Thursday, March 11, 2010

## Austin Energy RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 4

**Subject:** Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$20,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Energy through Leonardo Technologies Inc., Morgantown, WV, and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20090914-002 to appropriate \$20,000 for programmatic support of the Central Texas Clean Cities Program.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Energy through Leonardo Technologies Inc. Matching funds are not required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Ester Matthews, Austin Climate Protection Program Director, 322-6041.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission and the Resource Management Commission.

**Prior Council Action:** Sept. 25, 2008 – Approved \$12,500 grant from Dept. of Energy through Research and Development Solutions to continue program; Oct. 18, 2008 – Approved \$127,000 grant from Propane Education and Research Council for Propane Mower Rebate Program; July 23, 2009 – Approved \$7,500 grant from the Dept. of Energy through Research & Development Solutions and \$17,500 grant from United Soybean Board to continue program.

If approved, this grant from the U.S. Department of Energy through Leonardo Technologies, Inc. will be used for administration of the City of Austin's Central Texas Clean Cities Program through Austin Energy. Clean Cities is a government-industry partnership designed to reduce petroleum consumption in the transportation sector by advancing the use of alternative fuels and vehicles, idle reduction technologies, hybrid electric vehicles, fuel blends, and fuel economy measures. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Program and con¬tributes to the energy, environmental, and economic security of the U.S. by supporting local deci¬sions to reduce our dependence on imported petroleum. The City of Austin through Austin Energy is the administrator and fiduciary agent for the Central Texas Clean Cities Program Program.

The U.S. has 90 Clean Cities coalitions, six of which are in Texas. The Central Texas Clean Cities Program coalition includes Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, and Williamson Counties, as well as Fort Hood in Killeen.

The proposed grant funds will be used for program management and staff training, to enhance the Central Texas Clean Cities Program web site (www.ci.austin.tx.us/cleancities), and to continue the quarterly eNewsletter. Grant funds will also be used for printing promotional and educational materials, workshop and conference development, and project implementation.