

I have a short report for October.

See the attachment of Larry Wilson's report on the MidAmerican Trees Please Program along with his recommendation.

Dave Wilson, EMA director, is on the agenda to speak about the need for a 25 cent increase to the FY14 Haz Mat per capita levy for the Haz Mat truck replacement and operational fund for the Haz Mat team. The present levy set in 1998 is no longer sustainable and the EMA commission intends to go from 25 cents to 50 cents starting on 7/1/13.

Meeting location Update- We are unable to meet at Christ the King Church or Farm Bureau. We are unable to meet at the Coralville Library or Iowa City Library because we would have to be out including our video equipment by no later than 8:30pm from Coralville or 9:00pm from Iowa City. The JECC on Melrose (Joint Emergency Communication Center) across from the National Guard Amory is available sometimes but I feel our best option is to try and schedule the meetings at the West High School Library or the University Club. Mike Haverkamp, who is employed by the ICCSD, is currently working on a formal request application for the West High Library for meeting dates when the University Club is unavailable.

Please contact me if you have questions. Thanks-Louise  
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Good morning Louise--

I apologize that time got away from me on reviewing the Trees Please Program. The first part below provides some facts about the program and some likely costs. I have made a recommendation at the end:

- The maximum grant amount is only \$1,000
- The program is a matching grant program. There must be a matching funding from other sources that equals or exceed MidAmerican Energy Company's grant amount. In addition to cash donations, the matching requirement can be met by in-kind services, donated labor and/or materials
- Grant money must be used for the actual purchase of trees only (and not for installation)
- Trees purchased with the program grants must be planted in common areas such as parks, trails, and city-owned rights-of-way (it is not a residential customer tree-planting program). The deadline for application for this year's round is October 19. The application form is easy to fill out, so this deadline could be met if you so desire. There will be another round next year in September and MidAmerican Tree Please representative, Kim Willer, said she believes it will most likely be continued after that for another 5 years.

You would need to appoint a steering committee with a chair--the committee and chair are requested on the application form--apparently 3 members is the minimum number required since that is the number that is requested to be listed on the application.

The applications are due October 19, but the grant would not apply until spring 2013 (or fall 2013) so there would be time to organize volunteers. The minimum sized tree I would recommend planting would be 1½" in dia., and a ballpark average cost would be about \$200 each depending on the type of tree--some costing more some costing less. If planted by a nursery, the planting cost would be about 50% of the purchase price or about \$100 each. There would be a charge for delivering the trees to the site if planted by volunteers. Prices would vary as to how many are purchased at one time, but 10 to 15 trees might not get much of a discount. NOTE: If the purchase and planting of the trees is put out to bid, there would be additional project costs of insurance, overhead/profit, contingencies, etc. Keep in mind that the trees would have to be watered, for at least a year, preferably longer, either by a contractor or volunteers.

SOME OPTIONS:

- Trees Purchased from and Planted by Nursery: \$1000 grant plus the matching \$1000, or \$2,000 would purchase and plant about 6 trees ( $\$2,000 \div \$300$ )
- Trees Purchased from a Nursery using a \$1000 Grant match (\$2,000), but Planted by Volunteers: \$1000 grant plus the matching \$1000, or \$2,000 would purchase about 9 trees ( $\$200 \times 9$  plus about \$150 for delivery of trees to site and materials for staking, mulching, etc., or \$1950).
- Trees Purchased from a Nursery Using only the Grant Money and Providing the Match In-kind: Would purchase about 4 trees ( $\$200 \times 4$  or \$800), plus about \$150 for delivery of trees to site and materials for staking, mulching, etc. from other sources. I do not know what labor rates they would allow for in-kind donated labor, but I think it would be difficult to have the in-kind match add up to \$1,000 for just 4 trees so, some cash would probably be required in addition to the about \$150 for delivery of trees to site and materials for staking, mulching, etc.

RECOMMENDATION:

- There would be quite a bit of effort to organize the planting of 4 to 9 trees by volunteers and an investment of up to \$1,000. It would also require some effort and a design consultant to organize a city-wide street tree planting project that could be grant funded incrementally over several years.
- I recommend that the Council focus on the going ahead with the street trees for the Sunset Wide Sidewalk and bid all trees as recommended by Josiah (8 trees required to be removed, 4 trees that should be removed due to poor health, etc. and 13 new trees = 25). If the bid comes in within or close to budget, the plantings can be included in the project. If not, cover the amount of plantings that can be covered within or close to the project budget and consider the Tree Please Program for the remaining trees in the 2013 Tree Please granting.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Larry