

AGENDA REPORT

TO: DEANNA J. SANTANA
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: Teresa Deloach Reed
FIRE CHIEF

SUBJECT: Cooperative Funding Agreement
Between With Diablo Fire
Safe Council (DFSC)

DATE: November 13, 2013

City Administrator
Approval

Deanna J. Santana

Date

11-18-13

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 6 & 7

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Council approval of a Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator To: 1) Enter Into A Cooperative Funding Agreement Between The City Of Oakland Fire Department (OFD) And Diablo Fire Safe Council (DFSC) For The Proposed South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project Utilizing A Western Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Grant; 2) Accept And Expend Through The DFSC, The City Of Oakland Portion Of The Western WUI Grant Award In The Amount Of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000); 3) Expend Approved Local City Of Oakland Funds In The Wildfire Prevention Assessment District (WPAD) Budget In An Amount Not To Exceed One Hundred Seventy Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-One Dollars (\$178,831); And 4) Authorize The DFSC To Act As The Project Manager And Grant Administrator Entity For The City Of Oakland For The Duration Of The South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2011, the DFSC applied for and was awarded a federal grant under a program provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service known as the Western WUI. As the recipient of the grant, the DFSC is also responsible for the overall administration of the grant. The Oakland Fire Department is opting into the grant through the DFSC and under a cooperative funding agreement as a means to remove hazardous trees and other vegetation in the South Oakland Hills area.

As the grant administrator, the DFSC will serve as Project Manager and Grant Administrator for the City of Oakland utilizing grant funds and approved local Oakland funds related to the project, up to but not exceeding, a total amount of \$298,831 for completion of the project (the Oakland portion of the Western WUI grant awarded in the amount of \$120,000, to be administered by the DFSC and approved local WPAD budgeted funds in the amount of \$178,831).

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To implement the Oakland portion of the project, the DFSC will coordinate with City staff for environmental review, permits, and final acceptance of the project, including but not limited to, the development of fuel treatment prescriptions, development of contract documents, bidding, and contract management.

As the Project Manager and Grant Administrator for the City of Oakland the DFSC will implement the project in full accordance with federal-aid funding standards including but not limited to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), clearance, contracting standards, accounting standards, and Western WUI grant requirements including performance measure reporting.

An estimated 107 linear acres will be treated including fuel reduction in the understory of oak woodlands. Additional work will include selective eucalyptus thinning, removal of aged pines and understory fuels along Skyline Boulevard, treating north coastal scrub with goats, and chipping homeowners' cut materials and debris removal.

OUTCOME

Approval of a resolution to enter into a cooperative funding agreement with the DFSC and authorizing them to act as Project Manager and Grant Administrator on behalf of the City of Oakland, will secure Oakland's participation with the DFSC and the East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) in fuel reduction measures within the Oakland Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) area of the South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project, thereby reducing the possibilities of a catastrophic fire event due to an extensive highly flammable tree canopy and ground vegetation.

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Upon being awarded a 2011 competitive grant made possible through federal financial assistance provided to the California Fire Safe Council from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, the Diablo Fire Safe Council approached the City of Oakland and the East Bay Regional Parks District as proposed partners to complete a fuel reduction project in the south Oakland hills area. The project, known as the South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project, is a comprehensive fuel reduction project costing a total amount of \$650,968.

Initial funding in the amount \$260,737 is provided through the grant received by the DFSC from the State Fire Assistance Competitive Western WUI Program, of which \$120,000 will be allotted to the City of Oakland through the DFSC, with a matching City of Oakland matching fund requirement in the amount of \$178,831. Also from the WUI funding source, East Bay Regional Parks District will be allotted \$118,720, with a matching fund requirement in the amount of

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\$206,400 and \$22,017 will be allotted to the DFSC with a matching fund requirement in the amount of \$5,000.

As the grant recipient, the DFSC will also act as the overall Project Manager and Grant Administrator in partnership with the City of Oakland and the East Bay Regional Parks District, under separate cooperative funding agreements as a means to remove hazardous trees and other vegetation.

ANALYSIS

The designated south Oakland hills project area is significantly forested with the presence of highly flammable trees species, including but not limited to, Eucalyptus and Monterey Pine. Much of this tree canopy overlaps both City of Oakland and East Bay Regional Parks' properties. Participation in a mutual partnership with the East Bay Regional Parks District through the DSFC grant project will provide the opportunity for both entities to remove the unwanted trees and present hazardous ground fuels from the designated area in a "one-shot" effort, thereby significantly reducing the probability of a tree canopy and ground fuel fire event. The South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project will be completed in compliance with all State and Federal environmental requirements.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

The proposed South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project has been discussed and detailed at each monthly DFSC meeting and each monthly WPAD since July 2013. The public has had opportunity to comment at each of the DFSC and WPAD monthly meetings, and there have been no opposing public comments on the proposed project documented at any of the monthly meetings.

COORDINATION

The proposed South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction project has been discussed with the DFSC and the WPAD boards, and both entities are in agreement that completion of this project is in the best interest of the City of Oakland and its citizens. The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed the proposed project and all questions they posed regarding the project were answered satisfactorily by the DFSC before proceeding with seeking Council approval. The Budget Office was also consulted in the preparation of this report.

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COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

The proposed South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction project is a "one-time/one-shot" fuel reduction effort to eliminate and/or reduce the fuel load currently in place with the presence of highly flammable trees species and ground vegetation. There is no maintenance or other on-going costs associated with the project once completed.

The total cost of proposed project is equal to \$650,968, which will be funded as follows:

Entity	Western WUI Grant No. 12USFS-WUI209 Award Amount	Matching Funds Amount	Total
City of Oakland	\$ 120,000	\$ 178,831	\$ 298,831
East Bay Regional Parks District	\$ 118,720	\$ 206,400	\$ 325,120
Diablo Fire Safe Council	\$ 22,017	\$ 5,000	\$ 27,017
TOTALS	\$ 260,737	\$ 390,231	\$ 650,968

Matching funds for this project shall be drawn from the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District Fund (2321), Fire Marshal's Office (20311), contract services account (54911), non-project (0000000) and Fire Prevention Bureau Program (PS23).

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: There are no sustainable economic opportunities.


Environmental: The proposed South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction project will reduce the level of highly flammable vegetation within the area of the south Oakland hills community on approximately 107 linear acres, thereby reducing negative environmental impacts due to non-native vegetation species.

Social Equity: The proposed South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction project will reduce the level of highly flammable vegetation on approximately 107 linear acres, thereby providing a safer environment within the South Oakland Hills community and a safer egress route for the neighboring communities.

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For questions regarding this report, please contact Vincent Crudele, Vegetation Management Unit Supervisor at extension (510) 238-7391.

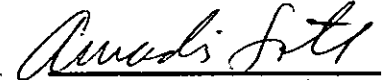
Respectfully submitted,


ACTING CHIEF MARK HOFFMANN

FOR Teresa Deloach Reed
Fire Chief

Prepared by:
Vincent Crudele
Vegetation Management Unit Supervisor

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City Attorney

 FILED
 OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
 OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

2013 NOV 21 AM 9:32

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR HER DESIGNEE TO:

- 1) ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE DIABLO FIRE SAFE COUNCIL (DFSC) FOR THE PROPOSED SOUTH OAKLAND HILLS COMMUNITY FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT WHEREBY: A) DFSC WILL ACT AS THE PROJECT MANAGER AND GRANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CITY OF OAKLAND FOR THE DURATION OF THE SOUTH OAKLAND HILLS COMMUNITY FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT; B) DFSC WILL ADMINISTER WESTERN WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE GRANT FUNDS (WESTERN WUI GRANT) ALLOCATED TO THE CITY OF OAKLAND AS WELL AS GRANT REQUIRED MATCHING FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF OAKLAND IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED AND NINETY EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$298,831) FOR COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT;
- 2) ACCEPT AND EXPEND THE CITY OF OAKLAND PORTION OF THE WESTERN WUI GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$120,000);
- 3) EXPEND APPROVED CITY OF OAKLAND FUNDS IN THE WILDFIRE PREVENTION ASSESSMENT DISTRICT (WPAD) BUDGET PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GRANT MATCH REQUIREMENT OF THE WESTERN WUI GRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$178,831) BY DISTRIBUTING THESE FUNDS TO DFSC UNDER THE PROPOSED COOPERATIVE FUNDING AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Diablo Fire Safe Council (DFSC) applied for and was awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$260,737 under a program provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service known as the Western WUI to assist in fuel reduction in the south Oakland hills area; and

WHEREAS, as recipient and overall administrator of the grant, the DFSC approached the City of Oakland and the East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) as proposed partners to complete a fuel reduction project in the south Oakland hills area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is opting into the grant through the DFSC, under the proposed cooperative funding agreement with the DFSC, as a means to remove hazardous trees and other vegetation in the south Oakland hills area thereby reducing the possibilities of a catastrophic fire event due to an extensive highly flammable tree canopy and ground vegetation; and

WHEREAS, as a result of said partnership, the South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project was developed as a comprehensive fuel reduction project to reduce the level of highly flammable vegetation for a total cost amount of \$650,968;

WHEREAS, the South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project will treat an estimated 107 linear acres in the area, including fuel reduction in the understory of oak woodlands, with additional work to include selective eucalyptus thinning, removal of aged pines and understory fuels along Skyline Boulevard, treating north coastal scrub with goats, and chipping of homeowners' cut materials and debris removal; and

WHEREAS, also as a result of said partnership, funding in the amount \$260,737 is provided through the federal grant received by the DFSC of which \$120,000 will be allotted to the City of Oakland to be administered by the DFSC, with a matching City of Oakland fund requirement in the amount of \$178,831; \$118,720 will be allotted to the EBRPD to be administered by the DFSC, with a matching EBRPD fund requirement in the amount of \$206,400; and \$22,017 to the DFSC with a matching fund requirement in the amount of \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, as the grant recipient, the DFSC will serve as Project Manager and Grant Administrator for the City of Oakland utilizing federal grant funds and approved local Oakland funds related to the project, up to but not exceeding, a total amount of \$298,831 for completion of the project, including the Oakland portion of the grant awarded in the amount of \$120,000, and approved local Wildfire Prevention Assessment District (WPAD) budget funds under the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District Fund (2321), Fire Marshal's Office (20311), contract services account (54911), non-project (0000000) and Fire Prevention Bureau Program (PS23) in the amount of \$178,831; and

WHEREAS, as the Project Manager and Grant Administrator for the City of Oakland the DFSC will implement the project in full accordance with federal-aid funding standards, including but not limited to, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), clearance, contracting standards, accounting standards, and Western WUI grant requirements including performance measure reporting; and

WHEREAS, to implement the Oakland portion of the project, the DFSC will coordinate with City staff for environmental review, permits, and final acceptance of the project, including but not limited to, the development of fuels treatment prescriptions, development of contract documents, bidding, and contract management, and

WHEREAS, completion of the South Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project will provide significant environmental and social equity opportunities reducing the level of highly flammable vegetation within the area of the south Oakland hills community on approximately 107 linear acres, thereby reducing negative environmental impacts due to non-native vegetation species and providing a safer environment within the South Oakland Hills community and a safer egress route for the neighboring communities; therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to enter into a cooperative funding agreement with the Diablo Fire Safe Council (DFSC) for the proposed south Oakland Hills Community Fuel Reduction Project utilizing a Western Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) grant whereby: A) DFSC will act as the project manager and grant administrator for the City of Oakland for the duration of the south Oakland hills community fuel reduction project; B) DFSC will administer the federal Western Wildland Urban Interface grant funds (Western WUI grant) allocated to the City of Oakland as well as approved grant required matching funds from the City of Oakland related to the project, in an amount up to but not exceeding two hundred and ninety eight thousand, eight hundred and thirty one dollars(\$298, 831) in full accordance with federal-aid funding standards including but not limited to NEPA clearance, the City's contracting policies and regulations, accounting standards, and grant guidelines including performance measure reporting; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: that the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to accept and expend the City of Oakland's portion of the Western WUI grant awarded in the amount of \$120,000; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: that the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to expend and distribute to DFSC approved City of Oakland funds in the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District (WPAD) budget in an amount not to exceed one hundred seventy eight thousand eight hundred thirty-one dollars (\$178,831) for the proposed cooperative funding agreement for the south Oakland Hills community fuel reduction project to satisfy the local grant matching requirement of the Western WUI grant; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: the City of Oakland's grant required local matching funds for this project in the amount of one hundred seventy eight thousand eight hundred thirty-one dollars (\$178,831) shall be drawn from the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District Fund (2321), Fire Marshal's Office (20311), contract services account (54911), non-project (0000000) and Fire Prevention Bureau Program (PS23); and let it be

FURTHER RESOLVED: that the cooperative funding agreement shall be approved for form and legality by the City Attorney and placed on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

BROOKS, GALLO, KALB, KAPLAN, MCELHANEY, REID, SCHAAF and PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the City of Oakland, California