


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 20 2007

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF A RENEWAL GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR FY 2008 PASS-THROUGH FUNDING FROM THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM

ISSUE: City Council consideration of submission of a renewal grant application to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for FY 2008 pass-through funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for the City of Alexandria Air Pollution Control Program.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the City Manager to:

- (1) Submit a renewal grant application to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for FY 2008 pass-through funding from EPA, in the amount of \$39,630 for the City Alexandria Air Pollution Control Program; and
- (2) Execute all necessary documents that may be required.

DISCUSSION: The annual EPA pass-through Air Pollution Grant represents approximately 10 percent of the total funding for the City's Air Pollution Control Program administered by the Department of Transportation & Environmental Services, Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The purpose of the City's Air Pollution Control Program under the Clean Air Act is to monitor and improve the air quality in Alexandria and the Metropolitan Washington area, thus improving the quality of life for all Alexandrians and their neighbors. The City has been receiving the Air Pollution Grant from the EPA since the early 1970.

The work program for the City's Air Pollution Control Program has three areas, including Enforcement/Compliance, Monitoring, and Asbestos Control. DEQ staff operate an air quality monitoring network 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, which is fully integrated with the State's monitoring program. DEQ staff routinely inspect activities involving asbestos throughout the City such as demolitions and asbestos removal. DEQ is also responsible for the implementation of City's Air Quality Action Days program and has developed and maintains a Web Page for the

City's Website with emphasis on public education/outreach on the ground level ozone and PM 2.5 related issues and Air Quality Action Days program.

FISCAL IMPACT: To apply for this grant, the City must maintain a level of funding comparable to the preceding year. The FY 2008 budget for the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services includes \$358,540 in General Fund monies for this program that will satisfy the comparable funding requirement. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will provide up to \$39,630 in pass-through funding from the EPA.

In addition, the City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant. These costs include financial and reporting oversight provided by the administering agency, as well as by the Office of Management and Budget and by the Finance Department. It should be noted that there are no additional monies available in the City budget to continue these activities once the grant funds are expended, and should the grant monies not be renewed, there are no funds budgeted to continue these activities.

STAFF:

Richard J. Baier, P.E., Director, Transportation and Environmental Services
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