



VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WORKSHOP MEETING AGENDA

MEETING DATE: April 23, 2024
AGENDA ITEM SECTION: Discussions
AGENDA ITEM NO. : 2
AGENDA ITEM: Identification of project for use of funds from Clean Energy Communities Grant
ITEM BACKUP DOCUMENTATION: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Grant Discussion Notes: April 2, 20242. Clean Energy Community (CEC 3.0) Grant Overview

Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Grant Discussion

Notes

April 2, 2024

I. Timeline and Process

○ Application/Submission

- The \$175,000 grant award notification was dated February 22, 2024.
 - The due date for the Application is **May 22, 2024**.
- The \$250,000 grant award notification was dated March 27, 2024.
 - The due date for the application is **June 27, 2024**
- The \$10,000 grant award notification was dated March 26, 2024.
 - The due date for the application is **June 26, 2024**
- The \$20,000 grant award has yet to be granted but expect it to come in within the next 2 weeks, with an application due 90-days hence

○ Approval

- Each grant must have its own separate grant application.
- If combining projects, the application can be the same. It just needs to be submitted twice.
- In addition to the grant application, a **Letter of Commitment** on municipal letterhead (signed by the chief elected official of the applying jurisdiction) as well as one quote for the cost of the project must be submitted. (If combining projects, only one Letter of Commitment is needed and can be resubmitted.)
- Once submitted, each application will take approximately 4 – 6 weeks for review by NYSERDA.

○ Project timeline

- Projects will have 36 months to be completed beginning with the start date indicated on the application. Setting the start date approx 3 months out is recommended to allow for preliminary arrangements.

II. Project Ideas:

A. Large grants (\$175k, \$250k)

- Replacing Village vehicle/s with EV and possible Level 3 charging station
 - Police/Traffic Vehicle
 - Would need a level 3 charging station for police
 - Level 3 charging station has maintenance cost and high power costs – grant funds can not be used for these expenses
 - There is a vehicle turnover rotation in place, so it would mean figuring out where in the rotation these vehicles fit.
 - Could start with a traffic vehicle and one police car to see how well it works.
 - We should reach out to other municipalities that have municipal EVs to learn from their experiences.
- Electrifying additional Village-owned buildings
 - Memorial Park Rec building
 - The building currently has a very dated, inefficient system that barely made it through the winter.
 - Could be a relatively small project and save on future capital needs of the Village
 - Library
 - Administration facilities account for 49% of Dobbs Ferry Government Operations GhG emissions and following the electrification of the Village Hall, the Dobbs Ferry library is now the Village's largest GHG emitting facility. It is extremely inefficient and costs a significant amount of money to maintain/fix
 - Significant price tag – ballpark figure around \$1M+ but SD will follow up with Terry Guiry from Honeywell to see if he has a more solid number
 - Would likely require the village to supplement the difference from the \$425,000 grant funds.

- Timing could be more of an issue given: 1) the need to submit the project proposal by the established deadline and 2) the possible need for a commitment of Village funds. However, SD will also ascertain if the project can be effectively carried out in stages.
 - Significant impact in the community given social benefits of the Library, including as a place of refuge for people during periods of extreme cold and heat
 - Village owned solar and/or storage installation
 - Train Station
 - Community members would likely want to weigh in on any potential free-standing solar projects that would impact views or enjoyment of the waterfront (e.g. a solar canopy along the lines of Croton-on-Hudson approach)
 - Library and DPW
 - Both buildings currently have rooftop solar installations, but the panels are dated and much less efficient than current technology
 - Could upgrade both solar arrays to get better return and reduce GHG emissions
- B. Smaller grants (\$10k, \$20k)
- Electric Lawn Equipment
 - DPW
 - Relatively low-cost project
 - Electric leaf-blowers would enable Village to use equipment year-round, given current gas leaf blower restrictions
 - Village to act as role-model for residents in the use of electric lawn equipment

Clean Energy Community (CEC 3.0) Grant Overview

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*Importantly, there is an additional \$10, 000, and most likely another \$20,000, in grant monies that will fall under these stipulations for a total amount of funds available - **\$455,000**.*

Projects must be ready to commence within three months of award notification and should be completed within three years of contract execution. Clean Energy Communities grant funds must be used for new work.

Pre-approved projects include:

- *Installation of solar*
- *Purchase of electric vehicles (Road and Non-Road vehicles)*
- *Installation of electric vehicle charging stations (can include a Level 3 charger for municipal EVs)*
- *Conversion of streetlights to LED*
- *Building Study Energy Upgrades*
- *Building Heat Pumps*
- *NYPA Clean Energy Solutions projects*
- *Purchase of electric landscaping equipment*
- *Implementation of eligible building upgrades recommended in a Clean Energy Communities Energy Study or ASHRAE Level II or III Energy Audit completed no more than five years prior to application*

*For each funding award, both the **Grant Application** and a **Letter of Commitment** on municipal letterhead (signed by the chief elected official of the applying jurisdiction) must be uploaded to the NYSERDA Portal.*