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U.S. DOE Buildings Upgrade Prize - Accept & Expend

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SAN FRANCISCO
ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT

SF Environment's focus on climate, coordination, and equity - turning climate goals into lived reality by protecting health and communities through electrification initiatives.



**\$83.2M in grants won
since November 2022.**

**2 federal prizes (total
\$800,000) awarded to
SFE since November
2022.**

Background: U.S. Department of Energy Buildings Upgrade Prize

- Designed to accelerate building retrofits with high-performance, energy efficient and electrification technologies **over 3 phases.**
- Benefits include cutting energy costs while improving indoor air quality, comfort.
- Has awarded over \$22 million in cash prizes and project support nationwide.

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Environment Department's Winning Concept – 200 x 200: Fast Upgrades, Equitable Outcomes

Upgrade 200 homes in 200 days using **standardized equipment and installation processes** for heat pump water heaters and energy efficiency measures - in and around state-designated Disadvantaged Communities.

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Summary: Buildings Upgrade Prize, Phases 1 and 2



Summary

Purpose:	Improve energy efficiency and electrification in low-income, historically marginalized communities through the 200 x 200 concept.
Cash Prize Amount:	\$ 400,000 per phase x 2 phases or \$800,000 total
Timeframe:	None specified. At the discretion of the awardee, application to compete in the next phase must be submitted before the rolling application window closes or available funds are exhausted. Prizes were received in Dec 2023 and March 2025.
Description/ Deliverables:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Phase 1: Develop a pilot implementation plan in collaboration with 3 partners.Phase 2: Implement the pilot plan to upgrade 20 single-family home within the Disadvantaged Communities to gather feedback and data for the full-scale program in Phase 3.

- The DOE funding consists of **cash prizes** and carries no deliverable requirements or terms and conditions. As a prize, there is no grant agreement.
- Since they're prizes, SFE budgeted \$800,000 in FY24-25 and \$400,000 in FY 25-26 for all 3 phases.
- SFE believed that including the prizes in the budgets met requirements.
- Later, City Attorneys and Controller's Office staff determined the prizes must follow grant procedures under local rules.
- SFE, therefore, is now following standard grant procedure, including submission of the Accept and Expend resolutions.

Why retroactive authorization of A&E?

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Thank you!

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