

W. T. B. I.

Memorandum Date: August 29, 2006
Order Date: September 20, 2006

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Sarah Grimm, Waste Reduction Specialist, x 4339
Patti Hansen, Waste Management Division Manager, x 3761

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE ANNUAL K-12 WASTE REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM AND DIRECTING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION TO DEVELOP INSTRUCTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN LANE MANUAL.

I. MOTION

MOVE THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE ANNUAL K-12 WASTE REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM AND DIRECT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION TO DEVELOP INSTRUCTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN LANE MANUAL.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The Board is being asked to approve the annual K-12 Waste Reduction Grant program and to direct Solid Waste Management Division to develop instructions for inclusion in Lane Manual.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

In the winter of 2002-03, a request was made for an increase in the Recycling and Waste Reduction budget to cover a small grant program to assist schools in implementing waste reduction and recycling activities. The \$3,000 was approved through the budget and work to create the program began. The program was implemented at the start of FY 2003-04, without realizing that this type of program needed to be presented to the Lane County Board of Commissioners separately.

Lane County partnered with the City of Eugene to initiate the grant program in the fall of 2003. The program was a success and helped not only to provide additional opportunities to reduce, reuse and recycle, but also helped provide much needed practical education to Lane County students.

Schools that received grant funding include; Corridor Elementary, Harris Elementary, Kelly/da

Vinci/Yugin Gakuen Middle School, Marist High School, Meadow View School, Temple Beth Israel School, Fern Ridge Middle School, Creswell High School, Cesar Chavez Elementary School, Pleasant Hill Middle School, Churchill High School, Territorial Elementary School, Page Elementary School, Ridgeline Montessori Public Charter School, Eugene Waldorf School.

Programs that have started from these grant funds include; paper recycling collection, food composting with worm bins and other compost systems added to school garden projects, waste free lunch kits, increased recycling education with tours, presentations and supplies for student run campaigns, as well as bottle and cans recycling collection bins.

In the winter of 2004, it was brought to the attention of the Waste Management Division staff that this program should have been presented to the Lane County Board of Commissioners for approval. Though it is regretful the proper procedure was not followed, the grant program invested in Lane County Schools is a great benefit to the schools, the community and the future.

In 2005, the Board approved of this grant program with 2005-06 documentation (Board Order 05-8-24-13). This motion seeks approval to continue the grant program annually, with funding, timeline and other details adjusted annually as needed and available.

B. Policy Issues

To comply with Oregon's Opportunity to Recycle education requirements and because of a strong commitment to schools and families in Lane County, the Board has consistently approved the contract for K – 12 education that serves to educate Lane County children about the three "Rs"; Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. This grant program compliments the waste reduction and recycling education contract perfectly, offering much needed assistance to schools in the practical application of waste reduction and recycling in Lane County schools.

The Lane County Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP), adopted by Ordinance 10-02, provides a roadmap of priorities and guidance for managing the County's Solid Waste Management system. SWMP 5.3 emphasizes the importance of strong County commitment to recycling and the need to increase Lane County's resource recovery to in order to conserve limited, long-term capacity of the Short Mt. Landfill as well as to meet state requirements of (SB) 3744. Further, SWMP 4.4.1 identifies schools as a recommended target for waste prevention programs and assistance.

C. Board Goals

Lane County's Resource Planning and Allocation chapter of the Strategic Plan emphasizes that Lane County "has placed as its highest priority public health and safety services with a strategic eye towards prevention services." This K-12 Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program for community schools will result in conservation of natural resources and increase of recycling. This in turn results in safer water systems, prevention of air pollution, conservation of energy resources and increases in marketable commodities for the recycling industry which today provides as many jobs to Americans as the Automotive Industry.

Additionally, efficient and effective use of staff time and resources suggest that inclusion of this small grant program into Lane Manual will avoid the staff time and effort necessary in seeking Board approval for this \$3,000 project each year.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

Waste Management has budgeted \$3,000 for this small grant program each year since it began. Through cooperation with the City of Eugene, this program offers \$5,000 to schools. The City has demonstrated a high level of commitment to this program, even increasing their contribution from \$1,000, to \$2,000 per year. Should the City withdraw its participation, the County could choose to increase funds, adjust the amount available, or discontinue the program. Management of the annual grant requires no additional staff positions. Directing Waste Management Division to develop instructions for inclusion in Lane Manual will help to avoid staff resources necessary to seek Board Approval each year for this \$3,000 project.

E. Analysis

Due to shortfalls in school funding, adequate funding for recycling programs in Lane County schools is often unavailable. This grant program is recommended to provide K – 12 schools in Lane County with needed funding to assist in the functional application of recycling and waste reduction programs that will enhance school educational activities as well as facilities resource conservation and environmental impacts.

The K-12 Waste Reduction Grant assists Lane County schools, private and public, in the development and improvement of waste reduction and recycling programs by providing additional funding resources needed to purchase recycling containers, reusable lunch kits, compost bins, recycling signs and other recycling education materials.

Who is eligible?

All K – 12 schools within Lane County.

How much money is available?

\$5,000 total. \$3,000 from Lane County and \$2,000 from the City of Eugene subject to availability.

What is the selection process?

Application materials advertise competitive point system selection criteria as developed and are reviewed annually. All responses are evaluated by the selection committee, based on the selection criteria provided in the K-12 Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Application, which can be found on the Lane County recycling program and City of Eugene's recycling web sites or by calling designated Lane County or City of Eugene employees.

The selection is made by a panel of three recycling professionals:

- A Lane County employee
- A City of Eugene employee
- Recycling Education contractor for Lane County

After selection, the successful applicants are notified by email and requests for grant checks are made through Lane County. The City of Eugene reimburses Lane County for their contribution.

After the grant funds are disbursed, each grant contact representing the grant recipient school is

required to submit receipts for all transactions, a report of the impact the grant has made on the school, and submit an application for Oregon Green School status.

F. Alternatives/Options

1. The Board may choose to approve the annual K-12 Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program and direct Waste Management to develop instructions for inclusion in the Lane Manual.
2. Alternatively, the Board may approve the annual grant program but NOT direct Waste management staff to develop instructions for the Lane Manual.
3. The Board could also choose to terminate the program.

IV. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

Waste Management Division is ready to implement grant program when approved.

V. RECOMMENDATION

Lane County Waste Management staff recommends the board approve the program and direct that it be included in the Lane Manual because it is a small portion of the advertising and promotion budget (enterprise, not general fund), it serves schools and community and it improves environmental impacts.

VI. FOLLOW-UP

If Motion is passed, Waste Management staff will develop instructions for inclusion in the Lane Manual.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO.

**) IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE ANNUAL K- 12
) WASTE REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM AND
) DIRECTING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
) DIVISION TO DEVELOP INSTRUCTIONS FOR
) INCLUSION IN LANE MANUAL.**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners established a Waste Reduction and Recycling Education Contract to add waste reduction and recycling criteria to Lane County schools.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the annual K – 12 Waste Reduction and Recycling grant program is to work in conjunction with the Waste Reduction and Recycling Education contract to continue to provide Lane County schools with the knowledge and practical application of waste reduction and recycling activities, through a system developed and approved by the Lane County Waste Management Division and the Lane County Resource Recovery Advisory Committee.

WHEREAS, the opportunity to recycle in schools is not only beneficial to the environment and economy, but also adds to the continuing education of Lane County students, teachers and staff on ways to initiate and/or enhance recycling collection systems within schools and the wider Lane County community.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the annual K – 12 Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Program be approved by the Lane County Board of Commissioners and Waste Management Division be directed to develop instructions for its inclusion in Lane Manual.

Adopted this ____ day of September, 2006.

APPROVED TO FORM

Date 9-12-2006 lane county


OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Bill Dwyer

Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners

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