

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: March 3, 2008

Reviewed by: *BP*

SUBJECT: City Council Endorsement of the 2nd Annual Greening Albany Event

REPORT BY: Nicole Almaguer, Environmental Resources Associate

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council endorse the 2nd Annual Greening Albany Event being organized by the Green Chamber of Commerce, and that the City contribute \$2,000 for the event.

BACKGROUND

On March 19, 2007 the City Council endorsed the first Greening Albany event that was held on June 3, 2007. The Green Chamber of Commerce organized the event in coordination with the City's Clean and Green Task Force. The event was well received by the community, with over 500 attendees. The event included over 30 information tables of environmental organizations, businesses offering green and sustainable products and services, non-profit organizations, and other local agencies. Additionally, elected officials and environmental leaders had an opportunity to speak at the event about global warming and local action.

DISCUSSION

The Green Chamber of Commerce is planning to hold the 2nd Annual Greening Albany event on Sunday, June 8th. The event will once again be aimed at educating residents and local businesses about global warming, conserving natural resources, and most importantly what they can do to resolve a global problem at the local level.

The Green Chamber of Commerce has agreed to work collaboratively with the City's Sustainability Committee and staff regarding the event. At the Sustainability Committee's February 20th meeting, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend City Council endorse the Greening Albany event and that the City provide a program contribution in the amount of \$2,000 to support the event. A contribution of \$2,000 is recommended given the direct educational benefit this event provides to our local community. The Sustainability Committee will be provided with an information table and an opportunity to organize workshops at the event. The City will also have an information table at the event that will include environmental services reference material and information on the City's green initiatives.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommended contribution of \$2,000 would be taken from the City's Waste Diversion grant funds, which are used to promote waste reduction, recycling and related environmental issues.