



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – May 24, 2017

Agenda Item 3C

Work Session

Single Reading Ordinance Authorizing Cooperative Purchase Contract Related to Low to Moderate Income Energy Efficiency Improvements

Recommended Council Action

Approve Ordinance

Context with Key Issues

The City of Takoma Park was awarded a Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) grant in the amount of \$90,000 to perform home energy efficiency make-overs for low-to-moderate income single family homes. Each income-qualified home may be eligible for the following improvements:

- 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

The City's FY17 sustainability budget has \$30,000 in complementary funds available. The funds were designated for low-to-moderate income energy efficiency projects. Specifically, the funds will work with the MEA grant to cover expenses the MEA does not reimburse but are necessary in order to complete more projects. These expenses might include addressing mold and moisture issues that prevent weatherization; replacing additional major appliances; covering the excess cost of replacing water heaters or HVAC equipment that exceeds the cost allowance of the MEA. An effort will be made to identify one very well qualified home and agreeable homeowner for a demonstration project to create a near-zero-energy home. Recipients will also be able to take advantage of Pepco's energy efficiency rebates, increasing the impact of the program. With the combined rebates and grant money, we expect to help at minimum 12 homeowners.

The grant agreement with MEA was fully executed on May 19, 2017 and work can begin immediately. Due to a delay of several months in the MEA announcing the grant recipients we may not exhaust the \$30,000 in the City budget and a budget amendment to rollover remaining funds to FY18 will be requested.

The District of Columbia has offered residents of the District a substantially similar LMI Grant. In 2016, DC posted an RFQ and awarded a contract to ecobeco. ecobeco has worked extensively in

Takoma Park providing energy efficiency services and is very familiar with the housing stock and the related challenges in City.

Using the piggyback provision and contracting with ecobeco will allow us to start immediately on upgrade repairs. ecobeco has direct experience with low to moderate energy efficiency programs 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.

Council Priority

Environmentally Sustainable Community, A Livable Community for All

Environmental Impact of Action

The cooperative purchase agreement allows the City to implement energy efficiency measures for low to moderate-income homeowners that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions through a reduction in gas, electricity, and water use.

Racial Equity

It is unknown at this time how the energy efficiency program will impact racial equity in the city. We do know this program serves low to moderate income homeowners exclusively and works to improve the financial status of low to moderate income households.

Fiscal Impact of Action

FY17 budget contained \$30,000 which is being rolled over to FY18. These funds will match the \$90,000 received from MEA and combine with available Pepco rebates to maximize the positive impact of the Low to Moderate Income Energy Efficiency Program.

Attachments and Links

Draft Ordinance for cooperative purchase

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
ORDINANCE NO. 2017-____
CONTRACT FOR COMPREHENSIVE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the City has been awarded a \$90,000 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 District of Columbia has awarded a contract, after competitive bidding, to ecobeco, for home energy audits and complete home energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits for low-to-moderate income single family homeowners; and

WHEREAS, the services to be provided by ecobeco 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 ecobeco for comprehensive home energy efficiency services.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ____ day of May, 2017 by roll-call vote as follows:

AYE:

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: