means to collaborate and coordinate climate protection initiatives between the nine local cities, Sonoma County, and the Sonoma County Transportation Authority. 12-9-2008- The Board accepted the Community Climate Action Plan as presented by the Climate Protection Campaign and endorsed the Plan's goal of reducing green house gas (G.H.G.) emission levels to 25% below 1990 levels by 2015. The report establishes a need to pursue a building retrofit initiative at a scale that would reduce G.H.G. by 168,000 tons.</p>				
<p>Alternatives – Results of Non-Approval: Failure to submit a joint regional application may diminish the County's chances to receive A.R.R.A. funds intended to be used for building retrofit initiatives and will delay or prevent the County from pursuing a regional retrofit initiative that supports the green house gas reduction goals established in the Community Climate Action Plan.</p>				

Background:

In reaction to the American Reinvestment & Recovery Act (A.R.R.A.), the California Energy Commission (C.E.C.) established the State Energy Program (S.E.P.) to guide the disbursement of both formula and competitive A.R.R.A. funds. In addition the Federal Department of Energy (D.O.E.) has been charged with developing and implementing energy related funding program areas that will guide the disbursement of A.R.R.A. funds directly to local governmental entities and agencies. The California Energy Commission's \$96 million in S.E.P. funds and Department of Energy's \$390 million in Retrofit Ramp-Up funds provide an unprecedented opportunity to develop and implement a regional community-scale building retrofit program.

The C.E.C. will use the S.E.P. competitive grant process to fund projects in the following program areas:

Category 1 - Municipal Financing Program ("A.B. 811-type programs").

Category 2 - California Comprehensive Residential Building Retrofit Program.

Category 3 - Municipal and Commercial Building Targeted Measure Retrofit Program.

Category 4 - Low Interest Energy Efficiency Financing Program.

Likewise D.O.E. is specifically targeting funds for a small number of high-profile, high-impact awards that will enable large-scale programs of ongoing energy efficiency retrofits on residential, commercial, and public buildings in geographically focused areas. D.O.E. anticipates making 4-8 awards under this topic, with award sizes up to \$150 million. Depending upon the success of the Bay Area regional approach to submitting an application to the State Energy Program, the Association of Bay Area Governments (A.B.A.G.) will be coordinating with interested local governments in northern California to submit a regional proposal for the D.O.E. Retrofit Ramp-Up grant. As lead applicant and fiscal sponsor, A.B.A.G. in partnership with participating local governments seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. Create a competitive regional grant application that maximizes funding for Bay Area residential building retrofit programs by collaborating on program design and implementation.
2. Reduce program design and implementation costs for each participating County-wide program through shared activity (cross cutting tasks that benefit all Bay Area programs might include developing model program protocols and procedures, shared list of qualifying contractors, shared regional web-based project tracking system, tools and templates, consumer education resources, contract admin/reporting, etc.)
3. Facilitate and promote participation in retrofit efforts by contractors and homeowners across the region by promoting program uniformity while maintaining individual County priorities.
4. Leverage early adopter programs (e.g., Sonoma County, Alameda County, etc.) which have or will have developed tools and templates before S.E.P. money has been released.

The initial focus is to develop a regional grant application for a Category 2 California Comprehensive Residential Building Retrofit Program. A.B.A.G.'s role in the category 2 proposal is focused on coordinating interested County-wide programs and acting as a fiscal sponsor. A.B.A.G. will lead cross cutting tasks that benefit all county-wide programs but each county-wide program will be responsible for developing and implementing their scope of work. By establishing this regional framework using S.E.P. funds, the participating entities will position themselves to seek additional grant funding under the D.O.E.'s \$390 million Retrofit Ramp-Up Program. Both programs provide an unprecedented opportunity to develop and implement a regional community-scale building retrofit initiative that would support the County's efforts to reduce green house gas emissions. In addition, the retrofit programs established with grant funding could be leveraged with and/or aligned to support the energy efficiency initiatives currently in place as part of the County's Local Government Partnership with P.G.&E. - Sonoma County Energy Watch (S.C.E.W.) and the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (S.C.E.I.P.)

Grant Development Strategy:

By way of the Regional Climate Protection Partnership the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (S.C.T.A.) acts as the coordinating body for developing, implementing or coordinating regional climate protection initiatives in Sonoma County and supports the actions requested of your Board herein. In coordination with A.B.A.G. and the participating local governments, S.C.T.A. will engage Bevilacqua-Knight Inc. (B.K.i.) and Build It Green (B.I.G.) to lead the development of the regional grant proposals for the D.O.E. Retrofit Ramp-Up and the California Energy Commission S.E.P. category #2 program area. B.K.i. and B.I.G. will develop a common proposal framework and task structure but each County program will write its own grant chapter in order to tailor their program scope and budget to fit local conditions, existing initiatives, and priorities. One representative as designated by each participating local government entity will participate in a Grant Development Steering Committee to guide development and program implementation. The Director of General Services will be the County's representative for

these efforts and will provide active participation in the Steering Committee. B.K.i. and B.I.G. will develop templates for the County program chapters and work with the steering committee to develop an equitable budget formula for each program based on population and matching funds already committed.

Steering Committee Grant Development Tasks:

Working with the S.C.T.A. Regional Climate Protection Program Manager the Grant Development Steering Committee will utilize the resources provided by B.K.i. and “Build It Green” to do the following:

- a. Develop successful grant strategy that responds to the requirements in the “Solicitation for Proposals.”
- b. Support A.B.A.G. in outreach to Bay Area local governments to participate in regional proposal.
- c. Coordinate and collaborate with participating local governments on proposal development.
- d. Coordinate the development of County and City program templates with common format and task structure.
- e. Work with participating steering committee members to develop equitable budget formula.
- f. Ensure the development of all required sections of grant proposal.
- g. Package grant proposal for submittal.

Timeline:

Though both the C.E.C.’s \$96 million in State Energy Program S.E.P. funds and D.O.E.’s \$390 million in Retrofit Ramp-Up grant application mandates are still being developed, it is anticipated that once grant application guidelines are released, interested applicants will have limited time to respond. In anticipation of the need to be expedient with the grant submittals the following key grant development milestones will be followed:

Webinar for Interested Local Governments - Tuesday, September 29, 2009, 9am-10:30am.

Webinar agenda:

Introductions Proposal Objectives Timeline and process for proposal preparation Framework for Statement of Work, coordination between regional and local activities Draft budget formula Participating on Base camp forum Action items and next steps. *(At the time of this writing, the Director of General Services was programmed to attend and will update as appropriate.)*

Planning and Decision Making Meeting – October 9, 2009 meeting (9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at “Stopwaste” in Oakland).

Representatives should be prepared to sign off on final budget formula, proposal outline, and division of responsibilities between regional and local implementers. County representatives to steering committee should be duly empowered.

Steering committee meetings via “WebEx” (1 representative from each county-wide program):

Tuesday, October 13, 2009, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 27, 2009, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 3, 2009, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Expected S.E.P. Proposal Due Date - Thursday, November 5, 2009.

D.O.E. Proposal Due Date – TBD.

Conclusion:

By prior action, your Board has endorsed the County’s participation in the Regional Climate Protection Partnership for the purpose of promoting and facilitating the implementation of collaborative and coordinated regional climate protection initiatives. In addition, your Board accepted the Sonoma County Community Climate Action Plan which established the Green House Gas reduction targets required to achieve the goal of reducing G.H.G. emissions to 25% below 1990 levels by 2015. In order to achieve this goal, the Community Action Plan calls for a reduction of 168,000 tons in G.H.G. emissions as part of solution in the “Energy Efficiency First” sector of the Plan. To achieve this reduction, approximately 80% of Sonoma County homes and commercial spaces would need to be retrofitted to highest possible efficiency level. The A.R.R.A. competitive grant opportunities for retrofit initiatives to be made available by both the D.O.E. Retrofit Ramp-Up program and the California S.E.P. retrofit programs will allow the County to develop and implement a holistic and large scale retrofit initiative. In addition partnering with other Northern California entities will demonstrate the County’s recognition that regional approaches are the most effective means of impacting an issue that does not recognize governmental boundaries. As a recognized leader in

the climate protection movement Sonoma County is well position to help guide the development of this potentially high impacting solution and make significant progress in achieving its own regional G.H.G. reduction goals.

Requested Board Actions:

Designate the Director of General Services as the County Representative to the Regional Climate Protection Partnership to act on behalf of the County and help prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, and file a grant application for the A.R.R.A., S.E.P. (Part B), California Comprehensive Residential Building Retrofit Program.

Direct the Director of General Services or his designee to report back to the Board on any application filed on behalf of the County for a Comprehensive Residential Building Retrofit Program indicating the purpose of the filing, the benefits to be attained, and the relationship such funds have to County initiatives, programs, and strategic goals.

Attachments: None.

On File With Clerk: None.

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Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote: