

A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	7408	Agenda Number	[ITEM OUTLINE]
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Meeting Date:	6/23/2011	Department:	Austin Energy
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Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$20,000 in cooperative agreement funds from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and amending the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20100913-002) to appropriate \$20,000 to continue the Solar City Partnership to promote the use of solar energy.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$20, 000 is available from the U.S. Department of Energy. Austin Energy will fund an in-kind match in the amount of \$20,000, available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Austin Energy Operating Budget.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	December 6, 2007 – Approved acceptance of a \$186,930 grant from the DOE to establish a Solar City Partnership to promote the use of solar energy.
For More Information:	Fred Yebra, Director; Energy Efficiency Services, 482-5305; Leslie Libby, Project Manager, 482-5390.
Boards and Commission Action:	To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on June 20, 2011 and by the Resource Management Commission on June 21, 2011.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This requested budget amendment extends existing funding from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to Austin Energy for the grant period from March 15, 2010 to April 30, 2012.

This grant was designed to advance the efforts of the City of Austin and Austin Energy, meeting near and long-term commitments, policies, and goals. Briefly, the four tasks accomplished by the original grant were to:

1. Developed solar curriculum to be used by the Austin Independent School District (AISD) and installed solar energy systems at the following schools:

ACC - Riverside Campus, 1020 Grove Blvd., Austin, Texas 78741
 ACC - Rio Grand Campus, 1212 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78701
 Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. Johns, Austin, TX 78752
 LBJ High School, 7309 Lazy Creek Dr., Austin, TX 78724

Rodriguez Elementary School, 4400 Franklin Park Dr., Austin, TX 78744
Valley View Elementary School, 1103 Loop 360 South, Austin, Texas, 78746

2. Teamed with the Texas Solar Energy Society to proactively promote solar, energy efficiency, and green building programs offered by Austin Energy by giving presentations at libraries.
3. Assessed the rooftop area within the City suitable for solar energy development. The model employed found that if fully developed, rooftops within Austin Energy's service area could accommodate approximately 2,446 MW (DC stc) of PV capacity, capable of producing approximately 3.3 million MWh annually. This annual generation is equivalent to about 27.6 percent of Austin Energy's 2008 annual energy generation requirement.
4. Assessed the hybrid potential of wind/solar installations in West Texas and their transmission compatibility. In sum, the base case model and sensitivity analysis demonstrated that solar generation can be reasonably accommodated within transmission systems already constrained by existing wind generation while experiencing only minimal energy and economic losses, especially when the solar and wind generation is negatively correlated, such as when solar generation is paired with inland wind generation in south or west Texas.

These new funds will be used by AISD to continue work on the solar curriculum. Austin Energy's match will be used to assist with the solar curriculum effort and to provide reports to the DOE.