



**Request for City Council Committee Action  
From the Department of Health & Family Support**

**Date:** APRIL 13, 2009

**To:** HEALTH, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
**Referral to:** WAYS & MEANS/BUDGET COMMITTEE

**Subject:** MINNEAPOLIS ECONOMIC RECOVERY STRATEGY –  
REQUEST TO APPLY FOR A TWO YEAR GRANT FROM THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO TEST THE USE OF  
TECHNOLOGY TO PROMOTE ADHERENCE TO PERINATAL HEALTH  
CARE RECOMMENDATIONS

**Recommendation:**

Council authorization for the proper city officials to apply for a two year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services of up to \$800,000 for a project period of September 30, 2009 through September 29, 2011 from the National Institutes of Health Challenge Grants in Health and Science Research to test the use of technology to promote adherence to perinatal health care recommendations.

**Previous Directives:** None

**Prepared or Submitted by:** Becky McIntosh, Director of Planning & Administration  
Phone: x2884

**Approved by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gretchen Musicant, Commissioner of Health

**Permanent Review Committee (PRC):** Approval \_\_\_\_ Not Applicable  X   
**Policy Review Group (PRG)** Approval \_\_\_\_ Date of Approval \_\_\_\_ Not Applicable  X

**Presenters in Committee:** Abbey Sidebottom, Epidemiologist

**Financial Impact (Check those that apply)**

X  Other financial impact (Explain): The City of Minneapolis would receive a grant of up to \$800,000

**Background/Supporting Information Attached**

The Department requests authorization to apply for a two year grant from the National Institutes of Health as part of the Recovery Act. Funds would be used to test the use of technology to promote adherence to health care recommendations. The proposed project, "Fostering adherence to perinatal care recommendations through social networking sites" is a two-year research project that would test the use of social networking sites and text messaging among women at risk for poor birth outcomes to improve compliance with recommended prenatal and postpartum care and well-child visits. The project would also gauge the feasibility and acceptability of using this technology to promote the use of contraception and safe infant sleep practices. The project will complement activities undertaken through the Twin Cities Health Start program to reduce infant mortality and promote healthy births.