

# **Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council Item ID 61103 Agenda Number 3.

Meeting Date: 8/18/2016 Department: Austin Energy

### Subject

Approve issuance of a rebate to Cascade Affordable Housing, for performing energy efficiency improvements at the Rosemont at Williamson Creek Apartments located at 4509 East St. Elmo Road, in an amount not to exceed \$79,612. (District 2)

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

### Fiscal Note

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:	July 18, 2016 – Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a vote of 7-3, with Commissioners Biedrzycki, Mahmood and Roa voting no, and Commissioner Ferchill absent. July 19, 2016 – Recommended by the Resource Management Commission on a vote of 7-0, with Commissioners Gill and Saum absent.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

### Additional Backup Information

Austin Energy requests authorization to issue a rebate to Cascade Affordable Housing, in an amount not to exceed \$79,612, for energy efficient measures to be completed at the Rosemont at Williamson Creek Apartments located at 4509 East St. Elmo Road, in Council District 2.

The Rosemont at Williamson Creek Apartments is listed in the 13th Edition of the Guide to Affordable Housing in the Greater Austin Area published by The Austin Tenant's Council. The property is comprised of eight buildings and 163 apartment units, with a total of 167,425 square feet of conditioned space. The monthly rent for a two bedroom unit is \$779, a three bedroom unit is \$894 and a four bedroom unit is \$1,024. The energy efficiency measures to be completed at this property are duct sealing and the installation of solar screens. The estimated total cost of the project is \$79,612 and the rebate will cover 100% of the total cost.

These improvements will be made in accordance with Austin Energy's Multifamily Weatherization Assistance Rebate Program. This program was created in response to Recommendation 18 of the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force to further promote energy efficiency in this underserved market sector. Their recommendation and Austin Energy's response are included in a Memo to City Council dated March 11, 2016 (Attachment D, page 11). While similar to the standard Multifamily Rebate Program, this program offers larger rebates customized for each measure, based on historical savings and cost data.

This program is one element of Austin Energy's comprehensive Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to realize 700 MW of energy efficiency and 200 MW of demand response by 2025. The original plan, approved by City Council in April 2010 and updated in December 2014, is designed in part 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.

The avoided kilowatt hours (kWh) estimated at 152,122 kWh per year represents a major benefit to the local environment. This project is estimated to offset the production of the following air emissions: 91 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO2), 0.064 metric tons of Nitrogen Oxides (NOX), and 0.058 metric tons of Sulfur Dioxide (SO2). The project savings is equivalent to an estimated 205,088 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 18 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 2,347 trees or 117 acres of forest in Austin's parks.