

MICHAEL V. O'BRIEN
CITY MANAGER



CITY OF WORCESTER

29 A

September 13, 2005

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend the approval of the attached resolution and summary to apply for eleven thousand eight hundred and thirty seven dollars (\$11,837.00) under the Clean Energy Choice Matching Grant program being administered by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative.

I intend to utilize these funds to contract with a part-time Energy Coordinator who will analyze potential costs and economic benefits of incorporating green/clean energy technologies in new building and construction designs and capital rehabilitation projects. With these funds, and the hiring of an expert who can recommended green/clean energy alternatives to the city, I intend to seek and identify fossil fuel alternative energy consumption technologies that will reduce city costs in its new and existing buildings, and other energy conservation programs. This is a most timely endeavor given the staggering per unit increases the city faces with the projected higher energy costs this winter. It will be critical for the city to identify these new clean and green energy technologies and lower overall consumption if we are to reduce Worcester's demand on fossil fuel energy consumption. Give the amount of money spent by the city for energy commodities small reductions in those areas do amount to substantial citywide savings that will be necessary to keep the city's budget in balance. Per the City Council resolution adopted March 29, 2005, I also intend to name an ad hoc committee comprised of individuals with a range of expertise and knowledge to assist in the coordination of this both short term and long term.

I will keep City Council apprised of this initiative and will periodically report on our progress to introduce green/clean energy technologies into the city's construction and building designs and rehabilitation and our efforts to reduce energy consumption and generate costs savings through alternative energy sources.


Respectfully submitted,

Michael V. O'Brien
City Manager

MICHAEL V. O'BRIEN
CITY MANAGER



CITY OF WORCESTER

TO: Michael V. O'Brien, City Manager 

FROM: John P. Prankevicius, Chief Financial Officer

DATE: September 8, 2005

RE: Massachusetts Technology Collaborative
Clean Energy Choice Matching Grants
Summary and Resolution

The Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation, "a public instrumentality of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, doing businesses as the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC) and administrator of the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust (RET) has established the Clean Energy Choice (CEC) Program. The MTC will apply RET funds up to a total aggregate amount for all Massachusetts cities and towns of \$1,250,000 to match a portion of customer contributions to MTC and/or payments made to suppliers under CEC, and will provide the applicable portion of the CEC Community Match to the customer's city or town to be used for eligible renewable energy projects."

The amount Worcester earns is dependent upon the number of participants who pay a premium for renewable energy through GreenUp/Clean Energy Choice. Worcester has been allocated match funds in the amount of \$11,836.68 for clean energy premiums paid by Worcester residents and organizations from October 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. The City will accumulate additional amounts each quarter and can submit an application for those amounts as soon as they are awarded—approximately 30 days after each calendar quarter ends. Because almost \$12,000 was generated in a 9-month period, and assuming the participation remains the same with perhaps additional participants, the City could expect to earn between \$3,000 and \$4,000 each quarter.

Through the Clean Energy Program, Worcester is eligible to submit an application for the MTC funds that support eligible projects including renewable electricity generating equipment; clean energy educational materials and activities (e.g., bus rental enabling students to visit renewable energy sites/field trips); building analysis and improvements including an energy modeling study, data acquisition equipment for a solar photovoltaic system, or a solar photovoltaic system for a municipal building or school; or leverage toward funding from another renewable energy trust. There is no deadline for the application.

The City of Worcester is interested in applying for funds, in collaboration with the Regional Environmental Council (REC), to contract with an Energy Coordinator who will conduct assessments of current clean/green energy projects, determine future clean/green energy programs, and expand the City's green energy efforts through partnerships and collaborative initiatives. Through these studies, the part-time Energy Coordinator will evaluate the City's potential cost savings relating to alternative energy choices.

**A RESOLUTION TO FILE AND ACCEPT A MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY
COLLABORATIVE CLEAN ENERGY CHOICE MATCHING GRANT THROUGH
THE MASSACHUSETTS RENEWABLE ENERGY TRUST**

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC) has awarded funds under the Clean Energy Choice Program (CEC) to Massachusetts cities and towns matching a portion of customer contributions to MTC and/or payments made to suppliers under the CEC Community Match; and

WHEREAS: The MTC will provide the applicable portion of the CEC Community Match to the customer's city or town to be used for eligible renewable energy projects; and

WHEREAS: Worcester has been awarded \$11,836.68—the match for clean energy premiums paid by Worcester residents and organizations from October 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005; and

WHEREAS: The City will accumulate additional amounts each quarter, and there are no application deadlines; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester intends to submit an application to contract with an "Energy Coordinator" to conduct an assessment of current City clean energy practices and projects, review potential clean energy projects, and develop partnerships to expand the City's clean energy initiatives;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file and accept a grant application with the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative;
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file information as required by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative;
3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes and conditions of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative;
4. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant administered by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative;
5. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.