



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
220 NORTH MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 8645
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48107-8645
(734) 222-6850
FAX (734) 222-6715

TO: Conan Smith, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Anthony VanDerworp, Director
Office of Strategic Planning

DATE: March 4, 2009

SUBJECT: Ann Arbor Region Success Strategy "Big Ideas" grant

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners ratify the electronic submission of the Ann Arbor Region Success Strategy "Big Ideas" grant application to the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation for a total program amount of \$306,480 for the period of May 1, 2009 through April 30, 2011.

BACKGROUND:

Washtenaw County convened a group of community leaders in late 2007 which resulted in over seventy community leaders and experts representing the public, not-for-profit and private sectors developing the new Ann Arbor Region Success Strategy (Success Strategy). These leaders and experts spent an entire year identifying key community assets required to achieve sustained economic growth, assessing our current assets, developing a long term vision for success, and identifying the most important actions to take to be successful.

The Success Strategy is a long term community action strategy that identifies the critical community assets that we must have in place to successfully compete in a knowledge-based economy. It includes a long-term vision to be successful, three key strategies for developing our assets, the most important actions to take, and an implementation strategy that focuses our leadership and fiscal resources toward action.

Based on this work, the regional leaders adopted a long term vision for our region: "The Ann Arbor region is the place where world changing innovation happens." This vision reflects our ability to grow innovation jobs and companies given our research and development assets and recognizes that innovation companies will be the fastest growing sector in the future.

DISCUSSION:

In developing this regional strategy, the leaders reviewed several regional implementation models and determined the most successful model would be to have this Success Strategy community-owned. Therefore some “community” organization (not a government or economic organization) is needed to achieve this community ownership. This grant application is to fund for a two year period Project Management staff to support the Success Strategy Co-Chairs in implementing the most important actions needed to achieve sustained economic growth in the region. The grant request also includes in-kind commitments from local organizations for housing the Success Strategy name and Project Management staff.

IMPACT ON PERSONNEL:

The Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning Director will provide the initial oversight and transition to project management staff.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

The requested Board action would authorize the Administrator to accept the grant award of \$306,480 over a two year period beginning May 1, 2009. The Office of Strategic Planning has applied for \$199,320 in grant funding agreeing to \$107,160 in In-Kind contributions from both local organizations to provide office space, operating expenses and a portion of administrative support to the project (partially supplied by Washtenaw County). A match in County General Fund dollars is not required.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

None.

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

This project will continue the strong collaboration between Washtenaw County and local business and not-for-profit agencies.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This action is in conformance with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:

Attachment A “Big Ideas” grant application to the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation and Budget

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF THE "BIG IDEAS" GRANT APPLICATION TO THE ANN ARBOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE ANN ARBOR REGION SUCCESS STRATEGY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$306,480 FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2009 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2011; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; APPROVING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 4, 2009

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has committed to collaborating with local governments, businesses and not-for-profit agencies and to providing leadership for long term county-wide sustainable economic development; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County convened a group of community leaders in late 2007 which resulted in over seventy community leaders and experts representing the public, not-for-profit and private sectors developing the new Ann Arbor Region Success Strategy (Success Strategy); and

WHEREAS, the Success Strategy is a long term community action strategy that identifies the critical community assets that we must have in place to successfully compete in a knowledge-based economy; and

WHEREAS, the Success Strategy includes a long-term vision to be successful, three key strategies for developing our assets, the most important actions to take, and an implementation strategy that focuses our leadership and fiscal resources toward action; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide project management staff to support the Success Strategy Co-Chairs in implementing the most important actions needed to achieve sustained economic growth in the region; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County has applied for the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation "Big Ideas" grant in the amount of \$199,320 to fund project management support over a two year period; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Finance Department, Corporation Counsel, Human Resources, 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 electronic submittal for an Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation "Big Ideas" grant in the total program amount of \$306,480 for the period of May 1, 2009 through April 30, 2011.

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 Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the Budget, as attached hereto and made a part here of
3. Authorizing the Administrator to Sign delegate contracts, upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk

Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning
 Ann Arbor Region Success Big Ideas Grant
 Fund: 1211
 Fiscal Year: 5/1/09 – 4/30/11

Revenues		Original	Revised	Variance
58000	Local Revenue	\$ 0	\$ 199,320	\$ 199,320
69000	In-Kind Contributions	\$ 0	\$ 107,160	\$ 107,160
		\$ 0	\$ 306,480	\$ 306,480

Expenditures		Original	Revised	Variance
70050	Personal Services	\$ 0	\$ 186,120	\$ 186,120
72600	Supplies	\$ 0	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,200
80000	Other Services & Charges	\$ 0	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
93500	In-Kind Charges	\$ 0	\$ 107,160	\$ 107,160
		\$ 0	\$ 306,480	\$ 306,480