

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 05/02/11	Item Number: <u>A-3</u>
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the City to Participate in the Community Energy Partnership.	
Contact Person/Dept.: Helen Kerstein/PW Phone Number: (310) 253-5618	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒ General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐ Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒ Date: _____	
Public Notification: (Email) Agenda and Meetings – City Council (04/27/11); (Email) Mark Olson and Larry Sutton, Southern California Edison (04/27/11); (Email) Laurel Rothschild, Community Energy Partnership (04/27/11)	
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (04/19/2011)	City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (04/26/11)
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (04/27/11)	City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (04/27/11)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Community Energy Partnership, which is part of Southern California Edison's Energy Leader Partnership program.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Southern California Edison's Energy Leader Partnership is a program designed to assist local governments in meeting their energy efficiency goals. The program, which is funded by ratepayers through "public goods" charges on utility bills, creates partnerships between local governments and the utility. Through these partnerships, the program provides the funding for the incentives, marketing, education and outreach, technical assistance, and administration necessary to achieve measurable energy savings in municipal operations and the larger community.

There are several established partnerships in the region. Three possible partnerships provided presentations to staff and to the Sustainability Subcommittee. Based on these presentations and additional research, staff recommends participating in the Community Energy Partnership (CEP). The Sustainability Subcommittee concurs with this recommendation.

CEP is a collaboration among Southern California Edison (SCE), seven other member cities (Brea, Corona, Irvine, Moreno Valley, San Bernardino, Santa Monica, and Santa Clarita), and The Energy Coalition (the Coalition), which is a non-profit focused on promoting energy efficiency. CEP is the longest running city/utility

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

partnership in California, and has a track record of success. Between 2004 and 2009, the program reports that it saved 82.9 million kWh of energy, thus avoiding 44,100 tons of greenhouse gas emissions (the equivalent of taking 7,646 vehicles off the road).

By adopting the attached resolution, the City Council will authorize the City to join the CEP. As a member, the City will receive technical assistance with auditing City facilities and benchmarking City energy use, outreach and education aimed at staff and the larger community, and other free CEP resources. Furthermore, participation will qualify the City for additional rebates of between \$0.03/kWh saved and \$0.09/kWh saved on its energy efficiency projects (the additional rebate amount depends on the overall amount of energy savings achieved by the City).

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no expected budget impact from joining the CEP. The City's participation will be paid for from ratepayer charges set aside by the Public Utilities Commission for that purpose. All of the project funding agreements are held and managed by the Coalition. The Coalition will also be responsible for project administration, measurement and evaluation reporting, and all fiscal accounting. The City will need to coordinate with the CEP, but that effort will be achieved using existing staff resources.

As noted above, the City will receive enhanced rebates through the program, thus generating some financial savings. If participation in the program results in reduced energy use in City facilities, there will also be a commensurate reduction in the City's energy bills. However, if participation encourages energy savings in the community at-large, there may also be a small reduction in Utility User's taxes collected by the City, which could potentially offset some of the savings the City might achieve from participating in the program.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Resolution

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Community Energy Partnership