

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of an interagency agreement with King County, to accept reimbursement grant funds in the amount of \$360,835 from the 2023-2024 King County Waste Reduction and Recycling (WRR) Program, to implement WRR projects and programs in accordance with the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

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Utilities Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 1991, the City has received King County WRR Program grant funds to implement outreach and education programs. This Resolution authorizes the acceptance of the WRR Program grant funds for residential, business, and school recycling programs to continue services currently enjoyed by residents and businesses in Bellevue, Beaux Arts Village, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Medina, and Yarrow Point in 2023 and 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10207

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The King County Solid Waste Division makes non-competitive grant funds available to suburban cities to implement residential, commercial, and school waste reduction and recycling programs, in accordance with the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan). The grant, totaling \$360,835, is provided on a reimbursement basis and is retroactive to January 1, 2023. Bellevue's base funding amount for 2023-2024, based on 2020 residential and employment population, is \$260,835. The City also receives an additional \$100,000 to include the five Point Cities in its programs.

The City projects and programs proposed for grant funding are consistent with the Plan. The City currently has an approximate 38 percent waste recycling rate. This grant will help to improve this rate toward a goal of 50 percent by focusing on educating all customer sectors on waste reduction opportunities, as well as on what can be properly recycled and the various means to do so.

The grant provides funding for the following programs:

- 1. Residential waste reduction and recycling programs**

Programs will have an emphasis on reaching the diverse communities in Bellevue, using culturally relevant strategies and will target effective behavior change strategies for both single-family and multifamily residents to encourage waste prevention, recycling, and composting, with an emphasis on reducing single-use plastics and food waste. Programs may include:

- multifamily property manager and tenant outreach and technical assistance,
- materials for reducing food waste and expanding organics service and collection,
- materials for installing and encouraging use of reusable water bottle refilling stations in high-traffic community locations,
- community workshops on topics relating to zero waste of resources,
- waste sorting educational materials and behavior change incentives,
- community event outreach, and
- local and regional partnership programs related to customer education and support for waste reduction and recycling.

2. **Commercial waste reduction and recycling programs**

The City will continue to offer technical assistance to help businesses reduce waste, improve their recycling programs, and increase use of recycled-content products where feasible. Assistance may include:

- one-on-one contact and waste assessments with business owners, managers, and staff to determine the most effective materials and outreach methods for each participating business,
- implementing new statewide solid waste laws such as the organics law, single-use plastics law, and polystyrene food serviceware ban that goes into effect in 2024,
- multilingual materials on proper recycling, composting, reducing single-use plastics, reducing food waste, etc.,
- staff educational presentations and events, and
- assisting businesses with customer campaigns for achieving zero waste of resources.

3. **School and youth waste reduction and recycling programs**

The City will continue to work with the Bellevue School District, private schools in the area, and local youth organizations to help to increase their recycling, composting, waste reduction strategies, and use of recycled-content products. Bellevue residents and participants during a variety of 2020 public meetings relating to the Environmental Stewardship Initiative update shared that they recommend the City promote and teach these messages to youth, for the benefit of training and educating the next generation on resource conservation, and as an effective way to engage families on this topic. This outreach may include:

- support for waste reduction in connection to school meals and cafeterias,
- in-person and virtual classroom workshops,
- providing theatrical storytelling presentations, and
- educational opportunities targeting staff and students to increase knowledge, engagement, and participation in waste reduction and recycling activities.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

The King County 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan designates a variety of waste prevention and recycling programs eligible for funding from the King County Solid Waste Division. The

City projects and programs proposed for grant funding are consistent with the Plan. The City is a party to the Plan and the projects and programs proposed for grant funding are consistent with the Plan.

Fiscal Impact

This agreement formally recognizes receipt of \$360,835 in grant funding from King County to implement waste reduction and recycling projects during 2023-2024. This includes \$100,000 for providing waste reduction and recycling services to residents of Beaux Arts Village, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Medina, and Yarrow Point. City matching funds are not required for acceptance of the grant. This grant is provided on a reimbursement basis and is retroactive to January 1, 2023. Receipt of this grant was anticipated in the 2023-2024 adopted budget for the Operating Grants, Donations, and Special Reserves Fund.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an interagency agreement with King County, to accept reimbursement grant funds in the amount of \$360,835 from the 2023-2024 King County Waste Reduction and Recycling (WRR) Program, to implement WRR projects and programs in accordance with the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff. Failure to enter into the interagency agreement will result in the loss of \$360,835 in grant funding to conduct planned waste prevention and recycling education projects.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 10207

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Proposed Interagency Agreement for 2023 and 2024 between King County and the City of Bellevue (2023-2024 Waste Reduction and Recycling (WRR) Grant Agreement)