

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

Agenda Date: 2/2/2009

Reviewed by: BP

**SUBJECT:** Green Building/Bay Friendly Landscaping Grant in amount up to \$50,000.

**REPORT BY:** Judy Lieberman, Assistant City Administrator

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Accept Green Building/Bay Friendly Landscaping Grant from Stopwaste.org in an amount up to \$50,000 for Civic Center Project.

**BACKGROUND**

In late 2008, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority (Stopwaste.org) approved a Green Building/Bay Friendly Landscaping grant for the Albany Civic Center project. Usually, Stopwaste.org provides these grants to assist cities that wish to use the LEED process to certify green building projects. However, City Council chose not to use the LEED process due to the estimated costs of certification, and due to the combined renovation/new construction that made it difficult to categorize the project. (It should be noted that the City of El Cerrito has spent approximately \$500,000 to LEED certify their City Hall project.) Stopwaste.org allowed the city to receive a Green Building/Bay Friendly Landscaping grant, based upon meeting various Green Building practices, without going through the LEED certification process. In place of the LEED process, the City will be working with Stopwaste.org KEMA Consulting, our contractors (Sausal) and Sentient Landscaping to document our various green building and bay friendly landscaping practices. The initial review by KEMA indicates that the project will achieve the 26 points usually required for basic LEED certification.

**DISCUSSION**

The grant has been approved by Stopwaste.org in an amount up to \$50,000. Of this, \$35,000 is a Green Building grant. If the Civic Center project meets all of the requirements, the full \$35,000 will be received at the end of the project. For every point below the 26 points, the grant is reduced by \$1,500.

The remaining \$15,000 is a Bay Friendly Landscaping Grant. The full amount will be received once the landscaping is completed and reviewed, and based upon meeting the minimum points in the Bay Friendly Landscaping scorecard. Landscaping plans are currently in process, and the preliminary cost estimate is \$115,000.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

The Green Building/Bay Friendly Landscaping process will document and confirm the green building elements and practices being used at the Civic Center project, which are intended to reduce energy and other resource consumption.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Grant of up to \$50,000 depending upon points scored for project. It should be noted that some of these funds may be used to assist the City in documentation of Green Building elements and practices.

### **Attachments:**

1. Grant contract