

Regular Meeting

Agenda Item #	4
Meeting Date	May 11, 2015
Prepared By	Gina Mathias Sustainability Manager
Approved By	Suzanne R. Ludlow City Manager

Discussion Item	Single Reading Ordinance for Piggyback Contract for Low-Moderate Income (LMI) Grant, energy efficiency services contractor
Background	<p>The City of Takoma Park was awarded a special Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) grant in the amount of \$178,000 to perform home energy efficiency make-overs for low-to-moderate income single family homes. Up to \$8,000 may be used on each income-qualified home to improve the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insulation - Air sealing - Duct Sealing - HVAC systems including air conditioning, furnaces, and heat pumps - Water Heaters - Lighting - Refrigerators - Freezers - Clothes Washers - Dishwashers - Window Air Conditioners <p>Grant monies must be completely spent and all projects completed by October 31, 2015. Because this program allows recipients to also take advantage of Pepco’s energy efficiency rebates, homeowners may actually receive up to \$10,500 in upgrade work. With the combined rebates and grant money, we expect to help 30-50 single family homeowners.</p> <p>Takoma Park has combined this new MEA grant with the existing Exterior Home Repair Program in order to simplify the application process for homeowners and city staff; maximize impact for low-to-moderate income homeowners; and maximize outreach and participation in both programs. Once an applicant has been qualified, the Affordable Housing Manager forwards the applicant information to the Sustainability Manager to work with the homeowner on the energy efficiency part of their application. Every qualified applicant to the program will receive an energy audit. This will help the city reach its goals of increasing energy audits in the city, and in identifying the number of households we need to in order to use all of the grant funds in time.</p> <p>The Town of Bladensburg has been a recipient of the MEA LMI Grant for five consecutive years. In December, Bladensburg posted an RFP in anticipation of its renewed grant, and awarded the contract to Edge Energy. Edge Energy has won the previous 5 contracts with the Town of Bladensburg. The Sustainability</p>

	<p>Manager, Gina Mathias, spoke at length with the Grant Administrator for the Town of Bladensburg, Lieutenant James Flynn. Lieutenant Flynn was unequivocal in his positive reference for the performance of Edge Energy.</p> <p>Using the piggyback provision and contracting with Edge Energy will allow us to start immediately on upgrade repairs. Edge Energy has direct experience with this grant program and can help maximize the impact of the program by ensuring residents receive quality energy audits, thorough work, and qualify for rebates that stretch the grant funds as far as possible. It will be a great benefit to work with a contractor that knows the program well and already has systems in place to ensure smooth and efficient project workflow.</p> <p>Takoma Park currently has 6 qualified applicants awaiting their energy audits.</p> <p>In addition to this contract, City staff is considering issuing our own RFP to select a second contractor to work on this grant project in order to ensure all the work can be completed by the October 31, 2015 deadline. Because the issuance of a second RFP, the review of responses and the recommendation for Council award will likely take over two months, we request authorization to award the initial contract to Edge Energy to start work as soon as possible.</p>
Policy	Sustainable Community – Ensure a Takoma Park that is fiscally, environmentally, and economically sustainable.
Fiscal Impact	Up to \$178,000 from Grant Funds.
Attachments	Draft Single Reading Ordinance
Recommendation	Approve Single Reading Ordinance
Special Consideration	Work must begin as soon as possible, all grant funds must be spent by October 31, 2015.

Introduced by:

Single Reading

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-

CONTRACT FOR COMPREHENSIVE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City has been awarded a \$178,000 grant from the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) to provide comprehensive home energy audits and complete home energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits for low-to-moderate income (LMI) single family homeowners; and

WHEREAS, the City does not have the technical resources available on staff to perform comprehensive home energy audits, engineer, or oversee the construction of complete home energy efficiency projects; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Bladensburg, Maryland has awarded a contract, after competitive bidding, to Edge Energy, for home energy audits and complete home energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits for low-to-moderate income single family homeowners for the MEA LMI grant program; and

WHEREAS, the services to be provided by Edge Energy under this contract meet the identified needs of the City; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available in the MEA LMI grant budget to cover the anticipated cost of these services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, THAT:

SECTION 1. The City Manager is authorized to enter into a contract with Edge Energy for comprehensive home energy efficiency services.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this _____ day of May, 2015 by roll-call vote as follows:

AYE:

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: