

**TOWN OF FAIRFAX
STAFF REPORT**

To: Mayor, Members of the Town Council

**From: Michael Rock, Town Manager
Kathy Wilkie, Public Works Director**

Date: December 2, 2009

Subject: A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Energy Efficiency and Block Grant Program Funding for the Downtown Streetlight Replacement Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax Authorizing the Filing of an Application for Energy Efficiency and Block Grant Program Funding for the Downtown Streetlight Retrofit Project.

DISCUSSION

The Town of Fairfax recognizes that it is in the interest of the regional, state, and national economy to stimulate the economy; create and retain jobs; reduce fossil fuel emissions; and reduce total energy usage and improve energy efficiency within our jurisdiction. To help local agencies, the California Energy Commission has made funds available through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program.

The Town of Fairfax is eligible for EECBG funding for projects that meet energy reduction goals set forth in the EECBG guidelines. Streetlight energy efficient retrofit projects have been identified as meeting all the eligibility criteria for program funding.

The Public Works Department is recommending that the decorative lighting in the downtown business area be retrofitted with either induction or Light Emitting Diode (LED) fixtures to increase energy efficiency and reduce ongoing utility expenses. Sample streetlights will be installed prior to making the final decision on induction or LED lighting, to provide the community with an opportunity for public input. The grant funds available will provide funding for the retrofit of approximately 60 streetlights.

This project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under section 15301, Class 1(a) because it entails interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing and electrical conveyances.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Town will receive \$38,178 in one time ARRA funding for the Downtown Streetlight Retrofit project. The new lighting will also be eligible for a reduced monthly billing rate that will save approximately \$1,300 per year in utility expenses. In addition, PG&E provides rebates of

\$0.05 per kilowatt hour for induction lighting and \$50 per LED fixture. The amount of the rebate will be determined when the final project design is determined.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 09-80
2. Exhibit A – Project Description
3. CEQA Categorical Exemption Project Description

RESOLUTION NO. 09-80

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR THE DOWNTOWN STREETLIGHT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairfax recognizes that it is in the interest of the regional, state, and national economy to stimulate the economy; create and retain jobs; reduce fossil fuel emissions; and reduce total energy usage and improve energy efficiency within our jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funds are available through the California Energy Commission's EECBG Program for grants to eligible local governments for cost-effective energy efficiency projects; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairfax is eligible for EECBG funding under the California Energy Commission's EECBG Program; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairfax is proposing to implement the energy efficiency project/s described in Exhibit A in order to qualify for EECBG funds from the California Energy Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairfax has considered the application of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to the approval of the energy efficiency project/s described in Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the CEQA, Fairfax Town Council finds that the approval of the energy efficiency projects described in Exhibit A is a "project" under CEQA that is exempt under section 15301, Class 1(a) because it entails interior or exterior alterations involving such things as interior partitions, plumbing and electrical conveyances; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fairfax Town Council authorizes the submittal of the application to the California Energy Commission's EECBG Program for funds to execute the proposed project described in Exhibit A; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if recommended for funding by the California Energy Commission, the Fairfax Town Council authorizes the Town of Fairfax to accept a grant award up to the amount of this application for \$38,178, and, that the Town Manager acting for the Town of Fairfax is hereby authorized to execute all necessary contracts and agreements, and amendments hereto, to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the application.

PASSED and ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax on this 2nd day of December, 2009 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

Mayor

Attest:

Judy Anderson, Town Clerk

EXHIBIT A

Streetlight Replacement Project

Description:

Approximately 60 High Pressure Sodium Vapor decorative lamps in streetlights will be replaced with higher efficiency options including induction or Light Emitting Diode (LED). The type of lamp selected for each location will be dependent on lighting field tests.

The target areas for this lamp replacement project include the following locations:

1. Bolinas Road between Broadway and Park Road
2. Broadway between Pacheco and Azalea Street
3. Center Boulevard
4. The Parkade
5. Sir Francis Drake Boulevard