

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BUREAU OF SANITATION
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION
JOINT REPORT NO. 1
March 8, 2017

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY
of Los Angeles California
AND REFERRED TO THE MAYOR
MAR - 8 2017
AND REFERRED TO THE CITY COUNCIL
Chang
Executive Officer
Board of Public Works

CD: 2,6,7,8,9,15

AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, NEGOTIATE, AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT, AND ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (CAL FIRE) PROGRAM AND AUTHORITY TO REQUEST A LOAN FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS TRUST FUND TO BE REIMBURSED AS GRANT PROCEEDS ARE RECEIVED

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve and forward this report, with its transmittal, to the Mayor and the City Council, with the recommendation that the City Council, subject to the concurrence of the Mayor, authorize the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) 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 the State of California, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for the project "A Greater, Greener Los Angeles" not exceeding the amount of \$1,000,000.
2. Request the City Council, subject to concurrence by the Mayor, to adopt the accompanying RESOLUTION authorizing the submission of the grant application to CAL FIRE and appointing the Director of LASAN, or designee, to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Resolution in compliance with CAL FIRE requirements to complete the Project and expend grant funds prior to March 30, 2020, if awarded the grant.
3. Authorize a loan from the Public Works Trust Fund (Fund 834) in the amount of \$1,000,000, payable by the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund (Fund 537), to front fund the Project until the grant proceeds are received on a cost reimbursement basis, if the project is funded.
4. Authorize the Director of the Office of Accounting to release the Public Works Trust Fund Loan as soon as copy of the grant award is received from LASAN.
5. Authorize the Director of the Office of Accounting to assess and collect monthly interest on the loans at the rate that Office of Finance is using to allocate interest to various investment pools. Any unpaid interest at the end of the year will be added to the principal amount of the loan.

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6. Request the Board of Public Works to authorize the Office of Community Beautification (OCB) to amend contract C-124509, or newer 2017/2018 contract, with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) to increase the contract ceiling by \$1,000,000, and to extend the contract to cover the grant implementation period ending June 30, 2020, if the grant proposal is funded.
7. Request the Board of Public Works to authorize the work up to \$1,000,000.
8. Authorize the Director of the Office of Accounting to transfer \$1,000,000 from the Public Works Trust Fund No. 834 to the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund No. 537, and to appropriate said amount in Environmental Affairs Trust Fund No. 537, Department 50, New Account (Greater Greener Los Angeles), and to make payments to LA Conservation Corps and LASAN expenses, if grant is awarded.
9. 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 upon receipt.
10. Request the Controller make technical corrections as necessary.

TRANSMITTAL

1. Resolution, as required by the State of California, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for grant submittals to the Urban and Community Forest Program, California Climate Investments, and funded by the California Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

DISCUSSION

CAL FIRE is offering grant funding from the Urban and Community Forestry Program (Program) for tree planting and urban greening projects that will contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases. Highest priority projects are those that will be exclusively located in Disadvantaged Communities as defined by CalEnviro Screen 2.0.

The Program encourages projects that produce multiple benefits which reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase water use efficiency, reduce risks from climate change impacts, and demonstrate collaboration with local, state and community entities.

Concept proposals were due December 31, 2016 and full application proposals will be requested in the Spring of 2017. The grant will fund tree planting labor, trees, concrete cuts and multi-year watering plans, in low canopy areas of the City. CAL FIRE is expected to announce the grant awards in late Spring 2017.

The project, "Greater Greener Los Angeles", will plant 2,000 parkway trees in South Los Angeles, North East Valley and Mid-town North Hollywood. The request for \$1,000,000 will fund:

SCOPE OF WORK	AMOUNT
Contract Labor by tree planting groups for 1,100 trees	\$ 185,900
Purchase 900 15-gallon trees, stakes and ties	\$ 64,602
Concrete cuts to create 350 new tree wells	\$ 201,600
Three years of watering for 350 trees in the new wells	\$ 330,750
LASAN as-needed staff	\$ 185,000
Mandated signage and printed materials	\$ 25,000
Contingency and additional watering or cuts	\$ 7,148
TOTAL	\$ 1,000,000

The grant requires the use of matching funds to increase the competitiveness of the applications. Matching funds through services provided by City Plants and the Office of Community Beautification (OCB)/Board of Public Works and Bureau of Street Services will provide the following:

SCOPE OF WORK	AMOUNT	AGENCY
Contract Labor by tree planting groups for 900 trees	\$ 152,100	City Plants/OCB
Purchase 1,100 15-gallon trees, stakes and ties	\$ 78,958	City Plants/OCB
Purchase 1,400 5-gallon trees for tree adoption events	\$ 70,000	City Plants/OCB
Resource Fair with in-kind services, volunteer labor and local business donations	\$ 13,000	City Plants/OCB
Permit and tree inspections post planting	\$ 20,000	Bureau of Street Services
TOTAL	\$ 334,058	

The 350 new tree wells and watering assistance will be focused in two areas: South Los Angeles on Figueroa and in the Valley along Vineland. These are areas with high foot traffic that are lacking trees. The additional residential parkway trees will be planted in neighborhoods near these two larger corridors, where residents will agree to water the trees until they are established. These areas are some of the lowest canopied areas within the City and are identified as Disadvantaged Communities.

Tree planting events will be held to plant the 350 boulevard trees. The events invite volunteers and community members to help plant the trees and a resource fair will bring in businesses, community organizations and attractions (sea animal touch tanks, LA Zoo, Museum of Natural History, fire trucks) to attract the local community to learn about environmental and health impacts and introduce other resources to the community.

The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article III, Section 1 of the City guidelines: Minor alterations to land, category 3 – new tree planting.

The Office of Community Beautification (OCB) has contracts with the planting partners, led by the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), working with City Plants. A new contract with LACC is expected to be developed in 2017/2018. LASAN is asking that this new contract accommodate the \$1,000,000 in grant funding and extend the term though June 30 2020. However, an existing contract, C-124509, executed on September 3, 2014 for similar work could be used if the new contract that will be developed by OCB is delayed. Grant funds must be expended by March 30, 2020; however, the Program, reports, invoicing and final inspections will continue through June 30, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no impact to the City's General Fund. The Public Works Trust Fund (Trust Fund) will front fund the project for \$1,000,000 and the Trust Fund will be reimbursed by the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund as grant proceeds are received.

STATUS OF FINANCING

There is no impact to the General Fund. The total funding for this project is not to exceed \$1,000,000. If awarded the grant, \$1,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 will be available in the Public Works Trust Fund, No. 834 to transfer to the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund No. 537, Department 50, New Account (Greater Greener LA) to front fund the project.

All funds reimbursed by the grant to the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund or any other fund based on the change of funding source or appropriations would be transferred back to the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund to pay back the Public Works Trust Fund.

The contract includes a "Financial Liability Clause" which states that the City's liability under this contract shall only be to the extent of the present appropriation to fund the Contract. However, if the City shall appropriate funds for any succeeding years, the City's liability shall be extended to the extent of such appropriation, subject to the terms and conditions of the contract.

The Public Works Trust Fund current practice for outstanding loan balance is benchmarked at 25% of total deposits. Approval of this loan request will increase the total outstanding loan balance to \$29,970,456, which represents 27% of PWTF's total deposits. However, this total outstanding loan balance represents 50% of available cash after consideration of all restricted/reserved funds.

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Respectfully submitted,



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