



**Request for City Council Committee Action
Health Department**

Date: June 22, 2015

To: HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
COMMITTEE

Referral to: WAYS & MEANS/BUDGET COMMITTEE

Subject: RECEIVE REVENUE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE FOR
THE GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM

Recommendation:

Council authorization for the proper City officials to:

1. accept an estimated revenue not to exceed \$60,000 from Environmental Initiative for the Green Business Program, and
2. increase both the revenue estimate in fund/department 01600-8600155 (revenue code 372001) and the 2015 appropriation in fund/department 01600-8600155 not to exceed \$60,000.

Previous Directives None

Prepared or Submitted by: Becky McIntosh, Director of Planning & Administration
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Approved by:

Gretchen Musicant, Commissioner of Health

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval ____ Not Applicable X
Policy Review Group (PRG) Approval ____ Date of Approval ____ Not Applicable X

Presenters in Committee: Patrick Hanlon, Manager Environmental Initiatives
Bill Droessler, Environmental Initiative

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

X Action requires an appropriation increase to the ____ Capital Budget or X Operating Budget.

X Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase.

Background/Supporting Information Attached

The Department is requesting to receive up to \$60,000 from the Environmental Initiative for the Health Department's Green Business Matching Grant Program. The partnership between Environmental Initiative (EI) and The City of Minneapolis Health Department's Green Business Matching Grant Program is part of a larger collaborative effort known as Clean Air Minnesota. Clean Air Minnesota is a public private partnership to address air quality in Minnesota. The basic premise of Clean Air Minnesota is that we can accomplish more working together across organizational and jurisdictional lines than we can separately.

The partnership between EI and the City helps protect the health of people in our

neighborhoods, our workers in Minneapolis businesses and their exposure to chemicals. At the same time, it gives businesses innovative tools to create safer and more productive places to work.

Through the Clean Air Minnesota partnership, Environmental Initiative provides funding for the Green Business Program to support the city's goal of reducing emissions and improving air quality in Minneapolis. The EI funding will be used to invest in clean air projects. Four projects have already been approved for funding for 2015. Environmental Initiatives financial support of the Green Business Matching grant program makes it possible for these projects to move forward. These four projects will result in a reduction of 24,000 pounds of volatile organic compounds annually. This is equivalent to 3% of our total annual industrial emissions in Minneapolis. Another way to look at this is that this reduction has the same overall impact as removing the 8th highest emitting business in Minneapolis. Instead, the four projects planned have production improvement and cost reduction potential making for stronger businesses in our city.

Using the City of Minneapolis Green Business Matching Grant Program as a model, Minnesota created a statewide program in 2014. This private-public partnership between Environmental Initiative, The University of Minnesota Technical Assistance Program, private businesses, and the City of Minneapolis is once again providing leadership in emission reductions across the state.

The Green Business Matching Grant Program is a program of the City of Minneapolis Health Department and is supported through a panel of the American Lung Association (ALA), Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED), Center for Earth Energy and Democracy(CEED), Community Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC), and the University of Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MNTAP)

This innovative partnership speaks to our city values and goals and is specifically mentioned in *Great Places*.

Minneapolis Values

Health - This partnership protects the health of people in our neighborhoods and limits the risk of direct exposure to volatile organic compounds and fine particulates and indirectly to ground level ozone.

Growth - In addition to protecting human health this partnership also provides the tools for growth by business. The innovative projects funded through this partnership allow business to be safer and also more productive.

Minneapolis Goals and Strategic Directions

A hub of economic activity and innovation: Businesses-big and small-start, move, stay and grow here.

- Strategies with our City and regional partners are aligned, leading to economic success.

Great Places: Natural and built spaces work together and our environment is protected

- We sustain resources for future generations by reducing consumption, minimizing waste and using less energy.

