



Legislation Text

File #: 23-1346, Version: 1

Resolution to Accept an Award from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity in the amount of \$652,453.00 for the Ann Arbor Climate Corps AmeriCorps program and Appropriate Funding in the amount of \$652,453.00 **(8 Votes Required)**

The City of Ann Arbor applied, through the State of Michigan, to the national AmeriCorps program for the creation of an Ann Arbor Climate Corps (A2C2) program that includes funding to support 10 AmeriCorps members in Ann Arbor. Each Member will serve for 1700 hours between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2024, with the Members focusing on conducting community education and engagement around climate action (i.e., ways to participate in A²ZERO), and providing stewardship support to enhance natural system preservation.

This summer, the City was notified that its application was chosen to receive \$224,471.00 to advance the A2C2 program. In the application, the City agreed to a \$237,788.00 cost share (provided through the local Community Climate Action Millage - which was budgeted in the FY24 budget) and \$190,194.00 in in-kind staff support time to manage and work with the Members.

Unfortunately, the City has not yet received the final grant award and associated grant agreement for this program. In light of this, City staff are asking for Council authorization to formally accept and appropriate the \$224,471.00 in funding from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity for creation of the Ann Arbor Climate Corps program, subject to final review by the City Attorney's office.

Budget/Fiscal Impact: The City will be reimbursed by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity for \$224,471.00 of expenditures related to this award. The local match of \$427,982.00 has already been budgeted in the FY24 budget within the Community Climate Action Millage fund.

Prepared by: Missy Stults, Sustainability and Innovations Director

Reviewed by: Marti Praschan, Chief Financial Officer

Approved by: Milton Dohoney Jr., City Administrator

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor is committed to achieving a just transition to community-wide carbon neutrality as outlined in the A²ZERO plan;

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor is working on multiple community facing programs and initiatives to advance the goals outlined in A²ZERO;

Whereas, Staff capacity to educate and engage with a large portion of the public around A²ZERO is limited;

Whereas, The City applied to the national AmeriCorps program to work with 10 AmeriCorps members under a new Ann Arbor Climate Corps program to help advance community education and engagement around A²ZERO, and to enhance natural system preservation initiatives;

Whereas, The City's application was chosen for award in the amount of \$224,471.00, with a local match of \$237,788.00 which was budgeted in the FY24 Community Climate Action Millage fund, along with \$190,194.00 in in-kind staff support which will be provided by staff in the Office of Sustainability and Innovations and the Natural Area Preservation team to support the A2 Climate Corps program; and

Whereas, The City has not yet received the final grant agreement from the State of Michigan but the State has authorized the program to begin as early as September 1, 2023;

RESOLVED, That City Council accept a grant award from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity for the purpose of creation of the Ann Arbor Climate Corp program in the amount of \$652,453.00;

RESOLVED, That City Council appropriate \$652,453.00 in the FY24 Major Grants Fund with the source of revenue being \$224,471.00 from the grant award from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity and \$427,982.00 as a transfer from the Community Climate Action Millage;

RESOLVED, That City Council authorize the Mayor, City Clerk, and City Administrator to execute all documents necessary to complete the Grant requirements, including but not limited to the Grant Agreement, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney;

RESOLVED, That all amounts herein are without regard to fiscal year, and

RESOLVED, That the City Administrator be authorized to take the necessary actions to implement this resolution.