

MOTION

Urban forests serve as essential green infrastructure that help combat the urban heat island effect, reduce air pollutants, and manage stormwater runoff while enhancing community well-being.

For twenty years, the City has maintained a strategic partnership with City Plants, a small nonprofit organization to assist in convening and coordinating across a network of nonprofit partners that provide tree-related programming to help us mitigate climate change.

City Plants has functioned as a primary liaison for City staff, helped develop unified materials and messaging, convened local expertise to advance pilot programs, secured funding, and managed key research efforts and reports.

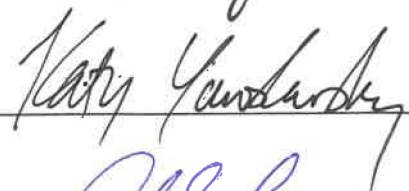

City Plants was originally created through a partnership with Community Partners in 2006 to support the Million Trees LA initiative and reaffirmed through a subsequent Memorandum of Understanding with Community Partners, rebranding the program to serve broader urban forestry efforts.

While the City continues to rely on this partnership, the organization has experienced persistent financial volatility and structural uncertainty. Consequently, the functions executed by City Plants remain vital to the City, but may require a different structure to ensure long-term sustainability.

Analysis is needed to identify a structure that would be more appropriate to best improve the tree planting needs for the City of Los Angeles.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), with support from the Department of City Planning's Office of Forest Management and the City Attorney, report back with an analysis of options to in-source, contract, and/or otherwise sustainably fund the functions currently performed by City Plants, including recommendations for a more efficient and streamlined structure to support the City's urban forest goals.

PRESENTED BY:   
BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:   


ORIGINAL



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