

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	45916	Agenda Number	6.
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Meeting Date:	6/4/2015	Department:	Austin Energy
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Subject

Approve issuance of a rebate to BTL Thrive LTD, for performing energy efficiency improvements at The Bluffs at Town Lake Apartments located at 2005 Willow Creek Dr., in an amount not to exceed \$210,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Jeff Vice, Director, Local Government Issues (512) 322-6450; Denise Kuehn, Director, Energy Efficiency Services (512) 322-6138.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	May 18, 2015 - Approved by the Electric Utility Commission on a vote of 6-0 with Commissioner Herbert absent. May 19, 2015 - Approved by the Resource Management Commission on a vote of 4-0 with Commissioners Amato, Hsieh and Metzger absent.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

Austin Energy requests authorization to issue a rebate to BTL Thrive LTD, in an amount not to exceed \$210,000, for performing energy efficiency improvements at The Bluffs at Town Lake.

The Bluffs at Town Lake Apartments are located at 2005 Willow Creek Dr., Austin, Texas 78741, in District 3. The property comprises 27 buildings containing 300 apartment units, with 262,108 square feet of conditioned space. The average rent for a one bedroom unit ranges from \$764 to \$854 and the two bedroom unit ranges from \$906 to \$924 depending on amenities. The energy and water efficiency upgrades include: solar screens, installation of insulation, duct sealing, pipe wrap, air infiltration, and low flow water devices. The estimated total cost of the project is \$269,250 and the rebate will cover approximately 78% of the total cost.

This program is one element of Austin Energy's comprehensive Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan approved in 2014 by City Council to realize 700 MW of energy efficiency and 200 MW of demand response by 2025.

The plan is designed to reduce local air pollution through energy conservation, reduce peak demand, reduce the need to purchase additional generation, and assist customers in reducing electric consumption.

This Project was originally submitted during the pilot phase of the Multifamily Energy Reduction Partners program. Since then, Austin Energy staff have implemented changes to the program and continue to evaluate it. However, staff would like to honor the program rules and rebate levels designed during the pilot phase, under which the participating contractor sold this project.

The demand (kilowatt or kW) savings associated with these energy efficiency improvements is estimated at 222 kW, at a program cost of \$947 per kW saved. The avoided kilowatt hours (kWh), estimated at 788,529 kWh per year, represent a major benefit to the local environment. This project will prevent the production of the following air pollutants from being emitted: 473.5 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), 0.330 metric tons of Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x), and 0.298 metric tons of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂).

In addition to the reduced air and toxic pollution, the project savings are also equivalent to an estimated 1,063,081 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 90.7 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 12,164 trees or 608 acres of forest in Austin's parks. The project will also generate approximately 354,838 gallons of water savings at the power plant.