



COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE : May 21, 2012

CONSENT OR REGULAR: Regular

CONTRACT REFERENCE NO
(IF APPLICABLE): N/A

SUBJECT: Rio Grande Council of Governments Grant Funding for Solid Waste Reduction and Illegal Dumping Cleanup Events.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION OF TOPIC: As detailed in the attached backup material, the RGCOG, through a grant from the TCEQ, has made funding available to 21 different entities, including El Paso County, in order to provide solid waste reduction cleanup events. The dollar amount currently available has increased from \$3,684.21 to \$3,802.00. To date, none of the grant funding available to El Paso County has been utilized. "Keep Vinton Beautiful" has approached Commissioner Haggerty's office and has volunteered to sponsor a cleanup event on behalf of El Paso County, solely for the Westway Community.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact if reimburse guidelines are followed along with providing invoices and proof of prior payment. Grant funding will be utilized to reimburse entities for costs associated with a cleanup event such as roll-off container fees, landfill fees, protective gear and cleanup supplies.

PRIOR COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION (IF ANY):

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and authorize a letter to be signed by the El Paso County Judge to the RGCOG providing authorization to "Keep Vinton Beautiful" for the purpose of utilizing a portion of the \$3,802.00 in grant funding currently available for a cleanup event in Westway, Texas, on behalf of El Paso County. If the monies allotted to El Paso County are not utilized by December 31, 2012 any remaining amount will be redistributed to other entities that have chosen to participate.

COUNTY ATTORNEY APPROVAL

The attached document has been given legal review by the El Paso County Attorney's Office on behalf of the County of El Paso, its officers, and employees. Said legal review should not be relied upon by any person or entity other than the County of El Paso, its officers, and employees.

COUNTY ATTORNEY: N/A

LEGAL REVIEW:

LEGAL REVIEW NOTES (If Applicable):

DATE:

SUBMITTED BY: Jerry McTernan, Administrative Assistant, Sr.
Office of County Commissioner, Precinct 4

Keep Vinton Beautiful

436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas 79821
(915) 886-5104

May 16, 2012

Executive Board

Members

Penny Ledesma
Chairperson

Perfecto Valdez
Co-Chairperson

Jose Medel
Secretary

Jessica Garza
Executive Director

Health Fair Committee

Terrie Adcock
Victor Carrejo
Henry Gonzales
Yolanda Lucero
Rosa Mendoza
Penny Ledesma
Perfecto Valdez

Christmas in the Village Committee

Terrie Adcock
Dr. Chris Althoff
Victor Carrejo
Penny Ledesma
Perfecto Valdez

Environmental Events Committee

Victor Carrejo
Pedro Cereceres
Penny Ledesma
Perfecto Valdez

Honorable Commissioner Dan Haggerty
500 E. San Antonio
El Paso, Texas 79901

Keep Vinton Beautiful recently met with a group of residents from the community of Westway regarding community cleanups in their neighborhoods. In April, KVB partnered with this group for a very successful cleanup. More than 50 volunteers participated in collecting over 100 trash bags of litter.

This group has asked for assistance to host a bulk waste cleanup, similar to the ones we host in Vinton 6 times a year utilizing Solid Waste Grant funds made available through the Rio Grande Council of Governments.

KVB would like to request, on behalf of the Westway residents, permission to utilize funds set aside for El Paso County with the RGCoG for the purpose of holding one or two Bulk Waste Cleanups in Westway. These events will be solely for the residents of Westway and KVB will provide our experience in guiding them through these events.

Thank you for considering our request and giving of your time. In case you wish to find out more about our program, visit <http://www.vintontx.govoffice2.com/>, contact the office at (915)886-5104, or email your questions to kvb@vintontx.us.

Sincerely,



Jessica Garza
KVB Executive Director



January 6, 2012

Subject: Grant Funding Announcement for Illegal Dumping Cleanups

Greetings,

The Rio Grande Council of Governments, through a grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will make funding available to reimburse cities, counties, and special districts in conducting cleanup events including scrap tire disposal events. Under this grant, funding can be used to reimburse disposal costs to include, but not limited to, roll-off container fees, landfill fees, protective gear and cleanup supplies, tire collection, transportation and disposal.

The RGCOG under the direction of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee has prepared a proposal to attempt to address the illegal dumping concern in the region. Under this proposal the RGCOG will make \$77,368.50 available to eligible entities that conduct cleanup/disposal events including scrap tire disposal events. Reimbursements will be made available to 6 counties (Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, and Presidio), 12 cities (Alpine, Anthony, Clint, Dell City, El Paso, Horizon City, Marfa, Presidio, Socorro, Valentine, Van Horn and Vinton) and 3 special districts (El Paso Water Improvement District #1, Lower Valley Water District, and Horizon Municipal Utility District). The monies are allotted equally between the 21 entities which makes \$3,684.21 available to each entity. The deadline for this grant is December 31, 2012.

Illegal dumping is a growing problem that presents a host of environmental concerns. This project will help alleviate some of the financial burden of sponsoring cleanup/disposal events. By providing grant funding in the form of reimbursements, participating entities can establish contacts for tire disposal options and gather baseline statistics on the illegal dumping problem in their respective community.

To participate in the reimbursement program please submit copies of all backup materials (i.e. invoices, copies of payment, and manifests) to:

Korina Navarro
Rio Grande Council of Governments
1100 N. Stanton, Suite 610
El Paso, TX 79902

If you have any questions regarding this grant program please call me at 915-533-0998 ext. 121 or email at korinan@riocog.org.

Sincerely,

Korina Navarro
Environmental Services Coordinator

FY 2012/2013 Regional Solid Waste Grant COG-Managed Project

Describe the Purpose and Benefits of the Project. Identify the goals, objectives, and recommendations from the regional solid waste management plan, for which the project is intended to implement.

The Rio Grande Council of Governments under the direction of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee has prepared a proposal to address the illegal dumping and scrap tire concern in the region. Under this proposal the RGCOG will make \$6,823.50 from FY12 funds plus an additional \$70,545 available from the FY10/11 carryover funding for a total of \$77,368.50 to entities that conduct cleanup events. Reimbursements will be made available to 6 counties (Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, and Presidio), 12 cities (Alpine, Anthony, Clint, Dell City, El Paso, Horizon City, Marfa, Presidio, Socorro, Valentine, Van Horn and Vinton) and 3 special districts (El Paso Water Improvement District #1, Lower Valley Water District, and Horizon Municipal Utility District). The monies are allotted equally between the 21 entities which makes \$3,684.21 available to each entity.

This project will help alleviate some of the financial burden of sponsoring cleanup/disposal events to include scrap tires. By supplying grant funding in the form of reimbursements, participating entities can conduct litter and illegal dumping cleanup events and most importantly establish contacts for disposal options and gather baseline statistics on the illegal dumping problem in their respective community. The Regional Plan calls for the RGCOG to support regional and local efforts to identify areas with litter and illegal dumping problems and implement programs to address those problems (Goal 1, Objective). The Regional Plan also states the RGCOG will encourage local governments to clean up illegal dumpsites and provide residents with legal, affordable, and convenient disposal opportunities (Goal 2, Implementation Strategies). Finally, the RGCOG encourages tire amnesty days in cooperation with local governments and tire dealers to discourage illegal dumping of tires. The project will enable municipalities to begin establishing tire collection and disposal contracts, and eventually develop options for regional recycling and reuse of scrap tires (Goal 3, Implementation Strategies).

The project will allow funds to be used for disposal costs to include, but not limited to roll-off containers, landfill fees, protective gear and cleanup supplies.

The grant term will run from December 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012. After that, the RGCOG will evaluate all encumbered expenses and identify non-participating entities and redistribute allotment to participating entities by Feb. 28, 2013.