

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE and RESOLUTION relative to grant funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for the South LA Carbon into Canopy Tree Planting Project: Vermont Corridor.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the Director, Bureau of Sanitation (BOS), or designee, to apply for, accept, negotiate, execute, and submit all grant documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, and amendments, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form, which may be necessary to receive funding, if awarded a grant, from CAL FIRE for the South LA Carbon into Canopy Tree Planting Project: Vermont Corridor not exceeding the amount of \$750,000.
2. AUTHORIZE a loan from the Public Works Trust Fund (Fund 834) in the amount of \$750,000 payable by the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund (Fund 537), to front fund the South LA Carbon into Canopy Tree Planting Project: Vermont Corridor.
3. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION authorizing the submission of the grant application to State of California and appointing the Director, BOS, or designee, to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, etc., which may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Resolution in compliance with CAL FIRE requirements to complete the South LA Carbon into Canopy Tree Planting Project: Vermont Corridor and expend grant funds prior to December 31, 2019, if awarded the grant.
4. REQUEST the Board of Public Works (Board) to authorize the Office of Community Beautification to amend Contract No. C-124509 with the LA Conservation Corps (LACC) to increase the contract ceiling by \$650,000, and to extend the contract by two years to cover the grant implementation period, if the grant proposal is funded by CAL FIRE.
5. REQUEST the Board to authorize the work up to \$750,000.
6. AUTHORIZE the Director, BOS, to receive and appropriate \$750,000 from the Public Works Trust Fund, Fund 834, to the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund, Fund 537, Department 50, New Account (South LA Trees- Vermont Corridor), and to make payments to LACC Contract No. C-124509 and the Director, BOS, expenses.
7. AUTHORIZE reimbursements from CAL FIRE to be deposited into the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund and subsequently to be transferred back to the Public Works Trust Fund.
8. REQUEST the Controller to make technical corrections as necessary.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Board reports that there is no impact to the City's General Fund. The Public Works Trust Fund will front fund the Project for \$750,000 and the Trust Fund will be reimbursed by the grant as the work is implemented.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On January 7, 2015, the Chair and one member of the Energy and Environment Committee considered a December 3, 2014 Board report and Resolution relative to grant funding from CAL FIRE for the South LA Carbon into Canopy Tree Planting Project: Vermont Corridor. According to the Board, the Department of Public Works is currently implementing several tree planting projects through the BOS, the Office of Community Beautification (OCB), and in partnership with City Plants and several of the non-profit tree planting organizations. Much of the labor to plant the trees and to create new tree wells by cutting concrete in parkways is being done by the LACC through contracts with OCB. In addition, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is providing City Plants with funding for trees and labor. CAL FIRE is offering funding for projects that will sequester carbon and provide energy efficiency by planting trees near buildings. Concept proposals are due to CAL FIRE by November 13, 2014. The grant will fund concrete cuts and multi-year watering plans which are usually the two most difficult pieces to fund in the tree planting projects in low canopy areas of the City. If selected, CAL FIRE will require entities to submit a full proposal, with implementation details in the Spring of 2015.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee Chair moved to recommend approval of the Board's request as contained in the December 3, 2014 Board report and detailed in the above recommendations. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

COUNCILMEMBER FELIPE FUENTES, CHAIR



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
FUENTES:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
HUIZAR:	ABSENT
KORETZ:	ABSENT

ARL
1/7/15

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-