



Powell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Powell Receives \$821,861 Grant for Solar Electric System

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Powell, OH: The City of Powell is among the cities and counties statewide that will share \$15 million in grant awards funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's "Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant: Local Governments" program.

The awards were announced Tuesday afternoon by Governor Ted Strickland, Ohio Department of Development Director Lisa Patt-McDaniel and Energy Adviser to Gov. Strickland Mark Shanahan. Eight cities and 15 counties throughout the state were awarded grant funding for various projects.

"These counties and cities have recognized the importance of energy conservation, and will use these ARRA resources to lead the way in energy efficient improvements," Gov. Strickland said. "These projects will make our communities more sustainable and create jobs in a growing industry."

The City will receive a total of \$821,861 for a major lighting retrofit that includes the installation of LED and light sensors, as well as a 77-kilowatt solar electric system on the roof of the Municipal Building and energy-efficient improvements to the Parks and Recreation facility. The new system is expected to generate an estimated annual savings of \$18,500.

"By saving energy we'll be saving money, and this grant is a great example of the City's dedication to conservation," said City Manager Steve Lutz. "We want to be smart with our resources and with our taxpayers' dollars. I want to commend the City's development planner, Eric Fischer, and building inspector, Len Baldwin, who were instrumental in preparing the application that secured this grant for the City."

The grant requires that the project be completed by July 2012, though Fischer said he expects the project to be done in 2011.

"We are extremely thrilled to be selected," Fischer said. "The City of Powell staff and City Council were supportive during this process and deserve thanks, along with the Ohio Energy Resources Division of the Department of Development. This will be a great project for our community."

The City will now work with the Energy Resources Division on how to move forward with the project.

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