

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Urban and Community Forestry Program works to optimize the benefits of trees and related vegetation through multiple objective projects as specified in the California Urban Forestry Act of 1978 (Public Resources Code 4799.06-4799.12), as amended in 2018. CAL FIRE released a solicitation seeking concept proposals for its 2021-2022 Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program in Spring 2021. Approximately, \$26 million is to be allocated to eligible projects during the 2021-2022 grant program cycle.

The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) submitted a concept proposal to the Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program on July 14, 2021 for the GREENfiltration Project. The proposed project will plant approximately 1,200 fifteen-gallon trees in disadvantaged and low-income communities (DACs/LICs) within the City of Los Angeles. In addition, 850 of these trees will be watered for three (3) years plus the extended maintenance period. The GREENfiltration Project will plant trees in Council Districts 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

BOS's tree planting efforts are committed to planting street trees in neighborhoods that lack tree cover. It has been proven that planting trees helps create more sustainable, vibrant communities by providing shade and contributing to cleaner air.

The grant proposal total is for \$1,500,000 in grant funding to implement the GREENfiltration Project, which falls under the grant program's Urban Forest Expansion and Improvement category. The total project cost is \$2,000,000 which includes \$500,000 of non-BOS matching fund sources:

CAL FIRE Grant Funding Request	\$1,500,000
StreetsLA - Urban Forestry Division (concrete-cuts)	\$ 209,090
City Plants (trees and labor)	\$ 290,910
Total	\$2,000,000

In addition to supplementing the City's Green New Deal initiative, the Project will enhance two other sustainability efforts: 1) StreetsLA CoolPaving efforts to reduce the urban heat island, and 2) BOS's stormwater infiltration projects. The GREENfiltration Project will augment these two efforts by planting trees in low-canopy disadvantaged communities to reduce ambient temperatures and increase stormwater infiltration, thereby improving air and water quality, increasing energy savings, promoting heat island reduction, and other benefits.

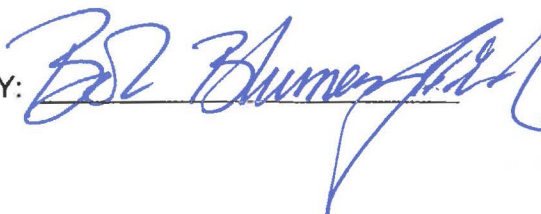
The grant application deadline is December 10, 2021. CAL FIRE expects to award projects no later than February 2022. If the CAL FIRE grant is awarded to the City, GREENfiltration must be completed before March 30, 2025.

OCT 27 2021. 

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, hereby:

1. Authorize the Director and General Manager 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 and legality, which may be necessary to secure grant funding up to \$1,500,00 awarded by CAL FIRE's 2021-2022 Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program for the completion of the GREENfiltration Project; and
2. Adopt the attached Resolution, as required by the State of California, appointing the Director and General Manager of the Bureau of Sanitation, to accept grant funding; to conduct all negotiations; execute and to submit all documents, including but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, etc., subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality, which may be necessary for the completion of the GREENfiltration project.

PRESENTED BY: 
MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13TH District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES FOR FUNDING FROM THE URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM OF THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION.

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California in cooperation with the State Legislature has appropriated General Funds for the State's urban forestry programs; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the program within the State, setting up necessary procedures governing application by local agencies and non-profit organizations under the program, and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of application before submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, the applicant will enter an agreement with the State of California to carry out an urban forestry project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Los Angeles:

1. Approved the filing of an application for the Urban and Community Forestry grant program funds; and
2. Certifies that said applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project; and,
3. Certifies that funds under the jurisdiction of the City of Los Angeles are available to begin the project.
4. Certifies that said applicant will expend grant funds prior to March 30, 2025.
5. Appoints the Director and General Manager of the Bureau of Sanitation (LA Sanitation and Environment), or a designee, as agent of the City of Los Angeles to conduct negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

Approved and adopted the _____ day of October, 2021.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution, number _____, was duly adopted by the following roll call vote of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles.

Ayes: _____ Noes: _____ Absent: _____ (Clerk signature)

Notarized Seal: