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**OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

DR. FERNANDO CAMPOS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

200 NORTH SPRING STREET
ROOM 361, CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

TEL: (213) 978-0261
TDD: (213) 978-2310
FAX: (213) 978-0278

<http://bpw.lacity.org>

October 8, 2021

BPW-2021-0708

The Honorable City Council
Room No. 395
City Hall

The Honorable Mayor Garcetti
City Hall – Room 320
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attn: Heleen Ramirez

GRANT AGREEMENT AND RESOLUTION - CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY'S (CNRA) ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION (EEM) PROGRAM AND CONTRACT AMENDMENTS - LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS (LACC) AND KOREATOWN YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTER (KYCC) FOR THE SLAUSON CORRIDOR: MAKING CONNECTIONS PROJECT

As recommended in the accompanying report from the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation and the Director of the Office of Community Beautification, which this Board has adopted, the Board of Public Works (Board) recommends that the City Council, subject to concurrence of the Mayor:

1. AUTHORIZE the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, or designee, to negotiate, accept, execute, and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, time extensions, payment requests, etc., subject to the approval of the City Attorney as-to-form, which may be necessary to secure grant funds for the Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project from the CNRA EEM Program;
2. ADOPT the accompanying Resolution for certifying the approval of application submitted to the State of California, as well as authorizing the City of Los Angeles to enter into an agreement with the State of California, by the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, or designee, which may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Resolution, in compliance with the CNRA EEM Program guidelines and requirements to complete the Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project and expend grant funds prior to June 30, 2025, if awarded the grant;
3. AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Street Services' Urban Forestry Division to take over long-term maintenance and operations for all project trees;



4. AUTHORIZE the Director of the Office of Accounting to make payments to LACC and KYCC for Bureau of Sanitation's project expenditures;
5. AUTHORIZE the Board of Public Works and the Office of Community Beautification (OCB) to amend the current contract with LACC (C-124509 or newer with work up to \$300,000), increase the contract ceiling by \$300,000 and to extend the contract to June 2025 to match the terms of the grant. Funds shall be paid from LA County Safe Clean Water Municipal Fund No. 60W, Appropriation Unit No. 50VX66 (Regional Project Development and Revolving Funds);
6. AUTHORIZE the Board and OCB to amend the current contract with KYCC (C-136652 or newer, with work up to \$200,000), increase the contract ceiling by \$200,000 and to extend the contract until June 2025, to match the terms of the grant, if the grant is funded. In addition, expand Section 202 of the contract to include the Slauson Corridor and half-mile footprint for the community beautification elements of the amendment. Funds shall be paid from LA County Safe Clean Water Municipal Fund No. 60W, Appropriation Unit No. 50VX66 (Regional Project Development and Revolving Funds);
7. AUTHORIZE the Controller, upon instructions from the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, to increase appropriation in the amount of \$500,000 in the LA County Safe Clean Water Municipal Fund No. 60W, Appropriation Unit No. 50VX66, Regional Project Development and Revolving Funds;
8. AUTHORIZE the President or two members of the Board to execute the contract amendment after approval as-to-form has been obtained by the City Attorney; and
9. AUTHORIZE the Controller to make technical corrections as necessary.

(C-124509, C-136652)

Fiscal Impact:
There is no impact to the General Fund.

Sincerely,



DR. FERNANDO CAMPOS,
Executive Officer, Board of Public Works

FC:lc

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BUREAU OF SANITATION
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION
JOINT BOARD REPORT NO.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY
of Los Angeles California
AND REFERRED TO THE CITY COUNCIL
OCT 08 2021
AND REFERRED TO THE MAYOR


Executive Officer
Board of Public Works

CDs: 8, 9

AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE, ACCEPT, AND EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT, AND ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY'S ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM AND EXECUTE THE CONTRACT AMENDMENTS WITH LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS AND KOREATOWN YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE SLAUSON CORRIDOR: MAKING CONNECTIONS PROJECT

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve and forward this report, with its transmittal, to the City Council (Council) and Mayor, with the recommendation that the Council, subject to the concurrence of the Mayor, authorize the Director and General Manager of LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN), or designee, to negotiate, accept, execute, and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, time extensions, payment requests, etc., subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form, which may be necessary to secure grant funds for the Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project from the California Natural Resources Agency's (CNRA) Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program.
2. Request that the Council, subject to the concurrence of the Mayor, adopt the accompanying Resolution (Transmittal 1) for certifying the approval of application submitted to the State of California, as well authorizing the City of Los Angeles to enter into an agreement with the State of California, by the Director and General Manager of LASAN, or designee, which may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Resolution, in compliance with the CNRA EEM Program guidelines and requirements to complete the Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project and expend grant funds prior to June 30, 2025, if awarded the grant.
3. Authorize the Bureau of Street Services' Urban Forestry Division to take over long-term maintenance and operations for all project trees.
4. Authorize the Director of the Office of Accounting to make payments to Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), and Koreatown Youth and Community Center (KYCC) for LASAN's project expenditures.
5. Request the Council to authorize the Board of Public Works (Board) and the Office of Community Beautification (OCB) to amend the current contract with LACC (C-124509 or newer with work up to \$300,000), increase the contract ceiling by \$300,000 and to extend the contract to June 2025 to match the terms of the grant. Funds shall be paid from LA County

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Safe Clean Water Municipal Fund No. 60W, Appropriation Unit No. 50VX66 (Regional Project Development and Revolving Funds)

6. Request the Council to authorize the Board and OCB to amend the current contract with KYCC (C-136652 or newer, with work up to \$200,000), increase the contract ceiling by \$200,000 and to extend the contract until June 2025, to match the terms of the grant, if the grant is funded. In addition, expand Section 202 of the contract to include the Slauson Corridor and half-mile footprint for the community beautification elements of the amendment. Funds shall be paid from LA County Safe Clean Water Municipal Fund No. 60W, Appropriation Unit No. 50VX66 (Regional Project Development and Revolving Funds)
7. Request the Council to authorize the Controller, upon instructions from the Director and General Manager of LASAN, to increase appropriation in the amount of \$500,000 in the LA County Safe Clean Water Municipal Fund Fund No. 60W, Appropriation Unit No. 50VX66, Regional Project Development and Revolving Funds.
8. Authorize the President or two members of the Board to execute the contract amendment after approval as-to-form has been obtained by the City Attorney.
9. Request the Controller to make technical corrections as necessary.

TRANSMITTAL

1. Resolution, as required by the CNRA, for submittals for grant funds to the EEM Program.

DISCUSSION

On January 7, 2021, the CNRA issued a solicitation offering \$13.4 million in grant funding from its EEM Program for projects that are directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of modifying existing transportation facilities or for the design, construction, or expansion of new transportation facilities. A related transportation facility includes but is not limited to: a public street or highway; a mass transit guideway (trains, ports, light rail lines, airports, etc.) or their accompanying features (e.g. park and ride facilities, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, on-and-off ramps, overpasses, transit stations, etc.).

Funding for this program is being provided by the California Streets and Highway Code Section 164.56 (California Constitution, Article XIX, Section 1), Highway Users Tax Account (Motor Vehicle Revenues, Section 2100). Eligible applicants submitted project proposals to the CNRA on or before March 5, 2021. Projects are evaluated by the CNRA in three application phases: 1) project proposal; 2) field inspection; and 3) the submission of supporting documents. Each stage becomes more selective. After the third stage, the State will award grants to selected projects. Southern California is expected to receive sixty percent (60%) of the available grant funds.

As part of its Environmental Quality Program's Education and Sustainability initiatives, LASAN's tree planting program is committed to planting street trees in neighborhoods within the City of Los Angeles that lack tree cover (known as low-canopy neighborhoods). It has been proven that

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planting trees helps create more sustainable, vibrant communities by providing shade, contributing to cleaner air, beautifying streets, while simultaneously protecting the City's diverse ecosystem and biodiversity. To further this work, LASAN continues to seek Federal, State, and private grant funding, as well as work with other City departments and nonprofit partners to increase the City's tree inventory.

Since 2010, LASAN staff has been successful in obtaining \$8.5 million in grant funding to implement greening projects in Los Angeles. These grants will plant over 11,000 trees, remove over 93,000 square feet (two acres) of concrete to create new tree wells, and maintain thousands of trees once complete. Not only have these projects increased tree canopy and sequestered emissions in communities across the City, but they align with LASAN's mission to protect public health and the environment. If the EEM grant is awarded to the Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project, its successful implementation will continue LASAN's execution of large greening projects. Further, the project will continue the important environmental justice work of greening disadvantaged communities by providing multiple green infrastructure benefits to the area.

BACKGROUND

The proposed Slauson Corridor: Making Connections project will green an existing barren transit corridor in South Los Angeles (South LA) that has historically been dominated by an industrial rail line on the north side of Slauson Avenue into a tree-lined, community green-way. The existence of the rail line in the project area meant that few, if any, trees could be planted on Slauson Avenue due to concerns about rail safety. However, the now abandoned rail line on Slauson Avenue is being transformed into the Rail to Rail/River Active Transportation Corridor Project, a new multipurpose bike and pedestrian path by Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA).

Unfortunately, planting trees in the adjacent neighborhood was beyond the scope of the LACMTA project and the south side of the street was to remain barren without this proposed project. This project will green the south side of Slauson Avenue and the immediate connector streets, as well as increase the number of trees to be planted along the new Rail to Rail/ River Active Transportation Corridor bike path on the north side of the street. The project will bring new street trees as well as a healthy, biodiverse understory planted with thousands of new California native, drought-tolerant, and/or pollinator friendly plants along the new bike path. In total, LASAN's Slauson Corridor: Making Connections project will plant 1,600 trees, create 160 new tree wells on Slauson Avenue and adjacent streets, and increase the area's habitat with thousands of new plants.

The Project's catchment area encompasses Slauson Avenue and immediately adjacent streets from Alameda Street on the east, to Crenshaw Boulevard on the west. The heavily trafficked Interstate 110 Harbor Freeway (I-110), is identified as the Related Transportation Facility (RTF) for this project.

The Project will mitigate the impacts of the construction of the High-Occupancy-Vehicle travel lanes on the I-110 through South LA. The RTF travels directly through the EEM proposal area of the Slauson corridor in South LA, bisecting the east/west Slauson corridor roughly in half.

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Highway adjacent communities are disproportionately affected by the pollutants that result from automobile use, especially during periods of heavy traffic. During those periods, the air quality in South LA's community can reach the 90th percentile of particulate pollution in California. During construction of the RTF, Caltrans was legally required to mitigate noise and congestion, but it was not mitigated to an insignificant level. The I-110 adjacent communities in South LA continue to bear the environmental burden of the heavily congested interstate highway.

This project creates a green way of trees, natives, and drought-tolerant plants in a community long deprived of open, natural spaces. In addition to the planting of 1,600 new trees and thousands of understory plants, the Project will reduce and sequester approximately 9,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, reduce ambient temperatures, increase biodiversity and habitat, conserve household energy, encourage alternative transportation and outdoor exercise, and improve stormwater capture. The Project will also create 160 new tree wells and maintain 200 new street trees along the south side of Slauson Avenue and the adjacent neighborhood. By removing 3,840 square feet of concrete for 160 new tree wells, water quality and water infiltration is improved in South LA. The 1,600 new trees planted along the Slauson Corridor will sequester carbon, shade walkways and buildings, connect natural areas, facilitate active transportation, and improve the health and quality of life of residents in a severely impacted community.

On March 5, 2021, LASAN submitted an application to the CNRA, EEM Program, in the amount of \$500,000, which is fifty-nine percent (59%) of the total project costs, \$852,220. A total of \$352,220 in leveraged, in-kind funding is being provided by LACMTA (\$270,000) and City Plants (\$82,220). The project budget of \$852,220 includes the watering of two hundred (200) street trees for two years. As mentioned previously, the Notice of Funding Opportunity was released on January 7, 2021, which left less than 61 days to submit the application. Therefore, based on the exemption identified in the Los Angeles Administrative Code, Division 14, Grants Program, Section 14.6(b), the application was submitted without requesting Council and Mayor approval.

In the event that the project proposal qualifies LASAN to participate in the second, and, subsequently, third application rounds, a Resolution from the Los Angeles City Council, with the concurrence of the Mayor, approving the application for grant funds from the EEM Program will be needed.

In-kind Funding and Compensation for Non-profit Planting Partners

The Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project is fortunate to have the generous in-kind donation amount of \$352,220. This includes 600 15-gallon trees and labor from City Plants, a non-profit partnership funded primarily through the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. LACMTA, the local transportation agency, will be providing the labor to plant 1,400 trees along the Rail to Rail path as well as thousands of understory plantings. LACMTA is installing the irrigation for the establishment of the trees and understory plants along the Rail to Rail multi-purpose path.

Total in-kind match funding:
City Plants: \$82,220
LACMTA: \$270,000

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Creating green jobs that employ young adults from the disadvantaged communities of South LA is another project objective. The labor included in this proposal (i.e. cutting tree wells, planting or watering trees) will be completed by local non-profit partners like the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) and Koreatown Youth and Community Center (KYCC) that specifically hire at-risk youth and adults from neighborhoods like the project target area.

The LACC and the KYCC will provide labor and services on the project. The Project will create new tree wells at a cost of \$34 per square foot, purchase 15 gallon trees for \$75, and water newly planted trees for \$12 per tree/per visit.

PROJECT REVIEW BY DIRECTOR (PRD) APPROVAL

The Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project was approved for the amount of \$500,000 by LASAN's Director and General Manager on April 26, 2021.

STATUS OF FINANCING

There is no impact to the General Fund. Upon grant award, front-funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in the LA County Safe Clean Water Municipal Fund No. 60W, Appropriation Unit No. 50VX66 (Regional Project Development and Revolving Funds). Grant reimbursements from the California Natural Resources Agency will be deposited into the Measure W Local Return Fund No. 60W, Department 50, Departmental Revenue Source Code 336100 (Other State Grants – General).

Funds and appropriations for future fiscal years are not yet identified and existing appropriations may change based on available cash balances. Therefore, funds and appropriations will be determined by the Director and General Manager of LASAN or designee.

Funding as of the date of this Board Report has been verified and approved by the Director of the Office of Accounting subject to terms and conditions and cash availability described above.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, including any exhibits or attachments incorporated therein, and in order for the City to comply with its governing legal requirements, the City shall have no obligation to make any payments to the Contractor unless the City shall have first made an appropriation of funds equal to or in excess of its obligation to make any payments as provided in this Contract.

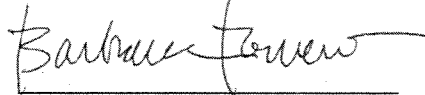
The Contractor agrees that any services provided by the Contractor, purchases made by the Contractor or expenses incurred by the Contractor in excess of the appropriation(s) shall be free and without charge to the City and the City shall have no obligation to pay for the services, purchases or expenses. The Contractor shall have no obligation to provide any services, provide any equipment, or incur any expense in excess of the appropriation, amount(s) until the City, appropriates additional funds for this Contract.

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Respectfully submitted,

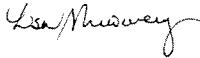


BARBARA ROMERO
Director and General Manager
Bureau of Sanitation



PAUL RACS
Director
Office of Community Beautification

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:



Digitally signed by Lisa B. Mowery
Date: 2021.09.09 13:36:41 -07'00'

LISA B. MOWERY, P.E., Chief Financial Officer
Bureau of Sanitation
Date: 9/9/21

APPROVED AS TO FUNDS:



MIGUEL DE LA PEÑA, Director
Office of Accounting
60W/50/50VX66 \$200,000
Date: 9/29/2021

Prepared by:

Parvati Proffitt, Financial Management Division, CGU, (213) 485-3148
Melinda Bartlett, Regulatory Affairs Division, (310) 639-7348

RESOLUTION

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES APPROVING THE BUREAU OF SANITATION TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, NEGOTIATE, AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION (EEM) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have enacted Section 164.56 of the California Streets and Highways Code, which is intended to provide grant funds to local, state and federal agencies and nonprofit entities for projects to enhance and mitigate the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the California Natural Resources Agency has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program, establishing necessary procedures and criteria, and is required to submit to the California Transportation Commission a list of recommended projects from which the grant recipients will be selected; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the California Natural Resources Agency require a resolution certifying the approval of application(s) by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that with the concurrence of the Mayor, the Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Slauson Corridor: Making Connections Project; and
2. Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification in the application; and
3. Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s) consistent with the land tenure requirements; or will secure the resources to do so; and
4. Certifies that it will comply with all provisions of Section 1771.5 of the California Labor Code; and
5. If applicable, certifies that the project will comply with any laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)*, legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, and disabled access laws, and that prior to commencement of construction all applicable permits will have been obtained; and

6. Certifies that Applicant will work towards the State Planning Priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety as included in Government Code Section 65041.1; and

7. Appoints the Director and General Manager of the Bureau of Sanitation [dba LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN)], or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: _____.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution, was duly adopted by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

Following Roll Call Vote: Ayes:
 Nos:
 Absent:

Clerk/Secretary for the Governing Board