



**TO:** Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** James G. Parvey, P.E., LEED AP, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability  
Division Manager  
Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Environmental Services Director  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution to accept 2019-2021 US Environmental Protection Agency Diesel Emissions  
Reduction Act Grant #DE-01J65201-0 – December 17, 2019  
**DATE:** November 25, 2019

*[Handwritten signature and initials]*

**SUMMARY:**

A resolution authorizing the execution of a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), in the amount of \$542,684, accepting and depositing said sum into the Solid Waste Fund 4200, to offset costs associated with the replacement of four diesel-powered Solid Waste refuse collection trucks with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trucks.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.
- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

The City of Tacoma has committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in order to reduce the impacts of Climate Change. Switching from high carbon intensity fuels such as diesel to lower carbon and cleaner fuels such CNG is effectively reduces these emissions with the added benefit of reducing fuel costs.

**BACKGROUND:**

In accordance with the 2016 Environmental Action Plan (EAP), the City has committed to reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Further, Transportation Action 11 of the EAP specifies, “convert solid waste trucks from diesel to renewable natural gas made from methane captured at the wastewater treatment plant.” This is being accomplished by both the purchase of CNG refuse collection trucks, and the completion of the current Organics-To-Energy project at the Central Treatment Plant.

The Solid Waste Management Division, with establishment of necessary fueling infrastructure, began purchasing CNG refuse collection trucks to replacing older diesel-powered trucks in 2015. A phase-in schedule of annual truck purchases has resulted in more than 40 percent fleet conversion. Four (4) 2009-engine model-year trucks are scheduled to be replaced with the purchase of four (4) new CNG-powered trucks at a total cost of \$1,550,526.

Using US EPA Diesel Emission Qualifier tool, it is estimated that new CNG trucks will reduce criteria pollutants by more than 99 percent over existing 2009-engine-model-year diesel trucks. Specific to greenhouse gas emissions, CO2 emissions are estimated to be reduced by more than 42 percent.

In spring of 2019, the City made application through the US EPA DERA program for maximum 35 percent reimbursement grant towards the purchase of four CNG trucks. In fall of 2019, the City was awarded a competitive grant from the US EPA DERA program, in the amount of \$542,684.



The grant allows reimbursement to:

- Replace four (4) 2009-engine-model-year diesel powered trucks with four (4) CNG trucks that will reduce particulate matter and other pollutants, such as nitrogen oxides.

**ISSUE:**

The Solid Waste Management Division has already budgeted funds to upgrade collection trucks in this biennium. Costs for these trucks is eligible for \$542,684 grant under US EPA 2019 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act reducing the acquisition costs for these trucks.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Do not accept the grant funding and absorb the \$542,684 value into the fleet procurement budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

A resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, in the amount of \$542,684, accepting and depositing said sum into the Solid Waste Fund 4200, to offset costs associated with the replacement of four diesel-powered Solid Waste refuse collection trucks with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trucks.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
<b>TOTAL</b>			

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Grant Agreement #DE-01J65201-0	512000	6232100	\$542,684
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$542,684</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET:** None. Anticipate funds to be spent in 2021. Environmental Services will adjust spending to include this revenue as a funding source.

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED?** N/A.