

CITY OF BLAINE
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION
MEETING DATE: March 10, 2006

SUBJECT: City Council authorization for CERB loan application
Lighthouse Point WRF

SUBMITTING DEPT: Public Works

PREPARED BY: _____
(Digital Signature)

AGENDA LOCATION: Comments / Communications , Consent ,
Public Meeting/Hearing , Unfinished Business , Council Action Item , Committee Reports

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution No. 1424-06

ANALYSIS / SUMMARY: Phase I of the Lighthouse Point Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) is fully funded and under way, with the installation this year of equalization storage in Marine Drive. City staff has identified the Community Economic Revitalization Board Job Development Fund Program as an appropriate source for some of the \$20 million necessary for construction of Phase II, including reconstruction of Marine Drive and construction of the new wastewater treatment facility. A pre-application for a \$5 million CERB loan was submitted on January 4, 2006, and Council adoption of the attached resolution is now required in support of the final application to be submitted in April 2006.

RECOMMENDATION: Waive 2nd Reading: Staff recommends that the City Council waive the second reading and adopt Resolution No. 1424-06 as drafted.

FISCAL ANALYSIS: City Staff are pursuing any applicable grant programs that can be used to reduce the impact to wastewater rate payers of the new capital facilities that are required by the utility. Currently rates are expected to exceed \$70/month per ERU making the rates some of the highest in the state. Grant programs like this one have the potential to help keep the rates down. Each \$1M in grants equates to a reduction in monthly rates of about \$1.30/month. Keeping the rates down is especially important to attracting new industry and that is the rationale in pursuing this grant.

REVIEWED BY:

City Manager _____ Finance Director _____ City Clerk _____
(Digital Signature) (Digital Signature) (Digital Signature)
(Digital Signature)

COUNCIL ACTION: Approved , Denied , Tabled / Deferred ,

Assigned to: _____

COUNCIL ACTION: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 1424-06

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON
AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE WASHINGTON STATE
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION BOARD JOB DEVELOPMENT FUND
(CERB JDF) PROGRAM FOR FUNDING THE COSTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF
PUBLIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, the CERB JDF awards matching grants to help finance the construction of public economic development infrastructure to foster private sector development and job creation and/or retention, for the purpose of stimulating community and economic development by supporting the creation of new jobs or the retention of existing jobs, and

WHEREAS, certain companies currently located in Blaine are seeking to expand their operations and other businesses have expressed interest in establishing here, and the Port of Bellingham is planning to expand and develop its commercial properties and operations in Blaine; and commercial shellfish harvesting is temporarily limited by proximity to the existing outfall whose output would be significantly improved by the new treatment method, but only if CERB JDF funds are provided to the City of Blaine to enable the City to construct the Lighthouse Point Water Reclamation Facility, and

WHEREAS, the City believes that the Lighthouse Point Water Reclamation Facility and Marine Drive Improvements will strengthen the economy of the City and will expand employment opportunities for residents of the City of Blaine,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF BLAINE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to submit an application to the CERB JDF Program for a grant of \$5 million for funds to construct the Lighthouse Point Water Reclamation Facility and Marine Drive Improvements, which is necessary for expansion of existing businesses in Blaine as well as the establishment of new ones, expansion of the Port of Bellingham operations along Marine Drive, and potential reduction of restrictions on commercial shellfish harvesting in Blaine.

2. A copy of this resolution shall be submitted with the CERB JDF application.

3. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and signatures hereto.

PASSED and DATED this ___ day of _____, 2006.

MIKE MYERS, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

SHERI SANCHEZ, City Clerk

JON SITKIN, City Attorney