

MOTION

In 2021, Council established the L.A. REPAIR Participatory Budgeting Pilot Program (Council File 21-1187). The City allocated approximately \$8.5 million for the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department to distribute to selected community-based nonprofits to provide programming in nine underserved communities called "REPAIR Zones." Community members who live, work, attend school, or are the parent or guardian of a student in a REPAIR Zone would be empowered to decide how the funds should be spent. The goals of the program included: deepening democracy by increasing resident engagement in governance; increasing transparency and accountability in how budgets are decided; emphasizing public ownership of City resources; and entrusting grassroots groups and residents to guide funding priorities.

The Mission Hills - Panorama City - North Hills Community Plan Area was one of nine REPAIR Zones included in the pilot program. The zone had \$775,000 in funding available for the selected proposal. In April 2023, based on a ranked-choice vote, community members selected the Cottonwood Urban Farm's proposal, which entailed the creation of a community garden. The project also included a partnership with the organization Black Thumb Farm to provide outreach, education, gardening materials, mentorship, and expanding services at the Panorama City garden site.

Recently, Cottonwood Urban Farm withdrew from the partnership as the recipient of the Mission Hills - Panorama City - North Hills L.A. REPAIR grant. One of the remaining partners, Black Thumb Farm, remains committed to delivering a portion of the proposal, which includes expanding access to urban farming/gardening space for youth, as well as providing educational programming, outreach, and mentorship. The organization has also been continuing to provide services at the existing Panorama City garden site throughout this time.

In order to honor the community's project selection process, a portion of the L.A. REPAIR grant should be made available to the remaining project partner, Black Thumb Farm, to implement the garden project.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council authorize \$387,000 of the total available grant from Fund No. 64T, L.A. REPAIR Innovation Fund, Account No. 15V200, Project Costs for the Mission Hills - Panorama City - North Hills REPAIR Zone to be utilized by Black Thumb Farm, and authorize the execution of the grant agreement contract administered by the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, for the design and delivery of an urban farm/garden in the Mission Hills - Panorama City - North Hills REPAIR Zone, as well as related outreach and programming of the space.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department be authorized to make any corrections, clarifications or revisions to the above instructions, including any new instructions, in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion, and including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers; said corrections/ clarifications / changes may be made orally, electronically or by any other means.

OCT 14 2025


OCT 14 2025

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL