

1
City of Alexandria, Virginia

14
10-14-08

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 2, 2008

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATION TO THE COCA-COLA/NATIONAL RECYCLING COALITION, RECYCLING BIN GRANT PROGRAM, FOR RECYCLING CONTAINERS

ISSUE: Consideration of a grant application to the Coca-Cola/National Recycling Coalition, Recycling Bin Grant Program, for 60 recycling containers.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the City Manager to:

- (1) Submit the grant application (due October 17), requesting 60 recycling containers, and
- (2) Execute all documents that may be required.

BACKGROUND: The grant application was made available to the public on September 22, 2008. This program allows for a maximum request of 60 recycling containers per applicant.

The Vision statement of the City of Alexandria 2008 Eco-City Charter states,

“We see Alexandria as a city where social well-being is supported by a strong economy and sustained by a healthy environment. Specifically, we envision Alexandria as a city that: Minimizes Waste: Where we reuse and recycle materials and significantly reduce our volume of solid waste and toxic chemical releases.”

The City has used white, cardboard, recycling containers in its offices and facilities for over five years. These containers require frequent replacement because of long-term use and insubstantial cardboard construction. The requested recycling containers are single-stream containers that allow for the disposal of beverage containers and paper in the same container, and are the industry norm. They will replace the cardboard containers presently in use by the City, which require independent bins for beverage containers (paper, metal, glass) and paper.

DISCUSSION: The Coca-Cola/National Recycling Coalition, Recycling Bin Grant Program, supports local community recycling goals by providing containers to selected grant recipients for the collection of recyclables in public settings. The City is expanding its efforts to promote recycling in public spaces throughout Alexandria, and towards that end, has purchased 80 blue, single-stream, 23-gallon recycling containers. If awarded, this grant will support those efforts by providing up to 60 additional blue containers of the same make and model as those recently purchased by the City. This will assist in establishing a permanent, single-stream recycling collection system throughout the City. The containers will be made with 25-55 percent recycled content, and they will be placed in public spaces, such as recreation centers and libraries. The new, easily identified bins are expected to lead to increased recycling, and contribute to the City's recycling goal of 35 percent, which exceeds the state mandate of 25 percent. The funder, Coca-Cola, does not require any labeling on the bins.

FISCAL IMPACT: There are no matching requirements for this grant. If awarded, the donation of up to 60 bins would defray City costs by \$61 per bin, or a maximum of \$3,675. The City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant, as well as the staff hours involved in the receipt and distribution of the donated units.

ATTACHMENTS: None

STAFF:

Rich Baier, Director, Transportation & Environmental Services

William Skrabak, Director, Office of Environmental Quality

Alton Weaver, Division Chief, Transportation & Environmental Services Solid Waste Division

Malik Williams, Grants Manager, Transportation & Environmental Services