



RON ROBERTS
SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: April 13, 2010

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY AND APPROPRIATE LAWN AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT PROJECT FUNDS TO ENHANCE THE MOWING DOWN POLLUTION PROGRAM (DISTRICT: ALL)

SUMMARY:

Overview

For the past ten years, the Air Pollution Control Board has held the highly successful Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower Trade-in event. At each event, residents turned in their completely equipped and operable gasoline lawnmowers with the fuel and oil removed. After a lawnmower was accepted for exchange, residents received a new Black & Decker cordless electric lawnmower for \$150. All of the old lawnmowers turned in during the events were recycled.

The success of the Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower Trade-in event has enabled the Air Pollution Control District to receive an award of up to \$150,000 from the California Air Resources Board's Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement Project. This is a request to adopt a resolution authorizing the Air Pollution Control Officer or his designee to accept and administer the Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement Project pursuant to the Air Quality Improvement Program, and to appropriate \$150,000 in the Air Pollution Control Operation Fund. Of this amount, \$135,000 is designated for the purchase of cordless electric lawnmowers and the remaining amount is for reimbursement of administrative costs.

This is also a request to direct the Air Pollution Control Officer to hold this year's Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower Trade-in event on May 1, 2010, and make available up to 785 cordless, rechargeable, electric lawnmowers for San Diego County residents for a new, lower price of \$99.99 as a result of a reduced lawnmower price from the vendor and the grant award.

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Recommendation(s)

SUPERVISOR ROBERTS

1. Find that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the proposed action may have a significant adverse effect on the environment, and that this action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15061(b)(3).
2. Approve the resolution delegating authority to the Air Pollution Control Officer or designee, to accept and administer the Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement Project funding pursuant to the Air Quality Improvement Program. [4 VOTES]
3. Direct the Director of Purchasing and Contracting to negotiate a purchase agreement with Black and Decker, Inc not to exceed \$327,000 for up to 1,570 cordless, rechargeable, electric lawnmowers for the period May 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.
4. Direct the Air Pollution Control Officer to hold this year's Lawnmower Trade-in event on May 1, 2010, and authorize up to \$17,500 for event costs.
5. Direct the Air Pollution Control Officer to hold a Lawnmower Trade-in event on May 1, 2010, that exchanges up to 785 gasoline-powered lawn mowers for new, non-polluting cordless, rechargeable, electric lawnmowers for \$99.99 each.
6. Direct the Air Pollution Control Officer to hold a subsequent Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower Trade-in event no later than June 30, 2011.

Fiscal Impact

Funds in the amount of \$106,000 annually are included in the Fiscal Years 2009-2011 Operational Plan. If approved, this request will result in costs and revenue of \$150,000 bringing the total project costs to \$362,000 for two fiscal years ending June 30, 2011. Up to 1,570 lawnmowers will be purchased for an amount not to exceed \$327,000. The remaining \$35,000 will be used for the facilities, printed materials, advertising, and the disposal of old lawnmowers and hazardous waste. If approved, this request will result in no increase in current year costs and revenues and no increase in subsequent years' costs and revenue. This will require no net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

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BACKGROUND:

The Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower Trade-in event has been a noteworthy regional success story. At the conclusion of this year's event, we will have distributed 5,180 zero-emission lawnmowers since the launch of the program in 2000. The benefit to the San Diego County community is a reduction of over 15 tons per year of volatile organic compound emissions (which are ozone precursors). This is equivalent to eliminating the hourly emissions from approximately 140,760 late model automobiles. Clearly, the Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower Trade-in event is making a difference in San Diego County by improving air quality and, ultimately, protecting public health and enhancing our quality of life.

On January 12, 2010, the California Air Resources Board awarded \$150,000 in Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement (LGER) project funds to the Air Pollution Control District (District) to be spent no later than June 30, 2012. Of this amount, \$135,000 is designated for the purchase of electric lawnmowers and \$15,000 is for the reimbursement of administrative costs.

A competitive procurement was utilized through the issuance of a request for bids on February 26, 2010. Black and Decker, Inc.'s bid, with The Home Depot performing cashiering functions, was selected as the most competitive bid. A cordless, electric, rechargeable lawnmower has been selected to avoid the tripping and electrical hazards that can result from the use of extension cords. Also, the selected model has a mulching feature that will mitigate the volume of lawn clippings going into our landfills. The cordless electric lawnmowers, which typically retail for \$399 each, will be obtained for a special price of \$308 per unit. Residents will pay \$99.99 per unit (including sales tax) and the District will offset the remaining balance for each lawnmower with funding from the LGER lawnmower grant award (\$135,000) and two years of District appropriated funds for lawnmowers (\$96,000 annually) for a total of \$327,000. The District specified that the final payment to Black and Decker, Inc. will depend on the number of electric lawnmowers distributed at the trade-in event(s).

Residents will be required to drain and properly dispose of the fuel and oil from their existing lawnmowers prior to the exchange. These lawnmowers will also be required to be completely equipped and operable, including but not limited to a properly attached handle, all four wheels, motor, blade, housing and starting mechanism (rope or switch). To ensure proper disposal of the old lawnmowers (including draining fuel and oil from them as needed) and hazardous materials, a hazardous material hauler and a recycling company will be hired to oversee the destruction and recycling of the large stockpile of exchanged lawnmowers.

Environmental Statement

To date, the Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower Trade-in event has resulted in a reduction of over 15 tons per year of volatile organic compounds (ozone precursors) emissions. Additional reductions will come from the future trade-in events conducted under this program. Pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant adverse effect on the environment. Since this program positively impacts air quality and the environment, it is exempt from CEQA.

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Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan

N/A

Respectfully submitted,

RON ROBERTS
Supervisor, Fourth District

ATTACHMENT(S)

[Click here & type]

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:
N/A

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:
N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:
N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):
N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Fourth Supervisorial District

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET
(continued)

CONCURRENCE(S):

COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes			
Written Disclosure per County Charter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
Section 1000.1 Required					
GROUP/AGENCY FINANCE DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	
GROUP/AGENCY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	
COUNTY TECHNOLOGY OFFICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	
Group/Agency Human Resources Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	

Other Concurrence(s): N/A

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:
