

## **M**EMORANDUM

P.O. Box 4100 ◆ Frisco, Colorado 80443

To: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

FROM: LESLIE EDWARDS, FINANCE DIRECTOR

RE: RESOLUTION 23-29, SUPPORT FOR APPLICATION TO COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF

LOCAL AFFAIRS FOR THE ENERGY IMPACT ASSISTANCE FUND: MAIN STREET LIVE

DATE: JULY 25, 2023

<u>Summary and Background:</u> Over the past few years, the Town of Frisco has adopted ambitious climate and resilience goals The Town of Frisco works closely with High Country Conservation Center (HC3) and Xcel Energy to conserve energy resources and move towards a renewable energy future. To build on these efforts, the Town developed an Energy Action Plan through Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy with an energy vision, goal, and strategies to guide Town staff, residents, and businesses.

This Energy Action Plan supports the Town's existing resolution to reach 100% renewable energy by 2035 and it's consistent with the 2019 Summit Community Climate Action Plan. The Energy Action team selected four focus areas to prioritize strategies and resources: residents, businesses & institutions, municipal facilities, and regional partnerships. The team also identified several strategies to include education, outreach, support, expanded rebates, and expansion of the Solarize Summit program to meet energy goals.

The replacement of wired street light fixtures to solar powered fixtures is an infrastructure upgrade project that will further Frisco's greenhouse gas reduction efforts and increase its overall energy efficiency. It will specifically support the Town's goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2035 and provide important cost savings to the community.

Frisco is committed to doing its part to improve environmental quality through advancing renewable energy projects such as this. This project demonstrates an actionable task that will have benefits on the local, regional, and worldwide scale. Direct benefits of this project to the community include improving community resilience, reducing energy use to prevent harmful emissions, and reducing energy congestion and stress on the electric grid.

<u>Analysis:</u> Town staff identified the DOLA EIAF, Main Street LIVE grant as a good match for the Town's installation of solar overhead lighting in the Town's commercial core. Frisco staff are completing the grant application with an August 1 due date. Official Action by Town Council to approve the grant application and commit to expenditure of required matching funds in the amount of 25% is required to submit the DOLA EIAF Climate Resilience Challenge application by August 1.

**<u>Financial Impact:</u>** A requirement of the grant award is to commit to the expenditure of matching funds in the amount of 25%. The Capital Improvement Program budget can accommodate

approximately \$150,000 in net expenditure for this project. Success in the grant application will make funds available for additional capital projects.

<u>Alignment with Strategic Plan:</u> Solar overhead lighting will help to guide Environmental Sustainability in Town, which is a listed goal in the Council Strategic Plan. This effort could also provide necessary action to ensure the completion of high priority goals including net zero.

<u>Staff Recommendation:</u> Staff requests Council approval of Resolution 23-29, supporting the application by the Town for the grant application to DOLA EIAF to be utilized to update Town overhead lighting to solar powered lights.

**Reviews and Approvals:** This report has been reviewed and approved by:

Tom Fisher, Town Manager

## **Attachments:**

Resolution 23-29