

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR, UPON REVIEW OF CORPORATION COUNSEL TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH A CONSULTANT CHOSEN THROUGH A FORMAL BIDDING PROCESS TO PERFORM AN INVESTMENT GRADE WIND STUDY, INCLUDING PURCHASING METEOROLOGICAL TOWERS FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$86,000 WHICH WILL COME FROM UNEARMARKED RESERVE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT'S BUDGET

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JUNE 20, 2007

WHEREAS, by resolution the Board of Commissioners instructed the Director of Planning and Environment to study the potential for wind power in Washtenaw County on April 19th, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Planning and Environment hired a consultant to advise the County on how to proceed with a wind test; and

WHEREAS, the consultant provided a report which recommended specific areas in the County, issues to keep in mind, potential pitfalls and approximate cost for the study; and

WHEREAS, the next phase of the Washtenaw Wind project requires the requisition of an 80 meter meteorological tower and professional services to conduct a year long, investment grade wind study; and

WHEREAS, the consultant estimated the cost for this next phase of the project to be \$86,000; and

WHEREAS, the County maintains a General Fund contingency account of \$100,000 designated as Unearmarked Reserves for use at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners for initiatives/issues that arise following the budget adoption; and

WHEREAS, this is an appropriate use of the Unearmarked Reserves because the Board of Commissioners have expressed wind power as one of their goals and because this initiative is in alignment with the County's Guiding Principles; and

WHEREAS, the recommendations of this report were presented to the Board of Commissioners at a working session on April 19th, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Board voiced its continued support for this project at the working session; and

WHEREAS, if funding is approved, the Department of Planning and Environment will issue a Request for Proposals in June of 2007, and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resources, the County Administrator's Office, and the Ways and Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to sign contracts upon the review and approval of Corporation Counsel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board allocates \$86,000 dollars from Unearmarked Reserves to the Department of Planning and Environment's budget to cover the costs of conducting an investment grade wind study.