

LRB RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

SEPTEMBER 12, 2007 AGENDA

ITEM 14, FILE 070612

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

JAMES CARROLL

Resolut
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resolution relative to application for, acceptance and expenditure of 2008 State of Wisconsin recycling grants.

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

1. The Department of Public Works (DPW) annually submits a resolution to authorize DPW to apply for, accept and expend the following two recycling grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

Wisconsin Recycling Grant
Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant

2. DPW currently has 31 summer and winter cart routes and 3 weekly bin routes servicing approximately 190,000 residences. The Department annually collects approximately 25,000 tons of curbside recyclables, 30,000 tons of yard trimmings and 4,000 tons of other recyclable items collected at self-help stations.
3. DPW plans to include in the 2008 budget a reduction of three recycling crews in the summer through a return to the recycling cart setout pilot program of 2006. Approximately 28,000 residents will be required to bring their recycling carts to the curb for collection. Through an amendment to the 2007 Budget, approximately \$130,000 in funding from the Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant was used to restore the three recycling routes that were cut in the creation of the 2006 Curbside Recycling Cart Set-out Pilot Program.

4. The Wisconsin Recycling Grant

- The 2007-09 bi-annual State of Wisconsin Budget is expected to provide approximately \$24.5 million to fund the State's recycling grant program.
- The amount of \$2,796,195.46 was granted to the City of Milwaukee in 2007.
- DPW estimates the City will receive \$2,799,000 for the City's 2008 recycling program. The City's share of recycling, composting, and waste reduction cost is estimated to be \$8,019,000 of the total cost of recycling of \$10,818,000.
- There are 31 Operations Driver Worker positions supported by this grant.

5. Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant

- The State of Wisconsin's Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant rewards Responsible Units that have made efforts to improve the efficiency of their recycling programs. For 2008, the total amount of funding expected to be

available for the Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant Program is \$1.9 million. The \$1.9 million will be divided among the Responsible Units of Governments that successfully submit applications. After the number of successful applicants is determined, each qualified applicant receives a distribution based on a flat per capita rate (approximately \$0.38).

- Milwaukee is eligible for this grant because of its partnership and coordination of education and outreach initiatives with the Wisconsin Be Smart Coalition, formerly the Wisconsin Waste Reduction Coalition. The Wisconsin Be Smart Coalition was founded in 1995 to reduce the amount of waste generated by residents and businesses throughout southeast Wisconsin through a regionally coordinated waste reduction campaign.

The Coalition combines the expertise and resources of local government, state agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses and environmental organizations to sponsor Be Smart (Save Money and Reduce Trash) programs. More than 45 partners participate.

- For 2007, DPW anticipated receiving \$226,850 for this grant. Because there were fewer eligible applicants than anticipated, the 2007 grant amount awarded to Milwaukee was \$441,904.70 (File #060164). For 2008, DPW anticipates receiving \$226,850.
- DPW will use the funding from the 2008 grant to fund the first year of a Recycling Outreach, Education, and Promotion campaign that will result from a soon to be awarded contract for promotion of recycling (File #070545). The 2008 grant will also be used to fund the recycling processing costs of electronic scrap collected from the public at Sanitation's Self Help Sites, as well as cover other recycling program costs related to education and compliance.
- There is no City share or position authority associated with the Recycling Efficiency Incentive grant program.

FISCAL IMPACT

1. The resolution authorizes the application, acceptance and expenditure of \$2,799,000 for the 2008 State of Wisconsin's Recycling Grant and \$226,850 for the 2008 State's Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant.

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LRB Fiscal Review
August 31, 2007