

**CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

BRYAN K. BARNETT, MAYOR

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Rochester Hills Receives Department of Energy Grant
Residents and City Buildings to Reap Rewards

Rochester Hills, MI- The City of Rochester Hills continues its state wide effort in becoming leaner and greener in energy savings and efficiency as it announces the award of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) in the amount of \$642,700. One of eight recipients in Oakland County, Rochester Hills will begin making considerable retrofits on more than 5 buildings throughout the city.

In 2008, Mayor Bryan K. Barnett set an aggressive goal to reduce energy consumption at City Hall by 25% in 2 years. An Energy Assessment was completed on nine city-owned buildings in order to identify the areas that could be improved. When funding became available the city submitted several of these projects to the Department of Energy, all of which were identified using the information from this analysis. "When selecting projects to submit we focused on the buildings and retrofits that would provide greater, long-term savings, and have the biggest bang for the buck," states Mayor Bryan K. Barnett.

The energy retrofits will begin within the next couple of months on buildings around the city including; the Sheriff Substation, five Fire Stations, City Hall, and even Borden Park. The changes will range from new LED (Light Emitting Diode) Lights at the park and City Hall, to occupancy sensors and roof insulations at the fire stations. "In addition to saving more than 270 tons of carbon per year, these changes will add up over time, with an estimated \$65,000 in savings per year," states Scott Cope, Building Director.

"The intent of this grant (EECBG) is to reduce our local governments energy use and to also educate our community on how they can begin making affordable changes at home that will make a large impact on our environment and in their pocket books," states Tara Beatty, Chief Assistant and Grant Coordinator.

A Residential Energy Enhancement and Awareness project will also be launched using funds from the EECBG with a goal to directly impact and increase the efficiency of residential households. The city will invest in Energy Audit Tools and Training so that continuous improvements can be made in the years to come. When trained, the City will be able to provide valuable energy audits to not only the city-owned buildings, but also to any residential and commercial building owners.

"If we want to continue to be stewards in the environment we have to educate ourselves and the residents on ways to improve, and then offer the tools and resources so that Rochester Hills can continue to be the leader in Energy Savings and Efficiency," states Mayor Barnett.

Established in 1984 the City of Rochester Hills supports more than 200 tech-savvy businesses and offers a complete and diverse community. Recently voted one of the top 100 best places to live (2009) the City of Rochester Hills is committed to being the preeminent place to live, work and raise a family. For more information on City Planning and Development contact Dan Casey, Manager of Economic Planning & Development.

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