

## SUMMARY – CITY OF MILWAUKEE ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the City of Milwaukee is slated to receive \$5.8 million in funds under the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). The City submitted their application to the U.S. Department of Energy on June 25, 2009 for these funds.

The new energy efficiency grant is designed to help state and local governments meet their goals for reduced energy use and reduced green house gas emissions. The City of Milwaukee applied the following principals in designing a program – Prioritizing energy efficiency as the cheapest and fastest way to reduce energy costs; using loan funds and other repayment mechanisms to keep these federal funds circulating in Milwaukee’s economy; and investing in programs like energy retrofits that will put people to work.

Specifically, when our application is approved, we will use funds to continue energy efficiency retrofits in City buildings – saving energy and reducing costs to Milwaukee taxpayers. We will make investments to improve the energy efficiency of our fleet. We will pilot new, energy saving LED streetlights in one Milwaukee neighborhood allowing us to test this new technology while saving operating and maintenance costs.

We will make funds available for residents and businesses to pay for the upfront costs of energy efficiency improvements. Specifically, funds will also be used to provide operating capital for the Milwaukee Energy Efficiency (Me2) program, which will help homeowners pay for the upfront costs of residential energy efficiency improvements and allow them to pay back the costs of improvements using savings in energy costs. Funds will be granted to the Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation to make low interest loans for businesses who want to improve energy efficiency in their facilities. Additional funds will be made available to businesses who engage energy service companies to help them implement energy saving measures.

Milwaukee worked with the Wisconsin Office of Energy Independence and Milwaukee and Waukesha counties in preparing our application to make sure that the region was making the most of federal funds for energy efficiency.

Milwaukee expects to receive funds beginning in October or November 2009. When funds are available, we will solicit bids for contractors to help install energy efficiency measures.

The funding breakdown looks like this:

Energy Efficiency retrofitting and audits of City buildings – 48%  
Fleet improvements – 2%  
LED lighting pilot 8%  
(City buildings, operations and fleet – 58%)

Residential energy efficiency (incentives for homeowners) – 25%  
Business energy incentives – 17%

This breakdown in funding between City owned facilities and projects in businesses and residences is consistent with reports from other cities on how they are proposing to spend their block grant funds.