



CONSENT CALENDAR

October 24, 2006

LINDA MAIO
Councilmember
District 1

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Linda Maio

SUBJECT: Budget Allocation from Councilmember Maio's Office to the Ecology Center

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approve a grant of \$2,000.00 to be funded from FY 2006 carryover funds from Councilmember Maio's office expense budget to the Ecology Center for classes in urban sustainability, organic gardening, and energy conservation at Berkeley EcoHouse.

BACKGROUND:

Berkeley EcoHouse is managed by the Ecology Center. Founded in April 1999, Berkeley EcoHouse is a nonprofit, educational organization created by individuals with a common passion for restoring our ecological systems and building healthy, socially just and stable communities.

The mission of Berkeley EcoHouse is to contribute to heightening ecological and social awareness and the quality of life in its own neighborhood. Citywide, Berkeley EcoHouse aspires to overcome the barriers to healthy environmental choices, making ecological ways of living accessible and affordable to people of all ages, ethnic/racial backgrounds, and income levels.

The Berkeley EcoHouse outreach program includes a solar energy education program in local schools that offers hands-on classes about how to use the sun's energy to reduce pollution and depletion of our planet's resources. Berkeley EcoHouse also conducts permaculture workshops, pilot demonstrations with sustainable building materials, and ecological building systems onsite at the EcoHouse. Berkeley EcoHouse is open by appointment to the public and has regular programs at the site in sustainable agriculture and workshops in related issues.

These funds will support these efforts by providing a small amount of funding for classes in urban sustainability, organic gardening, and energy conservation at Berkeley EcoHouse.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

No impact on the General Fund; an expenditure of \$2,000 from Councilmember Maio's office budget.

CONTACT PERSONS:

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Council District 1

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**RESOLUTION NO AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM
THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR
A GRANT TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE**

WHEREAS, Councilmember Linda Maio has surplus funds in her office expenditure account (budget code 010-0211-410); and

WHEREAS, a California nonprofit, tax exempt corporation Ecology Center seeks funds in the amount of \$2,000.00 to provide funding for classes in urban sustainability, organic gardening, and energy conservation at Berkeley EcoHouse; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would fulfill the municipal public purpose of keeping Berkeley EcoHouse open to the public and providing classes in urban sustainability, organic gardening, and energy conservation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract with Berkeley EcoHouse in the not to exceed amount of \$2,000.00 to fund classes in urban sustainability, organic gardening, and energy conservation at Berkeley EcoHouse.