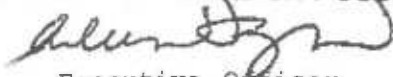


DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BUREAU OF SANITATION
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION
JOINT REPORT NO. 1
December 3, 2014

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY
of Los Angeles California
AND REFERRED TO THE MAYOR
DEC - 3 2014
AND REFERRED TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Executive Officer

CD: 8, 9, 10, 15

AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, NEGOTIATE, AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT, AND ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION FOR CALIFORNIA GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (CAL FIRE) UNDER THE GREEN TREES FOR THE GOLDEN STATE GRANT 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 forthwith, 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 South LA Carbon into Canopy Tree Planting Project: Vermont Corridor (Project) 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 Project as the grant proceeds are received on a cost reimbursement basis.
3. Request the City Council, subject to concurrence by the Mayor, to adopt the accompanying Resolution authorizing the submission of the grant application to the State of California 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, payment requests, etc., 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 December 31, 2019, if awarded the grant.
4. Request the Board of Public Works to authorize the Office of Community Beautification (OCB) to amend contract C-124509 with 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 of Public Works to authorize the work up to \$750,000.

6. Authorize LASAN 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 LA Conservation Corps (C-124509) and LASAN 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 makes technical corrections as necessary.

TRANSMITTAL

1. Resolution, as required by the State of California, Department of Forestry and Fire, for grant submittals to the Green House Gas Reduction Fund Program.

DISCUSSION

The Department of Public Works is currently implementing several tree planting projects through LA Sanitation (LASAN), 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 LA Conservation Corps (LACC) through contracts with OCB. In addition, 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.

The project, "South LA Carbon into Canopy: Vermont Corridor", will plant 1,800 parkway trees in South Los Angeles. The request for \$750,000 will fund:

- approximately 625 new tree wells at a cost of \$300,000 and
- three years of watering for those newly planted trees for \$310,000.
- About \$100,000 will fund part-time, as-needed LASAN staff to implement the project, find the locations, direct the planting and watering site by site to the non-profits, and to document the locations for the grant requirements.
- The remaining budget (\$40,000) will be used for mandated signage, printed materials and other hard costs.
- An additional 1,200 parkway trees will be planted in residential areas adjacent the business corridors, as part of the total project, and funded by City Plants.

The grant requires matching funds of at least 25% which will be provided by City Plants. Trees and planting labor from C-124509 (funds originally from LADWP) will be used as match for the grant. Currently funds from LA DWP will only pay for trees and planting labor, not for concrete cuts or watering. Funds from CAL FIRE will allow City Plants to complete several mini projects in one of the lowest canopy neighborhoods in the City. The labor to plant 1,800 trees meets the minimum match (\$252,000) and the current cost of the 1,800 fifteen gallon trees (\$90,000) is over-match. In addition, City Plants will provide tree adoption events to encourage residents to adopt fruit and shade trees over the three years with a goal to offer 1,500 trees, which is additional over-match of \$45,000.

The project location is primarily the Vermont Avenue corridor from about Gage Avenue to the 10 Freeway and branches out to about Alameda Street. The grant requires the funds to be used in, or serve, disadvantaged communities as shown by CalEnviro Screen 2.0. The trees to be planted in the residential area radiate out from Vermont Avenue. The fruit tree adoptions will be held in the general area at central locations to be determined later in the project as community interest develops.

The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) since the project will only plant trees and construct new tree wells in areas that have been previously disturbed.

On August 25, 2014, the Board of Public Works approved a contract with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps in the amount of \$1,125,000, which was fully executed on September 3, 2014 with the contract number C-124509 for tree planting labor, purchasing trees and supplies, and other associated elements. A contract amendment is needed to raise the ceiling of the contract, add funds by \$650,000 and extend the time to cover three years of watering the new trees.

As funds from C-124509 will be used as match (\$252,000) and an additional \$135,000 in over-match, the Los Angeles Conservation Corps and subcontracting non-profits will be hired to complete this additional work to ensure seamless and timely work flow through a contract amendment. LACC and their subcontractors, the tree planting groups, will share the tree well cuts and watering work funded by the grant.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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.

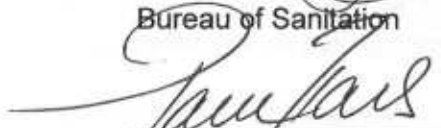
STATUS OF FINANCING

If awarded, funds in the amount of \$750,000 from the Public Works Trust Fund would be transferred to the Environmental Affairs Trust Fund, Fund 537, Department 50, New Account (South LA trees- Vermont Corridor) to front fund the project over the four year time period. All funds reimbursed by the grant to the Environmental Affairs Trust fund would be transferred back to the Public Works Trust Fund.

Respectfully submitted,



ENRIQUE C. ZALDIVAR, Director
Bureau of Sanitation



PAUL RACS, Director
Office of Community Beautification

APPROVED AS TO FUNDS:



VICTORIA SANTIAGO, Director
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