



EECBG Program Background

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EECBG Program

- Energy efficiency and conservation block grant program passed in 2007 and funded under ARRA or the “Stimulus Bill”
- Formula awards were given to 2,300 Cities and Towns
 - Chapel Hill received \$554,900
- Program could be refunded as early as 2011, though at a lower level
 - Initial award is an opportunity to jump-start a self-sustaining program

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Chapel Hill’s EECBG Program Strategy

- \$50K devoted to creating the Town’s EECBG strategy
 - Due to DOE at the end of January (180 days after the award)
- Over a dozen options have been vetted by Town staff and the Sustainability Committee during December



Options Considered

Municipal Facilities

1. Municipal Lighting
2. Municipal HVAC
3. Contract Energy Manager
4. Solar Grove

Town-Wide

1. On-bill Financing
2. Special Assessment Financing
3. Neighborhood Canvass
4. Efficiency 2.0
5. On-Bill Utilities Feedback
6. Refrigerator Replacement
7. Solar Thermal Program



Recommendations: Focus on residential financing and municipal operations

Municipal Facilities

1. Municipal Lighting
2. Municipal HVAC
3. Explore Public Housing Performance Contract
 - Solar Thermal
 - Refrigerator Replacement
 - AC Unit Replacement

Town-Wide

“Residential Financing”

Could include:

- On-bill Financing
- Efficiency 2.0
- Rebates and Incentives
- Other Options



State Energy Office is developing programs that may support Chapel Hill's strategy

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Direct Assistance to Town

- **Direct Grant Programs:** Targeted at municipal buildings
- **Revolving Loan Fund:** To be created, \$18M total
- **Internship Program:** \$30-\$500K available to fund interns to support Town's strategy

Indirect Assistance to Town

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- **Customer Appliance Rebate Program:** 15% rebates on major home appliances with Energy Star-rating during Earth Day weekend 2010
- **Residential Energy Audits:** Matching funds to owners of existing homes for energy audits and implementation of EE measures (Cash for Caulkers)
- **Energy savings for small business and industry:** SEO to provide technical expertise and incentives up to 25% of project cost to a max of \$100K
- **Commercial renewable energy system grants:** Grants to commercial facilities to implement renewable energy projects up to 25% of project costs up to \$100,000 per project



Winning the competitive EECBG grant would bolster current strategy

SEEA Competitive EECBG Application

- Pursuing \$1M additional funding through the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance
 - 5:1 leverage requirement
- 50% chance of winning
 - March award
 - June contract
 - Late 2010 implementation
- Explicit partnership with Carrboro

Overlap with Current Strategy

- On-bill Financing
- Neighborhood Canvas Program
- Revolving Loan Fund
- Special Assessment Financing Program
- On-bill Feedback



Recommendations: Focus on residential financing and municipal operations

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Public Facilities Upgrades

- \$135K of EECBG investment for municipal lighting and HVAC
 - Less than 5 year paybacks
 - Easy to track savings and demonstrate results
- Also \$20K - \$100K to pursue performance contracting in public housing
 - AC, refrigerators, solar hot water

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Residential Financing and Incentives

- \$200K – 280K of EECBG investment
- Several options to be considered
 - On-bill financing
 - Incentives
 - Behavioral programs