
**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: ARRA: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program - Application Submissions

DEPARTMENT: Fiscal Services

DIVISION: Administration - Fiscal Services

AUTHORIZED BY: Lisa Spriggs

CONTACT: Jennifer Bero

EXT: 7125

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Approve to submit applications to the US Department of Energy requesting the \$2,925,100.00 allocation through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program; and authorize the County Manager to execute any supporting documents as may be required for the applications.

County-wide

Jennifer Bero, Frank Raymond

BACKGROUND:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) appropriated funding for the US Department of Energy (DOE) to award formula-based grants under the Energy Efficiency and Block Grant Program. The purpose of this program is to assist eligible entities in creating and implementing strategies to reduce the total energy use of the entities; and improve energy efficiency in the building sector, the transportation sector, and other appropriate sectors.

Deemed eligible for the formula-based program due to its population, Seminole County was allocated \$2,925,100. For the total funds to be received, the county must submit an application as well as an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy which details activities that would achieve the purposes of the program. With Board approval, staff would submit two grant applications; one requesting \$250,000 for a consultant to develop the Strategy, and a second submitting the required Strategy and requesting the remaining \$2,675,100 to fund project implementations. There is no match required for this program.

The DOE encourages the county to include a wide range of energy efficiency projects in the Strategy. The Seminole County Energy Conservation Committee has reviewed the grant guidelines and anticipates the costs for the projects identified in the Strategy will far exceed the current allocation. The grant consultant confirmed future competitive grant opportunities will become available through both the DOE and the State Energy Office, potentially funding those projects not able to be implemented through the Block Grant funds.

In coordination with this request, presented in the Purchasing and Contacts Division consent section is a request to increase the estimate annual usage amount for the General Consulting Services Master Contract for Planning and Development. Board approval of that item at this time will allow for development of the Strategy, and make available the maximum time allocated by the DOE for its completion and submission with the second grant application.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board approve to submit applications to the US Department of Energy requesting the \$2,925,100.00 allocation through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program; and authorize the County Manager to execute any supporting documents as may be required for the applications.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Project Summary

Additionally Reviewed By: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Budget Review (Lisa Spriggs)
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**GRANT PROPOSAL REVIEW FORM – ABSTRACT
GRANTS ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

FUNDER: US Department of Energy

DATE DUE: June 25, 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy

DEPARTMENT: Administrative Services; Planning and Development

PROJECT INITIATOR(S): Seminole County Energy Conservation Committee

PROJECT MANAGER: Tara Anderson, Financial Analyst for Administrative Services

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project will be the creation and implementation of an Energy Plan/Strategy for Seminole County. The Strategy will result from an energy consumption and efficiency assessment of county facilities, and will develop comprehensive plan policies for future county actions. Identification of opportunities to partner with nonprofit agencies and privately-owned businesses to promote energy conservation will also be included. Expected outcomes for use of the Block Grant funds are in conjunction with the intent of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: 1) to create and/or retain jobs; 2) to save energy; 3) identify renewable energy capacities; 4) reduce GHG emissions; and 5) leverage funds.

TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$2,925,100

MATCHING FUNDS (IF APPLICABLE): \$ 0

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$2,925,100

GRANT FUNDING IS:

COMPETITIVE

ENTITLEMENT

CONTRACT