Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

ACTION CALENDAR
April 30, 2013
(Continued from April 2, 2013)

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: City Manager Referral: Solarizing & Energy Retrofitting Via a Joint Power Agreement

RECOMMENDATION
Referral to City Manager to evaluate the feasibility of the City of Berkeley opting into a Joint Power Agreement (JPA) to add one more tool to increase solarizing and energy retrofitting.

BACKGROUND
Renovate America's HERO Financing Program is a private public partnership which was created to enable cities and counties to provide homeowners and businesses with financing to pay for energy efficiency, water efficiency, and renewable energy products and their installation. Property owners pay the amount financed over a 5 to 20 year period at a fixed low interest rate. If the property is sold, the balance remaining typically stays with the property.

The Program is fully funded and requires no cost outlays by the participating cities and counties. HERO is offered through a joint powers authority, Western Riverside Council of Governments, formed under State law. The HERO program is an already established and recognized program. By opting into the program the City would save a considerable amount of time, money and energy in lieu of creating a new energy program.

The HERO program is nonexclusive and would allow nonprofit and other businesses to continue working independently or potentially to partner with Renovate America. (ie. Doing inspections/assessments and installation of solar panels).

To date, the HERO project has approved over 4,000 projects and completed more than 1,500. This has given nearly 600 contractors the ability to create and support 3,000 jobs.

HERO has received a number of awards, including the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) President's Award for Excellence, the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Best of the Best, and the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) California Top 10 Green Building Policies for Municipalities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
None.

CONTACT PERSON
Councilmember Kriss Worthington 510-981-7170

Attachment:
1. HERO Success

The Award Winning HERO™ Program

CALIFORNIA

WINNER
BEST RESIDENTIAL PARTNERSHIP

WINNER
PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

WINNER
BEST OF THE BEST

U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

Urban Land Institute

Join the HERO Program today and create a lasting economic stimulus that:

Creates and Supports Local Jobs

Lowers Utility Bills

Increases Property Values

Reduces Emissions

Success

The award winning HERO Program is the fastest growing residential and commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing program in the country. To date, over 1,500 residential projects totaling more than $29 million have been completed. Over 4,000 projects have been approved for a total of $105 million. This has given nearly 600 contractors the ability to create and support 3,000 jobs in 18 municipalities.

> "The HERO Program provides great value to the 18 municipalities currently participating in the program. It has spurred millions of dollars in new economic activity by helping property owners make needed improvements without laying out a lot of money all at once. These investments can help property values, reduce utility bills, create demand for jobs, and reduce regional energy use."
>
> *– Jim Hyatt,*
> *Calimesa Councilman*

Contact

John Law
Director of Municipal Development
D: 209-602-8990
E: jlaw@herofinancing.com

Copyright © 2012 Renewable America, Inc. All rights reserved.