

LRB – RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

MAY 29, 2008 AGENDA

ITEM 10, FILE 080172

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

JAMES CARROLL

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on amending Common Council File # 070612 to increase the amount of State of Wisconsin Recycling grants awarded to the City of Milwaukee.

BACKGROUND

1. On September 25, 2007, the Common Council adopted File # 070612 that authorized the application, acceptance and expenditure of \$2,799,000 for the 2008 State of Wisconsin's Basic Recycling Grant and \$226,850 for the 2008 State's Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant.
2. The Wisconsin State Legislature increased the State's municipal and county recycling grant appropriation by \$6,500,000 annually, effectively raising the state reimbursement rate of eligible recycling costs and resulting in an actual 2008 State of Wisconsin Basic Recycling Grant award to the City of Milwaukee in the amount of \$3,535,679.24, an increase of \$736,679.24 over the authorized amount.
3. Because there were fewer qualified applicants than anticipated, the Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant amount awarded to Milwaukee is \$154,549.11 more than the \$226,850 authorized by Common Council File #070612.

DISCUSSION

1. In anticipation of the increase in the Basic Recycling Grant funding, the omnibus amendment to the 2008 Proposed Budget shifted \$689,191 from O&M funding to grant funding. Of the \$736,679.24 increase in the Basic Recycling Grant funding, \$689,191 will be applied to salaries and fringe benefits of recycling drivers. The remaining \$47,488 will be used in a similar fashion to move more recycling expenses from O&M to grant funds. It may be applied to salaries and fringe again, or to recyclables processing costs, or possibly a combination of those costs.
2. The additional Recycling Efficiency Grant dollars (\$154,549.11) will be used to fund a Recycling Program Assistant position, with the balance funding outreach, education, and other eligible recycling program expenses.
3. The proposed salary grade for the Recycling Program Assistant is Pay Range 530, \$39,094.12 to \$44,256.94.
4. The duties of the Recycling Program Assistant are:

- Provides information and technical assistance with recycling compliance issues to owners and property managers of multi-family dwellings, businesses, schools and institutions.
- Under supervision, administers the recycling compliance enforcement program, maintains records, and reports on compliance actions.
- Develops, coordinates, and presents public education programs in waste reduction, recycling, composting, and household hazardous waste.
- Prepares advertisements, press releases, brochures, and flyers. Writes and edits articles and maintains website information for recycling activities and services.
- Obtains and compiles data, and prepares records, reports, spreadsheets and surveys related to recycling and solid waste programs.
- Develops and maintains partnerships with community groups and local organizations to provide recycling outreach to the community.
- Assists in conducting a variety of recycling collection, marketing and public relations programs.

FISCAL IMPACT

1. The resolution amends File # 070612 is amended by changing the Basic Recycling grant amount from \$2,799,000.00 to \$3,535,679.24 and changing the Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant amount from \$226,850.00 to \$381,399.11.
2. The resolution also directs that the 2008 Positions Ordinance be amended to add a Recycling Program Assistant position. The position's authority is to expire on December 31, 2009 unless the Recycling Efficiency Incentive Grant is extended.

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