



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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TO: Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Rebecca A. Head, Director
Environment & Infrastructure Services

DATE: June 17, 1998

SUBJECT: A resolution ratifying the County Administrator's signature on the US EPA
Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking (EMPACT)
Grant Application.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Department of Environment and Infrastructure Services requests that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners ratify the County Administrator's signature on the EMPACT grant application in the amount of \$834,936 for the period of October 1, 1998 through September 20, 2000.

BACKGROUND

Washtenaw County, local universities, agencies, and non-profits collect crucial environmental information that is often available in a format not easily understood by the public. Moreover, data seldom reaches the targeted audience due to funding constraints and insufficient communication methods. These combined factors make it cumbersome for citizens to make time relevant health and safety decisions utilizing information that is available. Washtenaw County and a group of diverse Partners will attempt an innovative project that will provide accessible and useful environmental information to the public to assist in making day-to-day health and safety decisions.

DISCUSSION

Through this grant, the Department of Environment and Infrastructure Services and Partners will pursue the following objectives: 1. To use existing or expanded available information pertaining to but not limited to water, soil, and atmosphere. 2. To provide interpretation of this information in a way that is understandable by the public. 3. To provide an intensive public outreach and education campaign regarding environmental information that is citizen and community focused, and publicizes its availability and use in assessing its impact on health and safety decision making. 4. To develop and implement methods to sustain

an environmental information program for continued delivery to the community. 5. To actively seek input from the community to modify, enhance and improve project information, interpretation and delivery system.

Expected results are a better-informed public that is able to access environmental information to make knowledgeable decisions in their daily lives.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

This grant, if awarded, will be implemented with current staff and will provide funding for one full time grant status Management Analyst I/II (Program Analyst), and one full time grant status Management Assistant (Webmaster/Outreach Coordinator), and provide for 50% reimbursement of salary and fringe benefits for a current Environmental Response Coordinator (Project Manager) (2931-0001 G).

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

The grant, if awarded, in the amount of \$834,936 will cover project costs of personnel supplies, contracts, travel, equipment and software expenditures. The Environmental Protection Agency will provide \$576,792 in federal grant funds. The 30% match requirement (\$258,144) will be met through in-kind contributions in the amount of \$231,647 from each of the partners and a cash match contribution in the amount of \$26,497 from the United States Geological Survey .

Indirect costs are allowable per grant guidelines and have been calculated to be \$27,606.

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IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

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The grant will be a collaborative effort among a variety of partners. Grant partners include the following organizations: Huron River Watershed Council, Michigan State University – Cooperative Extension Services, United States Geological Survey, University of Michigan – School of Natural Resources and Environment and Michigan Net – National Weather Service.

The partners will work together to provide this data to a diverse population of urban and rural residents by forming a Stakeholder Advisory Group. This group will include all Partners as well as community representatives, local government, environmental organizations, media and local educators and business and industry. This group will meet regularly and form working committees as necessary.

The Washtenaw County website will be the primary information access point. A user-friendly, interface for extracting information from new and existing databases will be developed for the website.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICY

This request conforms to county policy.

PREPARED BY

Donna Southwell, Environmental Response Manager
Department of Environment and Infrastructure Services
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A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SIGNATURE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON THE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING FOR PUBLIC ACCESS AND COMMUNITY TRACKING (EMPACT) PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$834,936 FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 1998 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2000

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 1, 1998

WHEREAS, a wealth of environmental data are being collected by the County, universities, agencies and non-profits; and

WHEREAS, environmental information seldom reaches the targeted audience making it difficult for citizens to make time relevant health and safety decisions; and

WHEREAS, DEIS proposes to facilitate a collaborative approach to interpret and deliver crucial environmental information to the public; and

WHEREAS, this grant will provide stakeholders with information that has long been their "right to know", but to which they have rarely had access; and

WHEREAS, DEIS has submitted a grant proposal in partnership with Huron River Watershed Council, Michigan State University – Cooperative Extension Services, United States Geological Survey, University of Michigan – School of Natural Resources and Environment and Michigan Net – National Weather Service to the Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of \$576,792 to secure funding for project implementation and staffing for the period of October 1, 1998 through September 30, 2000; and

WHEREAS, the 30% match requirement of \$258,144 will be met through in-kind contributions that total \$231,647 from each of the partners and a cash match in the amount of \$26,497 from the United States Geological Survey to purchase equipment; and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the signature of the County Administrator on the application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking Program in the amount of \$834,936 for the period of October 1, 1998 through September 30, 2000 as on file with the County Clerk

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the grant application:

1. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Approving the budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof
1. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk
2. Authorizing the creation of the following grant status positions:

<u>Position #</u>	<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Group #</u>	<u>Created</u>
2719-0032	Management Analyst I/II	27/29	32	1.0 FTE

Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking (EMPACT)

Environmental Health
EMPACT Program
MY- -620-6269-5000

	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue:			
500 Federal Revenue	\$0	\$576,792	\$576,792
668 Other Rev & Reimb	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$258,144</u>	<u>\$258,144</u>
Total	\$0	\$834,936	\$834,936
Expenditures:			
700 Personal Services	\$0	\$376,090	\$376,090
725 Supplies	\$0	\$52,201	\$52,201
800 Other Serv & Charges	\$0	\$299,406	\$299,406
950 Capital Outlay	\$0	\$79,633	\$79,633
920 Internal Serv Charges	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$27,606</u>	<u>\$27,606</u>
Total	\$0	\$834,936	\$834,936

Indirect Costs = \$27,606

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