



Department Source: City Utilities

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: September 16, 2024

Re: Amending the Home Performance with Energy Star Contractor Agreement

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to approve a contract amendment to the agreements with contractors performing work through the City's Home performance with Energy Star program.

Discussion

The City of Columbia Utilities has offered the Home Performance with Energy Star (HPwES) program since 2008. The HPwES program allows the Utility to partner with local home energy contractors to provide energy efficiency services to residential customers. Customers receive rebates and incentives for qualifying energy efficient upgrades. Participating customers choose their contractor from an approved list that meet program standards. This partnership between the City and local contractors ensures customers are receiving quality home assessments and energy upgrades from a reputable and certified company. The benefits of this program help residents and the Utility to lower energy and environmental impacts and help achieve goals included in the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

The language in the contract for the HPwES program has been updated for the revamp of the utility's HPwES energy efficiency program that is planned to start at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2025. Previously the contractors received incentives from the utility for the performance of an initial energy audit before energy efficiency upgrades are installed and a final inspection after the work was completed. Contractors received \$100 for an initial audit and between \$200 and \$400 for a final inspection, depending on the energy savings deemed at the home from the energy efficiency upgrades. On average, contractors received a combined \$400 for the initial audit and final inspection. With the revamp of the HPwES program, staff will be performing the final inspections and the contracts are being amended to provide a \$200 incentive for the initial energy audit and to remove the contractor incentive to perform final inspections.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$80,000 savings to the electric utility in the first two years.

Long-Term Impact: Anticipate \$40,000 savings on an annual basis after two years.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Secondary Impact: Resilient Economy, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Environmental Management, Secondary Impact: Economic Development, Tertiary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Legislative History

Date	Action
01/19/2021	B34-21: Authorizing updates to the Home Performance with Energy Star® participating contractor agreement; authorizing the City Manager, or the Manager's designee, to enter into agreements with qualifying contractors relating to the Home Performance with Energy Star® program.

Suggested Council Action

Approval of the ordinance.