



DATE: September 24, 2007

RUC CONSENT ITEM #070035

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Regional Utilities Committee
Commissioner Donovan, Chair
Commissioner Braddy, Member
Commissioner Lowe, Member

SUBJECT: Carbon Footprint Assessment Tool – Referral Item #070035

Executive Summary:

This item involves a request for \$10,000 from City Commission Contingency to purchase a carbon footprint assessment tool.

Recommendation:

The City Commission approve and authorize funds in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 to be allocated from City Commission Contingency Funds for the purchase of a carbon footprint assessment tool and remove this item from the referral list.

Explanation:

On May 14, 2007 the City Commission referred the Gainesville Energy Advisory Committee's recommendation to purchase a carbon footprint assessment tool to the Regional Utilities Committee. This tool, being developed by Mr. Mark Van Soestbergen, would be web-based and allow customers to determine their personal carbon footprint using pre-populated energy consumption data provided by GRU.

At its July 10 and September 11 meetings the Regional Utilities Committee received information from Mr. Van Soestbergen and staff on how the tool was being developed and how it would work. As a result, it is the recommendation of the RUC that the City Commission authorize the use of Contingency Funds for this purchase. In addition it is recommended that staff work with Mr. Van Soestbergen to apply for an APPA DEED grant requesting funding for this project. If that grant is awarded, which is expected in the March/April 2008 timeframe, the contingency funds would be reimbursed.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact would be that the City Commission authorize expenditure of \$10,000 from its contingency fund for this purchase.

Prepared and Submitted by Karen Johnson, General Manager for the Regional Utilities Committee