



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Finance

Date: May 16, 2011

To: ~~Honorable Elizabeth Glidden, Chair Regulatory, Energy, and Environment Committee~~

Referral to: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways & Means/Budget Committee

Subject: **Authorization to Accept \$25,000 State of Minnesota Grant for Installation of 2 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in the Haaf Parking Ramp.**

Recommendation:

- a) That the proper City officers be authorized to accept a grant award "Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle Task Force Grant" from the Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security (OES) to receive \$25,000 for the purchase and installation of two electric vehicle charging stations in the Haaf parking ramp, receivable to 01300 6800600 G3680EV.
- b) That the proper City officers be authorized to negotiate and execute documents associated with the grant.

Previous Directives:

- October 8, 2010– Accepted \$20,000 grant from Xcel Energy for the purchase of a Transit Connect electric vehicle. This grant requires installation of at least one electric vehicle charging station in a public parking ramp.

Prepared by: Brian Millberg, Property Services, 673-3024

Approved by:

Heather Johnston, Interim Chief Financial Officer, Finance Dept.

Steven Bosacker, City Coordinator

Presenters: Brian Millberg, Energy Manager

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval _NA Date _____

Civil Rights Approval Approval _NA Date _____

Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval _NA Date _____

Financial Impact

The cost of purchasing and installing the two charging stations will be completely covered by the \$25,000 grant from the Minnesota OES. There will be additional electricity charges every time a charging station is used. The total yearly cost to the City, of two vehicles using the charging stations 8 hours each work day, would be less than \$1,200.

Action is within the Business Plan

Community Impact

City Goals: Livable Communities, Healthy Lives; and Eco-Focused

Background/Supporting Information

The October 8, 2010 agreement with Xcel Energy provided funds for the purchase of a Transit Connect electric vehicle; and required the City of Minneapolis to install at least one electric vehicle charging station in a public parking ramp. The Haaf ramp has been chosen as the location for installing two charging stations for the following reasons:

- The Haaf ramp will have a 40kW solar PV array on its top level by the end of September, 2011. This provides a tie-in to renewable energy and the use of electric vehicles, in essence charging the electric vehicles with carbon neutral electricity.
- The Haaf ramp is in close proximity to City Hall and is located on the skyway system.
- The two parking spots for the charging stations can be placed just before the exit booths of the Haaf ramp, providing visibility of the stations to everyone who uses the ramp.

The charging stations that will be installed are manufactured by Coulomb Technologies and are listed as a qualified unit on the State of Minnesota contract E-108(5). The chargers will be purchased from Carbon Day Automotive. The units will be dual rate chargers capable of charging a vehicle with a Level I standard 120V plug-in cord, or using the Level II 240V special cable that is supplied with the charger. The chargers are connected to web-based software that will allow the City to constantly monitor the use of the units.

The plan is to provide free electricity to the customer who uses the charging unit. As an example of cost per charge, the Nissan Leaf requires 24kWh of electricity to charge its battery from 0% to 100% charge. This would be accomplished in 8 hours with the Level II cable, and would cost the City \$2.16 at our current electricity rates. If the two chargers were used 240 days a year for a full charge, the total cost to the City would be \$1,037 a year. Thus, the electricity bill for the Haaf ramp would increase less than \$100 a month.

The decision by the Public Works Traffic and Parking Department to absorb the operating costs is limited to these first two charging stations only. As more charging stations are added by the City, this financial model will be revisited.