

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Mark McCauley, County Administrator

FROM: Brent Butler, Chief Strategy Officer, AICP
Cindy Jayne, Vice Chair, Climate Action Committee

DATE: March 18, 2024

SUBJECT: Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy + Resiliency (C-PACER)
Implementation Grant

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

The Board of County Commissioners ("Board") identified a range of projects, programs and activities to incentivize building resiliency and economic development within Jefferson County. The Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency (C-PACER) program had appeared on the Department of Community Development's ("DCD") project list in 2023, and prior years. After a duly noticed public hearing on October 9, 2023, and a public session on October 23, 2023, the C-PACER program was adopted as Ordinance Number 04-1009-23 and Resolution Number 46-23 respectively adding Chapter 15.20 to the Jefferson County Code and establishing associated fees. Since few if any commercial, agricultural or multifamily building owners are aware of the C-PACER program, the Chief Strategy Officer contacted the Climate Action Committee ("CAC") regarding the feasibility of using the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) to promote the program's goals in alignment with the CAC's core mission.

ANALYSIS:

The C-PACER program would be in conformance with the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan ("CP") because the program encourages the adoption of programs, policies and procedures that increase energy efficiency in publicly funded infrastructure (see CP page 149), partnerships with other stakeholders such as the Public Utility District #1 (see CP page 331), and resource consuming facilities (CP page 356), among other areas. Through discussions with the program administrators of Pierce and Whatcom counties, the county has learned that other counties struggle securing sufficient capacity to promote the program. For this reason, staff proposes applying for the attached grant to retain an intern, who could work with the CAC to promote the program by advancing energy audits on behalf of Jefferson County's efforts to reduce greenhouse gases.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact anticipated is limited to the completion of the grant application, as the grant authorizes recovering the cost for administrative services up to 10% of grant amount.

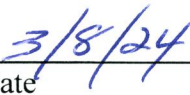
RECOMMENDATION:

After a discussion of the pros and cons of this grant with the Climate Action Committee, consider applying for an award that advances the CAC's core mission.

REVIEWED BY:



Mark McCauley, County Administrator



Date