



**RAMSEY/WASHINGTON
RECYCLING & ENERGY**
CONNECTING VALUE TO WASTE

R&E BOARD MEETING DATE:	October 22, 2020			AGENDA ITEM:	VI.e	
SUBJECT:	MPCA Capital Assistance Program Grant Application					
TYPE OF ITEM:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	POLICY DISCUSSION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACTION
SUBMITTED BY:	Joint Leadership Team (JLT)					

R&E BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Affirm that the R&E Board will implement the R&E Center system enhancements project, provide necessary local financing, and accept and exercise the governmental powers necessary to develop and operate the project.
2. Pledge to use all funds made available exclusively for the capital cost of the project and to pay any additional amount by which the cost of the project exceeds the estimate by appropriation to the construction fund of additional funds or proceeds of additional bonds of the R&E Board. The R&E Board recognizes that any subsequent withdrawal of allocated or additional funds of the R&E Board will impair the obligation of contract between the state of Minnesota, the R&E Board and the bondholders.
3. Authorize the Joint Leadership Team (JLT) to sign the Final Capital Assistance Program Grant Application and the Capital Assistance Program Grant Agreement on behalf of the R&E Board.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Recycling & Energy Board (R&E Board) has been engaged in policy development to achieve environmental, economic and social benefits through the Recycling & Energy Center (R&E Center) since 2013. To achieve these goals, the R&E Center will require expansion and system improvements. At its May 2019 meeting, the board stated its intent to move forward with the enhancements. This triggered a series of actions, including approval of financing and procurement plans at its August 2019 meeting, authorization to proceed with development of construction-ready engineering documents, and pursuit of partial funding from the State of Minnesota. In May 2019, Ramsey County, on behalf of Ramsey/Washington R&E, submitted applications to Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) capital assistance grant program (CAP) to request funding in the 2020 state bonding bill.




On October 14, 2020, the 91st Minnesota legislature, during its fifth special session, approved a bonding bill with an appropriation for \$7,000,000 in general obligation bond proceeds to construct the proposed enhancements at the R&E Center. The funding will be administered by the MPCA through the CAP grant program. As a step in the process toward execution of a final grant agreement for the receipt of state bonding funds, a Capital Assistance Program Grant Application must be submitted to the MPCA. The application includes submission of a resolution with verbiage as indicated in Minn. Stat. § 115A.54, subd. 3. A draft resolution with this required verbiage is attached.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft resolution

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This resolution is necessary to receive a state appropriation of \$7 million through the MPCA CAP grant for the R&E Center.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE
JOINT LEADERSHIP TEAM 	10/21/2020
RAMSEY COUNTY ATTORNEY 	10/21/2020
WASHINGTON COUNTY ATTORNEY 	10/21/2020



RESOLUTION R&EB-2020-17

WHEREAS, Ramsey and Washington Counties have in place County Solid Waste Management Master Plans (“Master Plans”) approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), which clearly state the policy goal of maintaining and improving an integrated system of solid waste management that supports Minnesota’s hierarchy of solid waste management; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plans affirm the processing of waste, for recovering energy and recyclables, and other beneficially usable materials, as the preferred method to manage solid waste that is not reduced, reused or recycled; and

WHEREAS, the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) Board is governed by the amended and restated joint powers agreement by and between Ramsey County and Washington County dated September 22, 2015 (“Joint Powers Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, R&E has completed a preliminary engineering design and is completing construction-ready design and engineering documents for a project to install enhancements to the Ramsey/Washington R&E Center that would recover source separated organic waste in durable compostable bags and add equipment for removal of recyclables; and

WHEREAS, the R&E Board applied to receive funding from the State of Minnesota to assist with construction of the proposed enhancements project (“project”) to provide this necessary public service through the MPCA capital assistance grant program; and

WHEREAS, Laws 2020, 5th Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 1, Section 8, Subdivision 5 appropriated \$7,000,000 in general obligation bond proceeds for R&E to construct the project under the solid waste capital assistance grant program; and

WHEREAS, the MPCA administers the solid waste capital assistance grant program under statutes and program rules Minn. R. 9210.0100-.0180 and requires the submission of a final grant application, including the submission of resolutions as indicated in Minn. Stat. § 115A.54, subd. 3. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, The R&E Board will implement the project, provide necessary local financing, and accept and exercise the governmental powers necessary to develop and operate the project. BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, The R&E Board pledges to use all funds made available exclusively for the capital cost of the project and to pay any additional amount by which the cost of the project exceeds the estimate by appropriation to the construction fund of additional funds or proceeds of additional bonds of the R&E Board. The R&E Board recognizes that any subsequent withdrawal of allocated or additional funds of the R&E Board will impair the obligation of contract between the state of Minnesota, the R&E Board and the bondholders. BE IT FURTHER

Draft Resolution: MPCA Capital Assistance Program Grant Application

RESOLVED, The R&E Board hereby authorizes the Joint Leadership Team (JLT) to sign the Final Capital Assistance Program Grant Application and the Capital Assistance Program Grant Agreement on behalf of the R&E Board.

Fran Miron, Board Chair
October 22, 2020

Attest
October 22, 2020