

GRANT ANALYSIS FORM OPERATING & CAPITAL GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Department/Division: Department of Administration / Office of Environmental SustainabilityContact Person & Phone No: Matt Howard x3351

Category of Request

 New Grant Grant Continuation

Previous Council File No. _____

 Change in Previously Approved Grant

Previous Council File No. _____

Project/Program Title: SunShot: Grow Solar WisconsinGrantor Agency: U.S. Department of Energy (through Midwest Renewable Energy Association)Grant Application Date: 9/10/2011Anticipated Award Date: 2/1/2012

1. Description of Grant Project/Program (Include Target Locations and Populations):

The goal of the SunShot Solar Grant is to reduce the installed cost of solar by reducing the 'soft costs' of solar such as permitting and interconnection processes, codes and ordinances, and financing solutions. Milwaukee will receive \$130,000 to help streamline the permitting process, so putting solar panels on a roof can be easier to manage for customers, installers and city staff. When complete, these model processes will be shared with other municipalities in Wisconsin as solar "best practices."

2. Relationship to City-Wide Strategic Goals and Departmental Objectives:

The City of Milwaukee's solar program, Milwaukee Shines, is a project of the Office of Environmental Sustainability. In 2008, Milwaukee was named a Solar America City and awarded grant funds from the U.S. Department of Energy to build a solar energy market in Milwaukee. Since that time, the solar program has tripled the number of solar professionals and has seen the amount of solar installed increase five-fold. Increasing the use of clean energy by the City and the community has been a goal of City administration to help economic development, job creation, and reduce air pollution. In the 2012 budget summary, the City's vision and mission includes sustaining, enhancing and promoting Milwaukee's natural environmental assets. This grant will make it easier and more cost competitive for residents to install solar, and will help create a mature, stable solar economy.

3. Need for Grant Funds and Impact on Other Departmental Operations (Applies only to Programs):

The grant funds will allow the City to retain the Solar Program Manager position, which was created as part of the first two U.S. Department of Energy grant awards. The grant funds will also allow staff in DCD to devote time to clarify the city's current permitting processes. A graduate intern position will be created to assist in this work.

4. Results Measurement/Progress Report (Applies only to Programs):

Results will be measured based on the reduction of time it takes to get a solar permit, and a reduction in the overall average price of solar installations in the Milwaukee market.

5. Grant Period, Timetable and Program Phase-Out Plan:

SunShot: Grow Solar Wisconsin will run from February 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. The program has the possibility of extension the the U.S. Department of Energy depending upon results, replication by other neighboring communities, and federal funding.

6. Provide a list of Subgrantees:

None

7. If Possible, complete Grant Budget Form and attach to back.

