ICMA *2008 Annual Awards Program*

Program Excellence Awards Nomination Form

Deadline for Nominations: March 14, 2008

Complete this form and attach to your descriptive narrative.

SECTION 1: Information About the Nominated Program

Program Excellence Award Category *(select only one)*

- ☐ **Community Health and Safety**
- ☐ **Community Partnership**
- ☒ **Community Sustainability**
- ☐ **Strategic Leadership and Governance**

Name of program being nominated: Ball Field Innovation

Jurisdiction where program originated: City of Phoenix

Jurisdiction population: 1.5 million

Please indicate the month and year in which the program you are nominating was fully implemented. (Note: All Program Excellence Award nominations must have been fully implemented by or before January 31, 2007 to be eligible. The start date should not include the initial planning phase.)

Month: March Year: 2006

Name(s) and title(s) of individual(s) who should receive recognition for this award at the ICMA Annual Conference in Richmond, Virginia, September 2008. (Each individual listed MUST be an ICMA member to be recognized.):

Name: Frank Fairbanks

Title: City Manager Jurisdiction: City of Phoenix

Name: Carolyn Bristo

Title: Acting Public Works Director Jurisdiction: City of Phoenix

Name:

Title: Jurisdiction:

SECTION 2: Information About the Nominator/Primary Contact

Name of person who should be contacted with questions regarding the nomination: Christine Smith

Title of nominator: Deputy Public Works Director Jurisdiction of nominator: City of Phoenix

Street address: Metro Facilities & Energy Management, 2631 S. 22nd Avenue

City: Phoenix State/Province: AZ

Zip/Postal code: 85009 Country: United States

Telephone: 602.262.7780 Fax: 602.534.4651 E-mail: christine.smith@phoenix.gov

ICMA 2008 Annual Awards Program – Program Excellence Awards
Community Sustainability Awards – City of Phoenix Ball Field Innovation

Problem Assessment

The City of Phoenix Public Works Department's Metro Facilities and Energy Management Division is responsible for the maintenance and repair of 7.3 million square feet in 620 facilities outside of downtown Phoenix as well as energy conservation projects for city-owned facilities. Metro Facilities/ Energy Management and electrical staff discovered unnecessary energy waste and wear and tear on ballpark lighting fixtures due to poor designing of lighting controls at multipurpose athletic fields.

For example, staff identified seven separate athletic ball fields with a total usage of 352, 1000-watt lighting fixtures at one City of Phoenix park. The lighting fixtures were controlled by a time clock based on astronomical settings, and the 352 lighting fixtures would turn on regardless of whether they were scheduled to be used or not during the evenings. In an effort to control the unnecessary usage, staff at the facilities would attempt to manually turn off the lights using the override button resulting in staff inadvertently altering the program and causing the lights to come on during the day. In addition, staff placed themselves at risk by putting their hands in high-voltage switchgear reserved for trained electricians.

Program Implementation and Costs

In order to conserve energy, increase the safety of recreational staff, reduce energy costs, and reduce wear and tear of the fixtures, City electricians installed on/off switches on the outside of the switchgear for each ball field. The cost to implement this technology solution was $2,875.

Tangible Results or Measurable Outcomes

This employee-driven innovation significantly reduced energy costs and wear and tear on the fixtures and lighting maintenance costs while making it much easier for recreational staff to

control the lights and eliminating safety concerns. Annual savings of approximately $20,345 were achieved through this employee-driven innovation.

Lessons Learned

We have learned that when a new Service Entrance Section (SES) is installed or replaced, a section should ideally be added for lighting controls. This would eliminate the problem of an untrained person accessing energized areas in compliance. This would also cut down on having cabinets added to the Service Entrance Section (SES) and doing so would also prohibit potential vandals and ease of installation.