Memorandum

CITY OF DALLAS

DATE November 17, 2026

TO Honorable Members of the Committee on Finance; Chad West (Chair), Kathy Stewart (Vice Chair), Zarin Gracey, Maxie Johnson, Jesse Moreno, Jaime Resendez, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **December 9, 2026, City Council Agenda Item 26-3609 United States Department of Energy (DOE) Grant for the FY27 Martin Luther King Junior Community Center Solar Panels project**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide background information regarding an upcoming City Council Agenda item authorizing acceptance of a $2.0 million grant award from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under the FY 2023 Community Project Funding (CPF), which are Congressionally directed funds signed into law as part of the appropriation bill.

Background

In the spring of 2022, the City of Dallas submitted project requests to be considered in the FY 2023 CPF annual appropriation bill. Of the proposed projects, congress selected and signed into law a proposed project to install a solar photovoltaic system at the Martin Luther King, Junior Campus in Dallas.

Once appropriations were earmarked, and to comply with the 50% cost-share grant requirements, the City identified $2.0 million in matching funds and initiated the formal application process.

Facilities and Real Estate Management worked closely with the Budget and Management Services' Grant Administration Division, and the DOE to meet all the application requirements, and in September 2026, the City received approval of the $2.0 million grant award.

Combined with the required City match, the project would provide $4.0 million in total funding for the design and construction of campus-wide rooftop solar panels and solar carport canopies. This investment advances the City's Comprehensive Environmental and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) by expanding the use of renewable energy and improving the energy efficiency of City facilities.

Based on data collected during preliminary energy assessments, the estimated solar PV plant capacity that could be installed at this campus is approximately 960 kW (including

rooftop and carports) and is estimated to offset approximately 80% of the annual energy usage for this campus which is approximately 2,000 MWh of annual energy usage. The final solar PV plant size and annual energy offset will be determined at the completion of the final design.

Next steps include preparing the solicitation for the design services followed by the solicitation of construction services.

The grant has a performance period starting on October 1, 2026, and ending on February 28, 2030, with the possibility of requesting an extension for 12 months if necessary.

Should you have any questions, please contact Brian Thompson, Interim Director of Facilities and Real Estate Management at brian.thompson@dallas.gov

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