

Agenda Report

TO:

CITY COUNCIL

DATE: JUNE 12, 2000

FROM:

CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT:

ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATION FOR THE

PROFESSIONAL'S FOR TOMORROW INTERN CHALLENGE GRANT FOR PASADENA'S URBAN FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM – FY 1999/2000

GRANT CYCLE.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1. Adopt a resolution approving the grant application request for \$10,000 for the FY1999/2000 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's "Professional's For Tomorrow" Intern Challenge Grant Program for the funding of a university student majoring in urban forestry studies to assist in the work in progress on Pasadena's Street Tree Inventory and Tree Ordinance.
- 2. Authorize the City Manager or designee to enter into an agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to execute all the necessary forms for the purpose of securing payments and to oversee completion of the work.

BACKGROUND:

"Professional's For Tomorrow" is a matching grant program administered by the Urban and Community Forestry Program of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection under Governor Gray Davis' new Trees for the Millennium Initiative. "Professional's For Tomorrow" is a statewide effort designed to provide opportunities to improve the management of California's urban forest resources by providing university students majoring in urban forestry studies opportunities to become more knowledgeable about the role trees play in providing livable communities. These kinds of experiences will further enrich the intern's breadth of experience as a future professional in managing our community forests.

The proposed project for this grant cycle is the utilization of a university student intern to assist in the inventory of Pasadena's street trees using Treemanager, a computerized inventory system. Maintaining up to date records of every city tree is essential for effective management. A new inventory is desperately needed to identify and correct discrepancies that occurred in the transfer of an old software program to a new one. In addition to verifying tree information, an inventory will also record new addresses and tree locations that were nonexistent ten years ago, which is the date of the last inventory. Since the inventory requires field inspection of each tree site, close observations will be recorded at every location. This is an opportunity for a student interested in urban forestry to

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develop hands-on skills while working in the field. In addition to assisting with the tree inventory, the intern will also provide help with the revision of the City's Community Tree Policy Manual.

The grant requires a 50/50 cost sharing match with a \$10,000 maximum. Parks and Natural Resources will be responsible for administration of the grant if awarded. The proposed project is consistent with the Council adopted Master Street Tree Plan and follows the intent of the General Plan to provide better management of the urban forest.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This grant if approved will provide the City of Pasadena up to \$10,000 for the inventory of approximately 16,200 trees citywide, and the revision of the City's Tree Ordinance. The city will need to match the \$10,000 provided by the state. Funds are available in account # 765210.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia J. Kurtz

City Manager

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Reviewed by:

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Approved by:

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Public Works and Transportation Department