



TO: Mayor & Council Members

FROM: Greg Canally, Deputy Chief Financial Officer

DATE: April 26th, 2011

SUBJECT: March 2011 City of Austin ARRA Status Report

The status updates on each ARRA grant have been updated on the City's stimulus website www.cityofaustin.org/stimulus (link is on City's homepage) under the projects tab (<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/stimulus/projects.htm>). In addition, the *Federal Stimulus Tracking List* has also been updated and includes expenditure and encumbrance information, as well as grant start/end dates and job creation estimates. This tracking log can be found here: <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/stimulus/downloads/arra%20status%20report%2042511.xls>. Overall, \$56.5 million, or 68% of the total funds awarded have been either expended or encumbered through 4/22/11. While some of the grant periods end during 2011, others extend into 2013.

Noteworthy items for the month include the following:

- As of the end of March, Austin Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reported 714 total units completed to Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA), with 95 units completed in March, exceeding the monthly goal of 90 units. In addition, 69% percent of the original \$6.0M awarded has been expended. On April 7th, Council accepted an additional \$2.1 million for the program and extended the grant term until December 31, 2011.
- Velocity Credit Union has been chosen as the City's financial partner for AE's weatherization programs. Currently, staff is working on a contract with Velocity that will establish a \$4.5M revolving loan fund as part of the department's Better Buildings program.
- Both AE and NHCD have addressed the City Auditor's findings in the ARRA: "Jobs Created" Report issued February 2011. The CDBG-R report for quarter ended March 31, 2011 reflected an adjustment to account for all of the project coordinator hours not previously reported. Processes have been modified to ensure all applicable hours will be included in the FTE calculation in the future. AE has also modified their internal processes to ensure that all projects are following the same methodology for calculating, reporting and maintaining documentation for "jobs created" data.
- An additional \$70,000 was awarded to APD for the Assistance to Female Victims of Human Trafficking and Sexual Assault (VAWA) program. This is the third VAWA grant that the Office of the Governor's Criminal Justice Division has awarded to the department bringing the total funds received for program to \$310,173. Additional information on the other two awards can be found on the projects' tab on the City's stimulus website (link above).
- In March, the City received another successful federal review, as the Department of Energy conducted an on-site review of Fleet's Emissions Reduction Project – conversion of 38 existing Prius vehicles to plug-in electric – which resulted in no findings. To date, 18 of the 38 Prius conversions have been completed.
- Work continues to progress on schedule for the Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Facility. The compost pad is 99% complete. The odor control and polymer optimization project and the digester rehabilitation project are 25% and 20% complete, respectively.

There are also several stimulus-related items on upcoming Council agendas:

- On April 28th, Council will accept \$561,871 from Chrysler, under an award from DOE. Under this agreement, Chrysler will provide AE with 14 plug-in hybrid Ram 1500 Crew Cab vehicles for three years and 14 charging stations which will remain AE's assets after the grant expires. The purpose of the grant is to provide research and testing of these plug-in electric vehicles.
- In May, Council will be requested to approve the purchase of a biogas generator for the Hornsby Bend Biosolids plant and building control upgrades for APD headquarters.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

xc: Marc A. Ott, City Manager
 Leslie Browder, Chief Financial Officer