

Information Item

Date: April 10, 2023

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Johnnie Taylor, Assistant City Manager
Helen Peplowski, Office of Sustainability Director

Subject: Update on Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Application

Strategic Focus Area: Healthy Environment

Strategic Objective: Support Green Initiatives

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



As part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Department of Energy has been given \$550,000,000 for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program to assist states, local governments, and Tribes in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, fossil fuel emissions and improve energy efficiency. Through this formulaic grant, the City of Winston Salem has been given \$274,000 in funding.

While this funding has been designated via a formula, the city will still need to submit an application that states how the funding would be used in order to receive funds, with initial paperwork due April 28.

The Office of Sustainability has worked closely with Fleet in order to use the funds to purchase electric vehicles and the charging infrastructure for the municipal fleet. The request will be for **four** vehicles and **two** Level 2 charging stations with dual port charging capabilities. Staff plans to purchase different makes and models in order to assess which vehicles are a good fit for various operations within the city and better plan for future EV purchases.