



Meeting Date: 05 / 15 / 07

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Prepared By: Martin R. Erickson Agenda Item No. I-8

Reviewed By: City Manager [Signature] City Attorney [Signature] Finance SW Other (Specify) _____

DATE: May 10, 2007

TO: City Council

FROM: Martin R. Erickson, Legislative Affairs Manager
City Manager's Office [Signature]

SUBJECT: Support of Energy and Environment Block Grant Proposal Sponsored by Congressman Albert Wynn

RECOMMENDATION

That City Council execute a letter of support to Congresswoman Lois Capps for the "Energy and Environment Block Grant Act of 2007" sponsored by Congressman Albert Wynn.

DISCUSSION

Congressman Albert Wynn's Energy and environment block grant legislation would dedicate funding to the City for development and implementation of strategies to improve the City's energy efficiency. Specifically, Congressman Wynn's legislation follows Housing and Urban Development (HUD's) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) in many key respects. It authorizes initial funding at \$4 billion annually, roughly equivalent to the current CDBG funding level (although rises to \$6 billion by FY 12). Similarly, the legislation allocates formula funds to cities of 50,000 and more, counties of 200,000 and more and all states to serve non-formula cities and counties. It provides flexibility to use funds for the development and annual implementation of locally determined strategies to improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In a departure from CDBG, this new energy and environment block grant program allocates funds solely on the basis of population.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact at this time.

Attachment #1 Letter Supporting Energy and Environment Block Grant Act of 2007

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May 15, 2007

The Honorable Lois Capps, Congresswoman
United States House of Representatives
1707 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for Congressman Albert Wynn's "Energy and Environment Block Grant of 2007"

Dear Congresswoman Capps:

The Oxnard City Council hereby expresses its support for the energy and environment block grant proposal being sponsored by Congressman Albert Wynn. There are several features of Congressman Wynn's proposal that the City Council strongly endorses.

First, the proposal would make 70 percent of the funding available to units of local government and would fund cities the size of Oxnard directly. The legislation would allow the City to use the funding for development and implementation of strategies to improve the City's energy efficiency. The City Council supports the proposed distribution formula for the block grant funding based on population.

Oxnard has made significant progress to improve energy efficiency in its vehicle fleet operations and buildings. The City Council will use the energy efficiency block grant to strengthen and expand our efforts. As a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the City Council encourages you to cosponsor the energy block grant proposal when it is introduced.

Please do not hesitate to contact Edmund F. Sotelo, City Manager at (805) 385-7430 should you have any additional questions about this proposal. Thank you again for your past assistance and support of Oxnard.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas E. Holden
Mayor

Dean Maulhardt
Mayor Pro Tem

John C. Zaragoza
Councilmember

Andres Herrera
Councilmember

Timothy B. Flynn
Councilman

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ATTACHMENT 1
PAGE 1 OF 1