



# City of La Quinta

**CITY / SA/ HA/ FA MEETING DATE:** January 20, 2015

**ITEM TITLE:** ADOPT RESOLUTION REQUESTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

**AGENDA CATEGORY:**

**BUSINESS SESSION:**

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** 2

**STUDY SESSION:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Adopt City Council Resolution No. 2015-\_\_\_ to request energy efficiency technical assistance in the form of in-kind services of up to \$20,000 from the California Energy Commission.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

- The City continuously seeks operational efficiencies that result in a positive impact to current and future annual budgets.
- The Energy Partnership Program ("EPP"), administered by the California Energy Commission ("CEC"), annually receives \$2 million dollars to fund public and non-profit energy audits.
- The EPP provides in-kind technical services up to \$20,000 for energy audits of public and non-profit facilities.
- The City may benefit from an energy audit by identifying cost efficient equipment upgrades and feasibility of alternative energy systems.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

Over the last few years, the City has evaluated and implemented a number of cost recovery initiatives to reduce overall expenses ensuring long term fiscal solvency. City Hall has undergone energy efficiency projects including LED conversion of lighting and upgrades to higher efficiency air conditioning component systems.

The CEC currently administers a program to assist public and non-profit organizations in reducing overall energy consumption. The EPP provides in-kind technical services up to \$20,000 to perform energy audits. This program annually receives \$2 million dollars to fund energy audits for cities, counties, special districts, public or non-profit hospitals and care facilities. The audit will be conducted by consultants pre-selected by the CEC that will evaluate existing facilities and make energy efficiency recommendations, including an option to perform a feasibility study for alternative energy systems. The consultant team typically includes civil, mechanical and electrical engineers to evaluate facilities. Prior to consideration, the CEC requires the following:

- City Council approved non-binding resolution committing to following the outlined recommendations of the energy audit;
- Completed program application; and
- Twelve months of electricity billing statements identifying peak usage.

Once the application has been submitted and deemed complete, the CEC will dispatch a consultant team from their pre-approved list to conduct the audit. The consultant team will conduct an on-site visit, meet with facility staff, make observations of the facility and collect necessary data. The entire process from application submission to receipt of the energy audit is estimated at approximately three months. The final energy audit report may include, at the request of the applicant, a feasibility study for an alternative energy system to offset energy consumption in excess of recommended efficiencies. Should the City later consider installing an alternative energy system (photovoltaic or solar) to offset up to 100 percent of the energy costs, the initial calculations and sizing will be included within the energy audit that are specific to the facilities evaluated within the energy audit.

The EPP, subject to funding availability, may be used multiple times by any single public or non-profit organization, so long as the recommendations specified in previous audits are substantially implemented.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

As participation in the program described above is cost free and may result in cost savings to the City, staff does not recommend any other alternative.

Respectfully submitted: Ted Shove, Business Analyst

Approved for submission by: Frank J. Spevacek, City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2015 - \_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
LA QUINTA, CALIFORNIA REQUESTING ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the California Energy Commission's Energy Partnership provides technical assistance in identifying energy efficiency improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of La Quinta recognizes that the California Energy Commission has limited funds for technical assistance and that primary consideration will be given to those that are committed to implementing the recommended projects identified through the Energy Partnership Program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of La Quinta, California will endeavor to seek funding, if necessary, to implement the recommended feasible energy efficiency projects as identified through the Energy Partnership Program;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Manager is hereby authorized and empowered to execute in the name of the City of La Quinta; all necessary documents to implement and carry out the purposes of this resolution.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the La Quinta City Council held on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2015 by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

LINDA EVANS, Mayor  
City of La Quinta, California

ATTEST:

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SUSAN MAYSELS, City Clerk  
City of La Quinta, California

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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WILLIAM H. IRHKE, City Attorney  
City of La Quinta, California