

Agenda Report

January 10, 2011

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION OF SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION'S URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE GREEN TREES FOR PASADENA PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the authorization to apply for grants is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).
2. Adopt a resolution authorizing an application for the competitive Urban Forestry Green Trees for the Golden State program of 2010-2011 in the amount of \$100,000 to plant trees.

BACKGROUND

The City of Pasadena has the opportunity to apply for grant funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Urban Forestry Grant Program for the 2010-2011 funding cycle. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has set aside funds for the Urban Forestry Green Trees for the Golden State 2010-2011. The grant funds are provided from the Proposition 40, California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood, Parks and Coastal Protection Act of 2002. Additional grant funds are provided from the Proposition 84, Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006.

The intent of the grant program is to fund the development and implementation of tree planting projects that provide economic, environmental and social benefits associated with trees. The maximum size of trees authorized to be planted by this grant is 15-gallon. If grant funding is awarded, the City will plant 1,000 trees in 15 gallon containers over a two year period. The project will allow the City to reduce consumption of finite

energy resources, reduce urban heat island effects and help reduce air pollution to improve air quality.

The City has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the Contract shown in the Procedural Guide. The projects proposed herein meet the City Council's objectives to address the City's physical, economical, social, and environmental concerns as well as strategies and policies for achieving them. Among these concerns are providing for the recreational and open space needs of its residents.

While the City has never been awarded funding for the Green Trees for the Golden State program, the City has received three grants, totaling \$349,813, from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

Tree plantings address the City Council goal to "Improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure." All tree planting and future tree plantings further Urban Accord #11 "Tree Canopy" by increasing canopy coverage. Although Urban Accord # 11 was met by the City in 2008, the City strives to increase canopy coverage by 5 percent over the next 20 years. As areas of the City change, there are additional locations for trees to be planted. Parks and Natural Resources staff works with residents, business owners, associations, and constituents to ensure that the trees that are planted in the public right-of-way meet the neighborhood wants and needs and that the trees are appropriate for the overall goals of the Cities urban canopy.

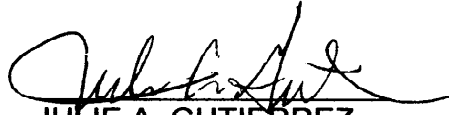
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The activities proposed herein do not involve the removal of any trees. The plantings propose landscaping of public streets with street trees. It is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land).

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the City of Pasadena is successful in obtaining funding for the 2010-2011 funding cycle, the City will receive \$100,000 towards the City's Urban Forestry program. The City will be required to provide a local match of \$34,000 which would come in the form of in-kind services from the operating budget. Ongoing maintenance costs are included in the Department of Public Works Operating Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

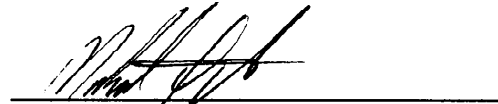


JULIE A. GUTIERREZ
Assistant City Manager/
Acting Director of Public Works

Prepared by:


Charles Peretz, Acting Administrator
Parks and Natural Resources

Approved by:


MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA
APPROVING THE APPLICATION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING
FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
AND FIRE PROTECTION'S URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM
ENTITLED GREEN TREES FOR THE GOLDEN STATE AS PROVIDED
THROUGH PROPOSITION 40 AND 84**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California in cooperation with the California State Legislature has enacted Propositions 40 and 84, which provide funds to the State of California and its political subdivisions for 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 nonprofit organizations under the program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State 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 into an agreement with the State of California to carry out an urban forestry project;

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

1. Approves the filing of an application for the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Urban Grant Program through Proposition 40 and 84 for the Green Trees for the Golden State grant program funds; and
2. Certifies that the City has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project; and
3. Certifies that funds under the jurisdiction of the City of Pasadena are available to begin the project.
4. Appoints the City Manager or Director of Public Works as agent of the City Council of Pasadena to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, etc., which may be necessary for the

completion of the aforementioned project.

Adopted at the regular meeting of the City Council on the _____ day
of _____, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:

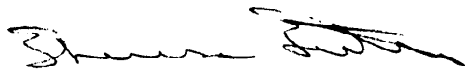
NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN;

MARK JOMSKY, City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Theresa E. Fuentes
Assistant City Attorney