



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

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Legislative File No: 2005-0290

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Ed Anzek, Director of Planning and Development, ext. 2572

DATE: April 8, 2005

SUBJECT: Support for Energy Conversion Devices, Inc.'s efforts to seek a Department of Energy appropriation for the development of the Ovonic Cognitive Computer

REQUEST: Issue Council resolution in support of a federal project related to cognitive computing technologies. The project is proposed by Energy Conversion Devices, Inc. (ECD) with requested support from the U.S. Department of Energy.

BACKGROUND: Energy Conversion Devices (ECD) is developing a new generation of cognitive computers. The Ovonic Cognitive Computer would function at a much higher level than today's PCs, and be much easier to use. Basically, the function of the devices ECD is developing closely mimics the function of neurons in the brain, and the flexibility of the technology allows construction of circuits that are analogues of the brain. The project will develop devices and algorithms for cognitive chips based on unique physics which have the potential for enabling revolutionary computer architectures that could provide much faster processing of more complex problems. The Department of Energy and many other federal agencies will benefit from the development of this approach for computational science and technology. The application of these concepts will be developed in conjunction with national laboratories and other partners as appropriate. The proposed project, to be funded through a line item in the Fiscal Year 2006 Department of Energy appropriations bill, would provide \$2.5 million to develop the capability of this new generation of cognitive computing.

U.S. Representative Sander Levin has agreed to help sponsor the project during House of Representatives consideration of the Fiscal Year 2006 Energy appropriations.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt resolution and forward copies to appropriate members of the Michigan Congressional delegation.

RESOLUTION

NEXT AGENDA ITEM

RETURN TO AGENDA

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
City Council Liaison		

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