

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR CLEAN AIR/CALIFORNIA
ENERGY COMMISSION AB 118 PROJECT PROPOSAL
STAFF PRESENTER: JON MERIAN, FLEET SUPERINTENDENT
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTIONS (2)

ISSUE(S)

Should the City Council authorize submittal of grant applications to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and California Energy Commission (CEC) requesting funds to upgrade City-fleet Toyota Prius Hybrid vehicles to “plug-in” hybrid, and fund electric vehicle charging stations?

COUNCIL GOALS AND STRATEGIES

This project relates to two City Council Goals by 1.) “continuing our investments in alternative transportation” and, 2.) “sustaining City leadership in environmental initiatives” including the reduction of greenhouse gases.

BACKGROUND

1. The BAAQMD has requested project applications for fiscal year 2009/10 Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) regional funds which are used to implement alternative fuel and infrastructure projects in accordance with State law and the BAAQMD 2005 Ozone Strategy.
2. Approximately \$5 million will be available for distribution through the regional fund in fiscal year 2009/10, though specific project-level funding amounts have not been determined.
3. The Air District requires that each project sponsor submit documentation authorizing the submittal of the application and an individual to execute the funding agreement to complete the project.
4. BAAQMD applications will be accepted beginning December 21, 2009 on a first-come, first-served ongoing basis until funds are exhausted.

5. The CEC has also requested project applications for AB 118 - Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Program funds which are used to implement alternative fuel and infrastructure projects to help attain the State of California's climate change policies.
6. Approximately \$13.8 million will be available for distribution in fiscal year 2009/10, though specific project-level funding amounts have not been determined.
7. The CEC also requires that each project sponsor submit documentation authorizing the submittal of the application and an individual to execute the funding agreement to complete the project.
8. CEC applications are due January 11, 2010.

ANALYSIS

1. The City of Santa Rosa is a member of the Sonoma County Local Electrical Vehicle Partnership which is comprised of all Sonoma County Cities plus Sonoma County, the Sonoma County Water Agency, and the Town of Windsor.
2. A group effort increases the likelihood of being funded as it shows a coordinated effort to install infrastructure throughout Sonoma County, though not every member of the partnership is applying.
3. There are two parts to the project – the vehicle upgrade and the charging stations. The cost of upgrading a Toyota Prius from hybrid to plug-in hybrid is approximately \$11,000. The cost of a charging station is also about \$11,000.
4. Both grants require matching funds which will be the \$22,000 the City has already invested in each Toyota Prius currently in the fleet (two are older than 2004 and thus incapable of being upgraded to plug-in technology).
5. The upgrades must use California Air Resources Board (CARB)-approved equipment and be installed by a certified vendor to comply with the hybrid's existing manufacturer warranty. City staff will install the charging stations.
6. The City has eight electric vehicle charging stations at four locations, all on City property. Four will remain unchanged so that electric vehicles older than 2004 can continue to charge. The other four will be upgraded to current standards.
7. In addition, sixteen new charging stations will be installed at various locations throughout the City. All will be located on City facilities. Most will be available for both City and public use.

RECOMMENDATION

These two resolutions, recommended by the Public Works Department, authorize that applications be submitted to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) requesting funds from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) Regional Fund, and to the California Energy Commission (CEC) requesting funds from the AB 118 - Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Program, to upgrade City-fleet Toyota Prius Hybrid vehicles to “plug-in” hybrid, and fund electric vehicle charging stations. It is further recommended that the Council authorize the Director of Public Works to execute the agreements with the BAAQMD and CEC to complete the project if successful in obtaining grant funds, and authorize the Chief Financial Officer to establish a project entitled “Electric Vehicle Conversion and Infrastructure” with appropriations in the amount of the grant, source of funds being the grant.

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Attachments: None