

**R-13-216**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY FINDING THAT PROJECT EQUINOX BE APPROVED FOR AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE (EDI) GRANT AND A TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEE INCENTIVE (TIFI) FOR FISCAL YEARS 2013-2014 THROUGH 2018-2019, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Project EQUINOX is locating a Clean Tech company in Manatee County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Project EQUINOX is an employer that pays in excess of 150% of the average Manatee County annual wage; and

**WHEREAS**, Project EQUINOX's facility will locate in Manatee County and will create 100 new jobs over the next five years; and

**WHEREAS**, expansion of the tax base and growth of higher paying jobs is vital to maintaining economic diversity and improving quality of life in Manatee County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners is willing to participate financially in inducements required to convince Project EQUINOX to locate in Manatee County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that:

1. The Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County hereby recommends Project EQUINOX for the EDI Grant Program and the Transportation Impact Fee Incentive Program.
2. If the company meets the local EDI/TIFI Grant program criteria for creation of a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of one hundred (100) quality jobs, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, agrees to participate financially by offering inducements to Project EQUINOX for locating in Manatee County in amounts not to exceed:

**EDI**

**\$200,000.00**

The total extent of Manatee County's participation shall not exceed \$200,000 for the EDI Grant. The participation shown above shall be subject to Project EQUINOX's employment requirements and annual appropriations in the County Budget each fiscal year.

**TIFI**

**\$ 3,196.20**

Transportation Impact Fee Incentive is estimated to be \$3,196.20. The actual

amount will be determined when building permits are approved and based on current Manatee County impact fee schedule adopted. The Board of County Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator or his designee to approve the amount of the actual TIFI to be paid at the time applicant receives certificate of occupancy or certificate of completion for construction activities. Based on the Company's average annual wage of 150%, the incentive will be calculated at 75%.

3. The Board of County Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator or his designee to execute the EDI and TIFI funding agreement / amendments for Project EQUINOX.

**ADOPTED** with a quorum present and voting this the **17th day of December 2013**.

**ATTEST: R. B. Shore  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By:

  
Deputy Clerk



By:

  
Larry Bustle  
Chairman

December 17, 2013 - Regular Meeting  
Agenda Item #18

Subject

EDI Grant - Project Equinox - R-13-216

Briefings

None

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Karen Stewart, Economic Development Program Manager  
Neighborhood Services Department, ext. 6832

**APPROVED** in Open Session

Manatee County Board of County  
Commissioners

Action Requested

Adoption of Resolution R-13-216 finding that Project Equinox be approved for an Economic Development Incentive Grant and Transportation Impact Fee Incentive over a six-year period.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

F.S. 288.106 Tax refund program for qualified target industry

Manatee County Government Incentive Program

Background Discussion

On April 21, 2009, the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners adopted the Manatee County Economic Development Incentive Program which provides for Economic Development Incentive (EDI) Grants.

EDI Grants are available to qualifying businesses creating new high-wage job opportunities, either by expanding an existing business or by bringing a new business to Manatee County. The incentive is customized per business based on the number of jobs created and percent above 115% of the average Manatee annual wage.

Project EQUINOX will locate a Clean Tech facility in Manatee County.

Project EQUINOX is scheduled to create 100 jobs over five years paying a minimum of 150% of the 2011 Manatee County average annual wage (\$53,450) plus benefits.

The Transportation Impact Fee Incentive (TIFI) eligibility is seventy-five percent based on the company paying 150% of the 2011 Manatee County Average annual wage.

TIFI is estimated to be \$3,196.20 per Resolution R-13-216.

Manatee County staff will be responsible for monitoring EDI Grant requirements, as well as processing the invoice for payment upon completion of construction and upon confirmation of compliance with agreement to be executed.

Compliance with the program is managed through the adoption of Resolution R-13-216.

Manatee County Government Administrative Center  
Commission Chambers, First Floor  
9:00 a.m. - December 17, 2013

The County's commitment will require future budget appropriations beginning FY 2013-2014 through FY 2018-2019, if job creation and construction requirements are met. We have appropriated monies annually for the last few years to be set aside for economic development incentives such as the state and local EDI program where applicable and will continue to ensure that reserves are set aside for this purpose and carried forward to fund the County's future obligations (\$203,196.20) for this application.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

Original resolution for Board records; copy of stamped approved Agenda Memorandum and executed resolution to Karen Stewart (karen.stewart@mymanatee.org), Neighborhood Services Department. Cc: Nicolette Coetzee (nicolette.coetzee@mymanatee.org) and Debbie Bassett (debbie.bassett@mymanatee.org), CAO.

12/19/13 QA email to Karen Stewart; Resolution on M Drive and emailed to Nicolette and Debbie

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

1070015806 EDI \$200,000; 1010015806 TIFI \$3,196.20

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

\$203,196.20 over a five year period

Attachment: [Equinox-R13216.pdf](#)