



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Finance

Date: September 12, 2011

To: Honorable Elizabeth Glidden, Chair Regulatory, Energy and Environment Committee

Referral: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: **Authorize \$230,000 of Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security, formerly the Office of Energy Security, Grant for Solar Installations within the Energy Innovation Corridor to be used for a solar installation at the University of Minnesota**

Recommendation:

1. Authorize proper City officers to negotiate and execute documents with the University of Minnesota for disbursement of \$230,000 in EIC grant funds for a project on their University Office Plaza building.

Previous Directives:

- August 6, 2010 – Acceptance of \$1.35 million grant from the Minnesota Department of Commerce for solar power installations on public buildings within the Energy Innovation Corridor.

Prepared by: Brian Millberg, Energy Manager 673-3024

Approved by:

Kevin Carpenter, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Dept.

Steven Bosacker, City Coordinator

Presenters: Brian Millberg, Energy Manager, Department of Finance, Property Services

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	NA	Date
Civil Rights Approval	Approval	NA	Date
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	<u>NA</u>	Date _____

Financial Impact

No financial impact.

Community Impact

City Goals: Eco-Focused.

Background/Supporting Information

The Minnesota Department of Commerce EIC grant for \$1.35 million was accepted by the City Council on August 6, 2010..The original project plan included projects in collaboration with Hennepin County and the Minneapolis Park Board, but these collaborations will not be occurring. In their place, a 40kW project is being recommended on the University of Minnesota Minneapolis campus at the University Office Plaza building which is highly visible to students and those attending events at the TCF field.

At the completion of the projects associated with this grant, the City of Minneapolis will obtain 190.2 kW of solar electric power for just \$4,000. At our current electricity cost, this is a payback of less than 3 months. The solar thermal sites would have an instant payback since the grant pays for 100% of the installation costs of the solar power system. The projects are scheduled for completion by 12/31/2011.