

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of an interagency agreement with King County to accept reimbursement grant funds in the amount of \$359,343 from the 2021-2022 King County Waste Reduction and Recycling (WRR) Program to implement WRR projects 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 2021 and 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9878

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 City projects and programs proposed for grant funding are consistent with the Plan. The City currently has an approximate 41 percent waste recycling rate. This grant will help to improve this rate to 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, totaling \$359,343, is provided on a reimbursement basis and is retroactive to January 1, 2021. Bellevue's base funding amount for 2021-2022, based on 2019 residential and employment population, is \$259,343. The City also receives an additional \$100,000 to include the five Point Cities in its programs.

The grant provides funding for the following programs:

1. Residential waste reduction and recycling programs

- Programs will target effective behavior change strategies for both single-family and multifamily residents to encourage waste prevention and recycling. This includes designing well-planned, creative and effective programs that are convenient and engaging for residents. These programs will promote zero waste of resources including waste prevention, recycling, composting, and proper disposal methods. Programs may include multifamily property manager and tenant outreach and technical assistance, community classes and

workshops on topics relating to zero waste of resources, waste sorting educational materials and behavior change tools, community event outreach, behavior change incentives, materials for expanding organics service and collection, 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 and improve their recycling programs. Assistance may include one-on-one contact with business owners, managers, and staff to determine the most effective materials and outreach methods for each participating business, staff educational presentations and events, site assessments, waste audits, written materials, and assisting businesses with campaigns for achieving zero waste of resources. Assistance may also include partnerships with local participating paint retailers to support increased recycling of latex paint through the new statewide Paint Care program. This outreach may also include business waste reduction and recycling education, and additional education and information pieces, on topics such as why reducing and recycling food waste is important, proper recycling and composting (reducing contamination), reducing the use of single-use plastics, best practices for achieving zero waste of resources, or common questions and answers about recycling and composting. Within this outreach, the City will also look for opportunities to recognize business waste reduction and recycling efforts that stand out as above and beyond the standard effort.

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. This may include providing theatrical storytelling presentations, in-person and virtual workshops, support for waste reduction in connection to school curbside meals to go for free and reduced meal programs, and educational opportunities targeting staff and students to increase knowledge, engagement, and participation in waste reduction and recycling activities. 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.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

The King County 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 under the Amended and Restated Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement with King County signed in 2017.

Fiscal Impact

This agreement formally recognizes receipt of \$359,343 in grant funding from King County to implement waste reduction and recycling projects during 2021-2022. 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, 2021. Receipt of this grant was anticipated in the 2021-2022 adopted budget for the Solid Waste Fund.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an interagency agreement with King County to accept reimbursement grant funds in the amount of \$359,343 from the 2021-2022 King County Waste Reduction and Recycling (WRR) Program to implement WRR projects 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 \$359,343 in grant funding to conduct planned waste prevention and recycling education projects.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9878

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Proposed Interagency Agreement for 2021 and 2022 between King County and the City of Bellevue (2021-2022 Waste Reduction and Recycling Program Grant Agreement)