

**CITY OF OAKLAND**  
**AGENDA REPORT**

FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

2005 MAR 31 PM 4:27

TO: Office of the City Administrator  
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly  
FROM: Public Works Agency  
DATE: April 12, 2005

RE: **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR, ACCEPTANCE, AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM OF THE PROPOSITION 12 WATERSHED, WILDLIFE AND PARKS IMPROVEMENT BOND ACT OF 2000, IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000) FOR THE CITY-WIDE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM**

---

**SUMMARY**

Staff requests that Council approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to apply for, accept, and appropriate \$50,000 in grant funds from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for citywide tree planting. The Proposition 12 Watershed, Wildlife and Parks Improvement Bond Act of 2000, FY 2005-06 Urban Forestry Grant Program provides tree planting funds to local entities on a shared cost reimbursement basis. The grant requires a 25% match and the maximum award is \$50,000. Applications are due May 2, 2005, and successful applicants will be notified by July 2005.

The City has a backlog of tree planting requests from property owners that requires additional funding to proceed more expeditiously. The grant would enable staff to plant more trees and reduce the backlog.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Approval of the attached resolution will authorize the City to apply for Proposition 12 grant funds in the amount \$50,000. If awarded, the grant funds would be appropriated for reimbursement of actual work costs. Eligible costs include purchase of trees (\$55 per tree), planting and maintenance supplies (\$20 per tree), labor (\$30 per tree), educational materials (\$1,000 maximum), and signs (\$1,000 maximum).

The State requires a cost sharing match of 25%. This requirement will be met through submittal of documented existing staff costs to implement the project, and will not have a fiscal impact.

The matching staff costs will be paid from accounts within the Tree Services Section budget under organization number 30535, Landscape and Lighting Assessment District fund (2310).

Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Works Committee  
April 12, 2005

The tree planting project must be completed before March 31, 2008. Long term maintenance can be covered by the existing staff and maintenance budgets.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Governor of the State of California, in cooperation with the California State Legislature, enacted Proposition 12, which provides funds to the State of California and its political subdivision for urban forestry programs. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) administers the program within the State, setting up necessary procedures governing application by local agencies and non-profit organizations under the program. The procedures established by CDF require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application before it is submitted to the State. **Applications for 2005/2006 must be received by CDF no later than May 2, 2005.**

The Life Enrichment Agency applied for this grant in 2002 and received funding for tree planting focusing on the West Oakland Tree Planting Initiative. The Public Works Agency (PWA) proposes to expand the focus of the grant funding to offer street trees to residents throughout the city.

## **KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

Property owners make tree planting requests to the PWA Tree Services Section. Tree Services currently has a backlog of 565 requests for planting street trees, which are fulfilled generally on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to use staff time most efficiently, requests for planting trees within the same neighborhood may be fulfilled out of order. These 565 locations have already been inspected and tree planting approved by Tree Services staff. Tree Services funding is inadequate to fulfill property owners' planting requests in a timely manner. Grant funding would allow 350 additional trees to be planted, increasing environmental, economic, and health benefits to Oakland's residents and visitors. The trees will be designated as Official Trees and will be maintained by the Tree Services Section.

Trees reduce air pollution and the 'greenhouse effect' by absorbing carbon dioxide, storing the carbon and releasing the oxygen. Trees also save energy by shading homes and businesses, thereby reducing the need for air conditioning. The 'heat island effect' is reduced by the collective transpiration (release of water vapor) and subsequent evaporative cooling effect of street trees.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of this project is to accelerate the planting of street trees throughout the city. With the Tree Services Section's current level of funding, only 180 trees will be planted during the fiscal year. The grant funding would supplement the Tree Services budget for the cost of materials and labor, and allow property owner requests to be met in a more timely fashion.

The tree planting efforts will take place Monday through Friday with City staff and during special neighborhood events such as Earth Day. Tree planting will occur during the rainy season from November through May in 2005/2006, and if the funds have not been exhausted, in 2006/2007.

Under the grant, the City agrees to complete the City-Wide Tree Planting Program and allow for periodic inspections. Staff will also submit biannual progress reports and the final completion report to the State.

## **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

### Economic:

Trees increase property values of homes from 3% to 7% and significantly increase property tax revenues. Studies have shown that buildings with high levels of greenery have less violent crime and property damage compared to buildings with reduced levels of landscaping.

### Environmental:

Publicly owned trees are a major capital asset. Street trees reduce the amount of storm water run-off thereby, lessening the impact on the existing drainage system and reducing the need for its replacement. Trees reduce air pollution and also save energy by shading homes and businesses, thereby reducing the need for air conditioning.

### Social Equity:

Trees add to the aesthetic beautification and the livability of the city, and provide immeasurable psychological benefits to the people who live and work here. The City-wide Tree Planting Program will contribute to neighborhood pride and community ownership in all city neighborhoods.

## **DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS**

The locations of all tree planting sites will meet the sidewalk access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.


## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND RATIONALE**

The primary advantages for approving the application would be that the quantity of street trees planted in Oakland could be increased and the State of California would share in the costs. The consequences of not approving the resolution would be that tree planting would remain at its current pace of 180 trees per year, the tree planting backlog will increase above 565 locations, and the City will not be able to enjoy the benefits that would have been provided by additional trees.

**ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution authorizing the application for \$50,000 in grant funds under the Proposition 12 Watershed, Wildlife and Parks Improvement Bond Act of 2000, and accepting and appropriating the funds for the implementation of the City-Wide Tree Planting Program.

Respectfully submitted,



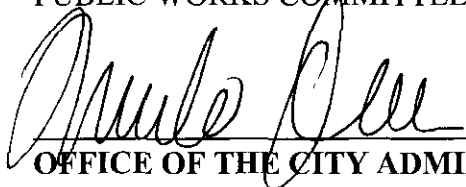
**RAUL GODINEZ, II, P.E.**

Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:  
Bruce Saunders, Assistant Director

Prepared by:  
Dan Gallagher, Tree Supervisor II  
Department of Infrastructure & Operations

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:



**OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Works Committee  
April 12, 2005

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S. 2005 MAR 31 PM 1:24

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

*Margaret Fujita*

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR, ACCEPTANCE, AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM OF THE PROPOSITION 12 WATERSHED, WILDLIFE AND PARKS IMPROVEMENT BOND ACT OF 2000, IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000) FOR THE CITY-WIDE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California, in cooperation with the California State Legislature, enacted Proposition 12, which provides funds to the State of California and its political subdivisions for urban forestry programs; and

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

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out a tree-planting project; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of Oakland:

1. Approves the filing of an application for fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) of the "PROPOSITION 12" tree planting grant program funds, for the City-Wide Tree Planting Program; and
2. Certifies that the City of Oakland has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project; and
3. Certifies that funds under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Agency are available to begin the project; and
4. Certifies that the City of Oakland will expend grant funds prior to March 31, 2008; and

5. Appoints the City Administrator or her designee as agent of the City of Oakland to conduct all 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; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Office of the City Attorney has approved this resolution as to form and legality and a copy is on file at the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND  
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LATONDA SIMMONS

Interim City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California