

# BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO.: A(3)

## AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: JUNE 22, 2010

**TITLE:** Update on Energy Planning Efforts

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> PLANNING, MANAGER, ECD	<b>PUBLIC HEARING:</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> A. Resolution B. Staff memo on Retrofit Ramp Up Program Design and Budget	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> RANDY DODD, 918-7326 MATT EFIRD, 918-7314 JAMES HARRIS, 918-7319 PATRICIA MCGUIRE, 918-7327

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this agenda item is to update the BOA on recent staff activities related to an ARRA submittal to the US Department of Energy Retrofit Ramp Up Program.

### INFORMATION:

Town staff have worked with Chapel Hill staff and a nonprofit, the Southeastern Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA), to participate in an application to the US Department Of Energy (DOE) "Retrofit Ramp Up" program which is geared towards community scale energy efficiency retrofits of existing buildings. This partnership would focus on building science, systems, and usage behavior, with an emphasis on improving energy efficiency by 20% - 40% per structure, and a second emphasis on phasing in alternative/renewable generation. The SEEA has received preliminary notice of award from DOE, and is anticipating entering into a contract with DOE by early June. The grant includes participation from jurisdictions throughout the southeast. The project will unfold over two to three years, with the vision being the establishment of a long term, sustaining partnership. Chapel Hill and Carrboro are being invited to enter into separate contracts with DOE, through the SEEA, although Chapel Hill and Carrboro staff envision pursuit of collaborative opportunities. Chapel Hill and Carrboro would be eligible to compete with other SEEA participants for additional funding after the initial year, as described in the attached staff memo.

**FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT:** Staff anticipates the Town being offered approximately \$75k from the Retrofit Ramp Up program in FY10-11, and could receive more in FY11-12 if the program is successfully launched. The staff impact of the Retrofit Ramp Up is pending negotiation of a contract and details of the program to be established. Some staff time will be required to work with Chapel Hill and SEEA staff, contractors and consultants, and a proposed new administrator position, and to issue new energy loans.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommend that the Board accept the staff memo and draft resolution and direct staff to pursue entering into a contract with DOE, through SEEA.