



AGENDA MEMO

CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2006

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Resolution Adopting the City of Las Vegas Green Building Program

Proposed Green Building Program

Summary

Green Building helps the city to achieve its strategic priorities through reducing the impact new development has on our environment. This resolution will recognize homes and residential builders that participate in the Southern Nevada Green Building Partnership, direct the city to build public buildings to Green Building standards, and to authorize the City Manager to establish a City Green Building Fund.

The establishment of this fund, beginning in 2008, will reallocate approximately \$1,000,000 of the incremental increase in franchise fees from the general fund to the City Green Building Fund. The reallocation of funds will be capped at \$2,500,000 in any given year.

Background

The city of Las Vegas has established as key strategic priorities:

- Create, integrate and manage orderly and sustainable development and growth in our community;
- Promote sustainability, livability and pride in our neighborhoods; and
- Promote healthy lifestyles for all segments of our community.

Green Building considers natural resources, environmental Considerations, and peoples health in every stage of the building process, including the design, construction and operation of the built environment; helping the city achieve these key priorities.

The city of Las Vegas has recently undertaken a number of sustainability initiatives including the passage of a Climate Protection resolution, adoption of the Traditional Neighborhood Development land use category, designation as one of Americas Best Workplaces for Commuters, and the conversion of most of the city's non-emergency fleet to alternative fuel vehicles.

Additionally, the city of Las Vegas is a member of the United States Green Building Council and a founding member of the Southern Nevada Green Building Partnership.

As Green Building is more practical than ever before, the city of Las Vegas, together with our community partners has developed this evolving program to support and expand sustainable development.

Proposed

The proposed Green Building Program includes residential, public buildings, and financing components.

The residential component of the Green Building Program recognizes homes independently certified to meet the requirements of the Southern Nevada Green Building Program, including:

- Resource Efficiency;
- Energy Efficiency;
- Water Efficiency;
- Indoor Environmental Quality;
- Operation, Maintenance and Homeowner Education; and
- Global Impact.

Homes certified in this program will be issued a certificate and decal by the city, and participating builders will be recognized by the city as well.

The city also commits to use its best efforts to ensure that all public buildings built by and for the City are built to Green Building standards, consistent with those standards adopted by the state of Nevada for state buildings.

The City Manager will be directed to allocate a portion of the incremental increase in Franchise Fees beginning in Fiscal Year 2008 to a newly-established City Green Building Fund.

These monies will be used to fund building, renovation and maintenance of city buildings to LEED-Silver or equivalent standards, to fund other green building and sustainability initiatives, and to fund public education efforts.

City staff will prepare an annual report on the progress of Green Building and sustainability initiatives, including its environmental benefits to our community.

Actions

All homes built in the City and certified as meeting the requirements of the Southern Nevada Green Building Partnership will be recognized in the City's Green Building Program.

Builders participating in the Southern Nevada Green Building Partnership will be listed in a Green Building section on the City's website and will be provided with information on the City's Green Building program for their sales offices and model homes.

Each participating home will be given a certificate and window sticker to authenticate its participation.

The City will continue to work with the Southern Nevada Green Building Partnership to ensure that this remains a dynamic and responsive program for the City, its residents and the development community.

The City will use its best efforts to ensure that all public buildings built by and for the City are built to USGBC's LEED-Silver level or other equivalent standard, as

identified by the Director of the Nevada State Office of Energy.

Beginning with Fiscal Year 2008, the City will dedicate 25% of any incremental increase in the aggregate amount of franchise fees collected from providers of electricity, gas, and solid waste collection services over the aggregate amount of those fees collected in 2007, not to exceed \$2,500,000 in any single year, in order to fund any increased costs associated with the construction of new public buildings, costs for the renovation or maintenance of existing facilities to LEED-Silver level or other equivalent standard, and the funding of green building and sustainability incentives and the development of public education programs. This revenue will be designated as the City's Green Building Fund.

The City Manager is directed and authorized to take necessary actions to implement all aspects of the City's Green Building Program as set forth in this Resolution, including the establishment of a budget for the utilization of the Green Building Fund.

The City will prepare an annual report documenting achievements in increasing the number of green buildings in the City and the resulting environmental benefits, to include savings in energy, reduction in consumptive use of water, reduction in green house gas production, and conservation of natural resources.