



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Adopt resolution approving a Public Benefits Program Grant and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a two-year contractual agreement with Enercom/Hometown Connections to provide software for the new Lodi Energy Audit Program (L.E.A.P.) (\$23,200) (EUD)

MEETING DATE: December 19, 2001

PREPARED BY: Electric Utility Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council adopt a resolution approving a Public Benefits Program Grant and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a two-year contractual agreement with Enercom/Hometown Connections to provide software for the new Lodi Energy Audit Program (L.E.A.P.) in the amount of \$23,200.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The requested Public Benefits Grant will be utilized to purchase a software program known as Energy Depot. The web-based program will provide residential and small commercial customers (G-1) with a tool enabling them to better understand their energy consumption, and reduce utility costs. Customers will be able to access an online, do-it-yourself home and business energy audit that combines billing histories with information from a questionnaire completed online by the customer. Other features of the software include:

- An Energy Library, which includes a wide selection of fact sheets that address home and business energy systems, appliances and products; and
- An Energy Quick Calculator, which allows customers to calculate the energy use and costs from energy systems and appliances without completing a full energy audit; and
- An Energy Advisor, an e-mail-based inquiry tool, that customers use to ask personal energy questions. These inquiries can be directed to the City of Lodi Electric Utility Department; and
- The City will receive an American Public Power Association discount totaling \$7,200 over the course of the contract.

Since early 1999, the City of Lodi has offered free home energy surveys and audits, utilizing a computer program known as VoltViewtech. To date, in excess of 400 customers have participated. This new product, Energy Depot, offered by Enercom/Hometown Connections, will allow for a greater range of services and products that the utility feels customers will find invaluable.

FUNDING: 164605 – Public Benefits Program (Category – Demand-side Management)

Funding Available: Vicky McAthie
Vicky McAthie, Finance Director

Alan N. Vallow
Alan N. Vallow
Electric Utility Director

PREPARED BY: Rob Lechner, Manager of Customer Programs
ANV/RL/lst
C: City Attorney Finance Director

APPROVED: H. Dixon Flynn
H. Dixon Flynn - City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-291

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL APPROVING A PUBLIC BENEFITS GRANT, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A TWO-YEAR CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH ENERCOM/HOMETOWN CONNECTIONS TO PROVIDE SOFTWARE FOR THE NEW LODI ENERGY AUDIT PROGRAM

=====

WHEREAS, the state has mandated that beginning January 1, 1998, the City of Lodi is obligated to fund various programs through a Public Benefits Charge (PBC) based on a historical electric revenue requirement; and

WHEREAS, the requirement amounts to approximately \$1M per year that must be dedicated to qualifying programs such as energy efficiency. A further stipulation is that these efforts must be done on the customer's side of the meter in order to qualify; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lodi's Public Benefits Program is comprised of four segments or customer groups: commercial/industrial, residential, community/non-profit, and municipal; and

WHEREAS, this Public Benefits Grant will be utilized to purchase a software program known as Energy Depot. The web-based program will provide residential and small commercial customers (G1) with a tool enabling them to better understand their energy consumption, and reduce utility costs; and

WHEREAS, customers will be able to access an online do-it-yourself home and business energy audit that combines billing histories with information from a questionnaire completed online by the customer. Other features of the software include:

- An Energy Library, which includes a wide selection of fact sheets that address home and business energy systems, appliances, and products; and
- An Energy Quick Calculator, which allows customers to calculate the energy use and costs from energy systems and appliances without completing a full energy audit; and
- An Energy Advisor, an e-mail-based inquiry tool that customers use to ask personal energy questions. These inquiries can be directed to the City of Lodi Electric Utility Department; and
- The City will receive an American Public Power Association discount totaling \$7,200 over the course of the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lodi City Council hereby approves a Public Benefits Program Grant, and authorizes the City Manager to execute a two-year contractual agreement with Enercom/Hometown Connections to provide software for the new Lodi Energy Audit Program in the amount of \$23,200.00.

Dated: December 19, 2001

=====

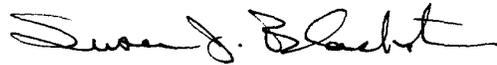
I hereby certify that Resolution No. 2001-291 was passed and adopted by the Lodi City Council in a regular meeting held December 19, 2001 by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – Hitchcock, Howard, Land, Nakanishi,
and Mayor Pennino

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None



SUSAN J. BLACKSTON
City Clerk