



## Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Inspections

Date: October 8, 2004

To: Public Safety and Regulatory Services

Referral: Ways and Means Committee

**Subject: Requesting permission to accept EPA grant funds for a "Sustainable City Center: Capturing Power from the Sun" project**

### **Recommendation:**

That your Committee authorize the proper city officials to execute a contract with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency accepting \$100,000 in funds to be used for the installation of a photovoltaic power system; further, that the activities performed shall be payable from Federal Grants fund 0300-835-8396, and that the General Appropriation Resolution be amended by increasing the appropriation for Environmental Services in Federal Grants fund 0300-835-8396 by \$100,000.00.

Prepared or Submitted by: Guy Fischer, Environmental Services

Approved by:

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Merwyn Larson, Director Inspections

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Rocco Forte, Assistant City Coordinator

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John Moir, City Coordinator

Presenter in committee: Guy Fischer

### **Financial Impact** (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain): Request is covered by grant funds.
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

## **Background/Supporting Information**

The Division of Environmental Services has been awarded a sustainability grant of \$100,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to fund the installation of a 10-12kW photovoltaic (ability to convert sunlight into energy) power system on Minneapolis Fire Station #6 (121 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St). The system will prevent the annual release of 50 pounds of nitrogen oxides, 210 pounds of sulfur dioxide, and 20,000 pounds carbon dioxide into the environment. It will also serve as a demonstration project; showcasing the energy savings and pollution reduction benefits of solar technologies. The City will work with the MN Department of Commerce via the U.S. Department of Energy's Million Solar Roofs Initiative to remove market barriers to solar energy use and develop and strengthen local demand for solar energy products and applications. No city funds are required for this project.

