



**City of Rochester Hills  
AGENDA SUMMARY  
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS**

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**Legislative File No:** 2005-0291

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Ed Anzek, Director of Planning and Development ext. 2577

**DATE:** April 15, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Resolution supporting Energy Conversion Device, Inc.'s request to Congressman Knollenberg for a federal appropriation to fund an advanced energy technology project

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**REQUEST:** Resolution in support of federal funding for an advanced energy technology project to be carried out in Rochester Hills by Energy Conversion Devices, Inc. (ECD). Individual components of the project will be done in partnership with Lawrence Technological University.

**BACKGROUND:** ECD has established a positive track record with the U.S. Department of Defense as a supplier of solar energy materials for missile defense systems. The company's long-term growth prospects are closely tied to further development of military applications for solar, hydrogen storage and fuel cell technologies.

The U.S. Navy is conducting robust research and development in the area of fuel cell technology. Fuel cells are critical to the increasing use of electronics in the Navy of the future – up to and including all-electric ships. Previous research has focused on so-called Polymer Electrolyte Membrane fuel cells. ECD's Ovonic Regenerative Fuel Cell will provide a number of technical advantages (e.g. start-up time, operating temperatures, raw material cost) over the PEM technology. See Attachment A.

Congressman Knollenberg is a senior member of the U.S. House Committee on Appropriations and has recently been named chairman of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development. The Chairman's staff has been briefed on the proposed project and background materials have been provided. The project is currently under review in the Chairman's office as the FY 2006 appropriations cycle moves forward.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adoption of the resolution and forwarding of a copy to Congressman Knollenberg, as well as Senators Levin and Stabenow.

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**RESOLUTION**

**NEXT AGENDA ITEM**

**RETURN TO AGENDA**

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<b>APPROVALS:</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<b>Department Review</b>		
<b>Department Director</b>		
<b>Mayor</b>		
<b>City Council Liaison</b>		

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