



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: April 21, 2011

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Wanda S. Page, Deputy City Manager
From: Bertha T. Johnson, Budget and Management Services Director
Jay Reinstein, Strategic Initiatives Manager

Subject: National Center for Civic Innovation Trailblazer Supplementary Assistance Grant

Executive Summary

On March 8, 2011, the City of Durham's Budget and Management Services department was awarded a \$3,000 Trailblazer Supplementary Assistance Grant from the National Center for Civic Innovation. The grant will enable the City to more effectively engage the community by providing additional workshops in an effort to solicit feedback on the citywide strategic plan and the design of the new Performance Management System dashboard.

Recommendation

The Administration recommends that the City Council adopt the 2011 Trailblazer Grant Project Ordinance and authorize the City Manager to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$3,000.

Background

The National Center on Civic Innovation contacted the City of Durham in January 2011 to announce the availability of the Trailblazer Supplementary Assistance Grant. The City applied for the grant in February to provide additional community workshops and printed materials in an effort to solicit feedback on the design of the Performance Management System dashboard.

On March 8, 2011, the City was notified that it was awarded a \$3,000 Trailblazer grant to provide financial assistance during the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The grant must be used to increase and improve outreach to the public. All grant obligations must be completed by October 31, 2011. The City is implementing a strategic plan to assist in guiding the organization towards a common mission and set of goals.

The City of Durham conducted its first Citizen Engagement Workshop on February 26, 2011 to gather feedback on the new Performance Management System dashboard. This was the

first in a series of citizen engagement workshops to be scheduled through October 31, 2011. At the workshop fifteen citizens also signed up to participate on a Citizens Oversight Committee focusing on the development of the dashboard. This grant will be used to support the committee.

Issues/Analysis

The goal of the Trailblazer Grant is to increase and improve outreach to the public as a part of the City of Durham’s Strategic Plan implementation process.

Alternatives

Council may choose not to approve the Grant Project Ordinance, which would reduce the scope of the Citizen Engagement workshops, as well as quality and quantity of printed materials.

Financial Impact

This item will have no impact on the City’s general fund.

SDBE Summary

This item is to receive a grant. It was not reviewed by the Department of Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance for compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

Attachment:

- Grant Project Ordinance