

MEMO TO: Mayor John Marchione and the Redmond City Council

FROM: Jane Christenson, Deputy City Administrator

DATE: October 22, 2013

SUBJECT: FY 13-14 Innovation Fund Update

In the FY 13-14 budget, the City Council approved an innovation fund for competitive use as seed funding for potential cost savings ideas across City departments, programs and initiatives. To administer these funds, a City Innovation Team was formed to oversee and monitor a Redmond Operations Innovations (ROI) process - a competitive internal Request for Proposals (RFP) solicitation to review and award funding to potential innovation investments across a broad range of City operations, conducted in spring 2013. At its October 22 study session, the Innovation Team will provide an overview of the ROI process, criteria for funding, funding awards, and anticipated next steps.

Overview of Redmond Operations Innovations Process

From an impressive pool of 23 ROI proposals, the Innovation Team reviewed and heard presentations on potential innovation investments across a broad spectrum of City operations. The merits of each proposal were considered, with emphasis on those projects which best met the following ROI criteria, both in the short term (FY 13-14) and beyond. Evaluation criteria included the following:

- Outlined public service benefits clearly
- Researched and quantified potential return on investment, with supporting business case data
- Considered/communicated impacts to other departments/operating areas
- Provided realistic estimates of project timeline/milestones
- Offered strong and data-driven focus results within the current FY 13-14 biennium
- Identified clear performance measures for ongoing progress monitoring to ensure proposal accountability and success

It should be noted that Innovation Team members were impressed with the quality and ingenuity of the ideas submitted for consideration and would like to thank those staff who took the time and made the effort to submit proposals. Many ideas were worthy of funding consideration, but with limited funds the team prioritized those proposals that met the criteria noted above.

Funding Decisions

Based on these considerations, the Innovation Team has awarded funding to the following eight proposals:

- *Repurposing of Equestrian Space: \$60,000 (Darcey Rayner-Shepard, Ali Hull)*
- *Increasing Liquid De-Icing Capabilities: \$39,394 (Nathan Graham, Ernest Fix)*
- *On-line Volunteer Recruitment/Management Tool: \$6,500 (Lisa Rhodes)*
- *MOC Emergency Response Coordination Improvements: \$13,720 (Nathan Graham, Ernest Fix, Rebecca Borker)*
- *Use of Microsoft Cloud Resources for IT Testing/Development: \$20,000 (Kiran Gadepalli, Corey Smith)*
- *Ideascale: Community-Sourced Feedback: \$2,999 (Erik Scairpon)*
- *Currency Counter Purchase: \$2,300 (Ryan Edwardsen)*
- *Public Safety Scheduling Software for City: \$30,000 (Erik Scairpon, Steve Eastham, Joseph McGrath)*

Each proposal will be briefly summarized at the October 22 study session, and proposal teams will be available to answer any questions on their implementation efforts to date.

Next Steps

Going forward, the Innovation Team will continue to meet with each funded proposal team on a quarterly basis to monitor progress and ensure project milestones are being achieved with demonstrable return on the City's innovation investment. It is anticipated that the success of these ROI efforts will be highlighted on the Mayor's proposed FY 15-16 budget, along with a potential proposal for additional funding for seed investing in employee innovation/efficiencies ideas in future years.