



**Energy Rebate  
CITY OF AUSTIN  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 2  
AGENDA DATE: Thu 11/17/2005  
PAGE: 1 of 1**

**SUBJECT:** Approve the issuance of a Letter of Intent for a rebate in the amount of \$76,698 to FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES, Austin, TX for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at their facility located at 7101 North IH-35

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding in the amount of \$76,698 00 is available in the 2005-2006 Operating Budget of Austin Energy in the Conservation Rebates and Incentives Fund

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact A fiscal note is not required

**REQUESTING** Austin Energy  
**DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S  
AUTHORIZATION:** Juan Garza

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Fred Yebra, Director, Demand Side Management / 482-5305, Leslie Libby, Solar Program Coordinator / 482-5390

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** N/A

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission Meeting and the Resource Management Commission

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Austin Energy requests authorization to issue a Letter of Intent in the amount of \$76,698 to Foundation Communities for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system, in accordance with the City of Austin's Solar Rebate Program guidelines. The program is one element of Austin Energy's comprehensive Strategic Plan approved in December 2003.

Foundation Communities' Spring Terrace Apartments is located at 7101 N I-35 and the solar equipment, which meets all Austin Energy program requirements, includes 108 solar modules rated at 167 watts each and its associated inverter rated at 94.5% efficient. The solar photovoltaic equipment installed is estimated to provide yearly energy savings of 24,390 kWh.

*Foundation Communities is a nonprofit provider of affordable housing with the mission to create housing where families succeed. Foundation Communities provides affordable rental housing, asset building opportunities, and educational services to more than 1,200 families and individuals with low incomes in Austin.*

The City will not exceed the rebate offer of \$76,698 should the final installed measures be eligible for a higher rebate at the time of the final inspection due to changes in quantity or efficiency of equipment.



**Resource Management Commission**

**Request for Letter of Intent for Foundation Community (Hearthside/Spring Terrace)**

**October 18, 2005**

**Vote 6-0-0-3-0**

**Motion by:** K Strnad

**Second by:** A Donoho

**For:** D Venhuizen, A Martinez, J Beckage, R. Amato

**Against:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**Absent:** C Barron, J Hoffner, G Hsieh

**Vacant:** 0

**Motion:** 0

The Resource Management Commission supports the City's Commercial Energy Efficiency Programs and recommends that the City Council approve the issuance of a Letter of Intent in the amount of \$76,698.00 for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system for Foundation Communities (Hearthside) located at 17107 N I-35 in Austin, Texas. The solar equipment, which meets all Austin Energy program requirements, includes 108 solar modules rated at 167 watts each and its associated inverter rated at 94.5% efficient. The total installed wattage is equal to 17.4 kW. The requested rebate covers an estimated 80% of the total project cost of \$108,436.56.

This energy improvement will save an estimated 24,390 kWh per year. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 27,249 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 3 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 532 trees or 27 acres of forest in Austin's parks.

The Commercial Energy Efficiency programs are elements of Austin Energy's comprehensive effort to reduce local air pollution through energy conservation, to reduce peak demand, and to assist customers in reducing electric consumption. Within currently approved budget funding levels for commercial conservation rebates, this effort will provide Austin Energy with a constructive market transformation opportunity while adding a value-added service to encourage customer retention. Funds for this rebate will come from the proposed rebate funding for FY2006, therefore there is no anticipated fiscal impact.

Approved, Adán Martínez, Chair

October 18, 2005



**Electric Utility Commission**  
**October 17, 2005**  
**Meeting**

Approve the issuance of a Letter of Intent for a rebate in the amount of \$76,698 to FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES, Austin, TX for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at their facility located at 7101 N I-35

Motion by LeGette

Seconded by Fath

Ayes Carr, Fath, LeGette, Owens, Sessa, Shaw, and Weston

Nays NONE

Abstaining NONE

Off the dais NONE

Absent Skeith

The Commission approved this item, 7-0