

Agenda Report

February 24, 2014

TO:

Honorable Mayor, City Council and Pasadena Unified School Board

Directors

FROM:

Water and Power Department

SUBJECT:

COLLABORATION ON PROPOSITION 39 FUNDING - THE

CALIFORNIA CLEAN ENERGY JOBS ACT

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for information only.

BACKGROUND:

Pasadena Water and Power ("PWP") and the Pasadena Unified School District ("PUSD") have collaborated on numerous energy and water conservation projects over the years. As a PWP customer, PUSD is eligible for incentive funding from PWP's various efficiency incentive programs as well as rebates from the Pasadena Solar Initiative. Last fiscal year, PWP has provided approximately \$139,000 in educational program support, including funding for the Green Living Curriculum, sponsoring PUSD entries in the Solar Cup, and other activities. Recently, PWP contributed over \$550,000 in rebates to support projects under the \$5 million 2009-2010 bond measure.

California's Proposition 39 (2012), the *California Clean Energy Jobs Act*, will provide \$550 million annually statewide to the Clean Energy Job Creation Fund for five consecutive fiscal years beginning with the 2013-14 fiscal year. The goals of the Clean Energy Jobs Act are to create jobs, increase training, develop the workforce, and to stimulate energy efficient retrofits and clean energy installations in schools.

The recently signed Senate Bill 73 spells out the details on specifically how the grant funds will be allocated to California's K-12 schools and community colleges, including detailing a number of requirements to ensure Proposition 39 funds deliver the expected energy efficiency and cost savings. The California Energy Commission ("CEC") was designated through legislation to lead a process with its counterpart state agencies to develop guidelines.

Collaboration on Prop 39 Funding February 24, 2014 Page 2 of 2

The CEC has announced that Public Local Education Agencies ("LEAs"), such as the County Offices of Education, School Districts, and Charter Schools, will receive funding to implement energy efficient retrofits or clean energy installations. Award amounts have been determined based on the LEA's Average Daily Attendance or Free and Reduced Price Meal program participants. PUSD is eligible for \$854,340 in year-one funding that may be used throughout the district, and an additional \$422,306 is designated for specified charter schools.

To receive funding LEAs need to complete the following five steps:

- 1. Apply for Planning Funds;
- 2. Complete Planning Activities (including benchmarking facilities, prioritizing projects, and identifying measures through audits);
- 3. Create and Submit Expenditure Plans to CEC;
- 4. Complete Retrofit Projects; and,
- 5. Annual Reporting.

PWP has been working very closely with PUSD, providing expertise and guidance, to ensure Pasadena takes advantage of all available funding. PWP has participated in various joint meetings and conducted lighting audits at PHS and Muir. PWP is assisting in identifying lighting measures that meet Proposition 39 guidelines and are eligible for PWP rebates while providing the proper lighting level requirements by type of use. With assistance from PWP, PUSD has applied for planning funds, completed planning activities, and issued a request for qualifications from vendors to install efficient lighting retrofits. PWP and PUSD are currently working together to complete the Expenditure Plan to submit to the CEC.

Respectfully submitted,

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