

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-017

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

January 11, 2011

URBAN FORESTRY AND URBAN GREENING LEADING EDGE GRANT

BACKGROUND

- A. There is a need to supplement urban forestry efforts in tree planting and establishment and community participation and education.
- B. The City owns a horticultural nursery site that it under-utilized.
- C. The Sacramento Tree Foundation has submitted a proposal to utilize the site for a pilot tree-planting and education program in the City of Sacramento.
- D. Grant funding is available through the State of California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to support a public/private partnership between the Sacramento Tree Foundation and the City of Sacramento to create a Sacramento Urban Horticulture Center concept.
- E. The program will provide direct benefit to residents, businesses, and visitors of the City of Sacramento and beyond.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. Staff is authorized to submit an application to the State of California, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for an Urban Forestry and Urban Greening Leading Edge Grant.
- Section 2. Exhibit A is incorporated into and made part of this Resolution.

Table of Contents:

Exhibit A – Draft Grant Concept Proposal

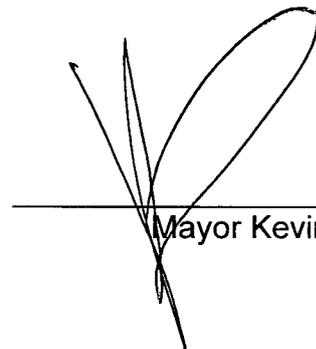
Adopted by the City of Sacramento City Council on January 11, 2011 by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Ashby, Cohn, D Fong, R Fong, McCarty, Pannell, Schenirer, Sheedy, and Mayor Johnson.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.



Mayor Kevin Johnson

Attest:



Shirley Concolino, City Clerk



Concept Proposal

2010/2011 **CAL FIRE** Urban Forestry Program Grants

Please fill out this form completely. Be sure to save a copy of this form for you records. Submit your application via e-mail by selecting the button at the end of the form. Applications that are not completely filled out will not be considered for funding.

Organization

Requested Grant \$ **Matching \$** **Total Project \$**

Select grant project type from menu

Project Title

Primary Source of Technical Advice **Explanation (if required):**

Please provide the following information if trees will be planted as part of the proposed project.

Number of **CAL FIRE**-funded trees Total number of project trees

Tree Species to be planted. (*Genus, species, common name*) if applicable.

We will grow and plant a variety of high-quality, regionally important, and/or hard-to-find tree species that are considered sustainable and urban-friendly, including low water use and large upright crown forms for high density in-fill areas. The nursery will allow the program team to test new or untried trees and cultivars as well as provide proven performers in quantities that would be un-sustainable through the commercial nursery industry, with a goal of introducing greater diversity within the tree population and increased benefits.

By checking box, grantee agrees to follow "**CAL FIRE** Standards and Specifications For Purchasing, Planting, and Maintaining Trees".

1. Applicant information - Eligible applicants for most grant types include cities, counties, qualifying districts, or nonprofit organizations qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Only cities, counties, and qualifying districts are eligible for the Urban Forest Inventory and Urban Forest Management Plan Grants.

Type of Organization

Project Manager Title

First Name **Last Name**

Email **Phone Number**

Address 1

Address 2

City **State** **Zip Code**

2. Partner information - List any partners or co-sponsors

Name of Organization

First Name **Last Name**

Name of Organization

First Name **Last Name**

3. Location information - List the communities served by the project. Include all cities and counties or list as statewide. Check a box below if your community is disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged per PRC 4799.09.

The City of Sacramento will be directly served. Additionally, benefits will be realized throughout the entire Sacramento Area Council Of Governments (SACOG) region including its 6 counties and 22 cities.

Disadvantaged community **Severely disadvantaged community** **NOTE: Proof will be required later in process.**

4. Grant Information - Describe the project by answering the questions below. Responses are limited to the space provided. You may wish to refer to the grant guidelines document, specific grant program Request For Proposals (RFP), and the California Urban Forestry Act (Public Resources Code Sections 4799.06 - 4799.12) for guidance on parts 4A - 4C.

A. Background and Rationale - What is the current situation, condition, or problem to be addressed by the project?

Enormous potential exists within the City of Sacramento to collaboratively manage our limited resources in the best interest of our urban forest. The City currently owns a historic 4.6 acre nursery site with significant plant production amenities within the urban core of the city. Though the site has a long history of service to the community and has all the needed amenities to support a cost-effective urban forest propagation and education program; it currently sits vacant and unused. Even though yearly expenses to maintain the nursery grounds are limited (projected at \$12,000- \$16,000 a year) neither the City of Sacramento nor its public and nonprofit partners have the labor or materials resources to operate this unique and vital community asset.

As economic factors pressure the City of Sacramento to downsize the Urban Forestry Services department, the community continues to clamor for opportunities to learn about and actively care for trees and green spaces. Our vision is to leverage the core competencies of the City of Sacramento and the Sacramento Tree Foundation to revitalize and fully utilize the historic City Nursery by creating a new Sacramento Urban Horticulture Center to serve as a source for high quality trees and a public gateway to the learning about urban forestry concepts through a developed curriculum. This collaboration will provide public programs that focus on maintaining our current urban forest health, build on key factors of success such as species and age diversity, expand canopy for the most under-served neighborhoods within our community, and build information-driven strategies to resist climate change. The basis of this system will be the cost effective propagation of high-quality trees in sizes and species not currently available within the commercial market paired with a "citizen forester" training program and urban tree planting campaign. This partnership will create a new model of jurisdictional, community and nonprofit partnership.

B. Project Objective - What are the objectives of the proposed project? Explain how they are in line with the RFP for the grant type selected.

The primary objective of this grant is to fully utilize the City Nursery and to leverage the cost savings and educational opportunities it provides the community while creating a functional model for public-private partnerships to enhance urban greening efforts. Nursery operations will focus on production of high-quality trees in conformance with the most up to date Guideline Specifications for Nursery Tree Quality by Brian Kempf. By developing the City Nursery into an urban forestry production, education and demonstration site, the Sacramento Urban Horticulture Center and its programs will:

- *Grow high-quality trees of species that are urban-friendly and currently unavailable within the market to increase urban forest biodiversity. Trees will be grown from seed, cuttings and bare-root sources to maximize City-wide species diversity.
- *Continue the City of Sacramento's tree planting in public spaces by leveraging the work of volunteers, interns and green jobs students. Tree planting will include species with specialized benefits, such as low water use, native or otherwise culturally appropriate, and with as much emphasis as possible on large crown forms for street trees and park uses.
- *Create easily accessible education and demonstration areas within the urban core showing how trees impact air quality, energy conservation, storm-water management, and climate change. Emphasis will be placed on understanding water and soil relationships, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods, and recycling.
- * Provide vocational "green jobs" training and unique hands on urban forestry internships to local students.
- *Establish a "seed tree for the future" project to utilize seed and propagules harvested from unique and high performing trees within the City.
- * Create a physical location that supports collaboration and close communication between the the City, the Sacramento Tree Foundation, and resident stakeholders.
- *Test the performance of new tree species for integration into our urban forest.
- * Provide a location for an urban wood "logs-to-lumber" recycling program.

C. Project Description - How will the project achieve the objectives? Who will be involved?

The project will be supported by the creation of a Sacramento Urban Horticulture Center steering committee. This group will include individuals from the City of Sacramento, the Sacramento Tree Foundation, local educational institutions and the community at large. This group will serve as a charter group and guide the implementation of programs and services through the nursery site as well as provide regular feedback to the nursery manager and associated program staff. Implementation will begin with the development of an appropriate curriculum, demonstration areas, and nursery enhancement as well as operations designed to begin tree production and training of volunteers. During the first year of operation, regular training sessions for a "Citizen Forester" program will be held, urban wood recycling operations will begin and internships for green jobs will be initiated. A series of tree species trials will be implemented in partnership with local scientific and academic experts and additional funding sources and educational opportunities will be leveraged to support ongoing operations. Over time, we expect the partnerships and steering committee to grow to include other environmental and urban greening programs. A long term vision of the Tree Foundation, in partnership with the City of Sacramento, is to create an Urban Ecology Center with even more comprehensive educational demonstrations and opportunities. We believe the Sacramento Urban Horticulture Center will support this effort and act as the main nursery operations facility and location of classroom, nursery and field-based classes.

5. Task and Budget Information

A. Budget - Provide an estimate of costs and budget information for the project. A specific budget displaying detailed line items will be required if a final proposal is requested. Budget total may not be adjusted upward at a later time.

Project Work Task	Task Description	Amount Requested	Matched Funds	Task Total Cost
Task 1	Nursery Facility Improvements	\$40,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$45,000.00
Task 2	Nursery Manager, Interns, Program Staff	\$175,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$275,000.00
Task 3	Nursery Operations	\$135,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$140,000.00
Task 4	Tree Planting	\$75,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$95,000.00
Task 5	Educational Activities and Materials	\$75,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$110,000.00
Additional Tasks				
Admin / Overhead				
TOTALS		\$500,000.00	\$165,000.00	\$665,000.00
Percentages		75%	25%	Total % 100

B. Explanation of Budget and Costs - In the space provided, describe the basis for the budget amounts listed above. Successful applicants will be asked for a more detailed line item budget. The total amount requested in this application can not be exceeded during the final proposal process.

Task 1 - Nursery Design and Retrofit includes the design and installation of landscape demonstration areas.
 Task 2 - Educational Center Staffing including a full time Nursery Programs Manager, additional Program Staff and Interns.
 Task 3 - Nursery Operations including planting equipment, pots, soil, water fees, fertilizer, pest management and plant propagules.
 Task 4 - Tree Planting including care for the establishment period.
 Task 5 - Education and Green Jobs training activities and materials
 Admin/Overhead

C. Other Funding Sources - List other funding sources, grants or applications that are considered matching funds for this proposal.

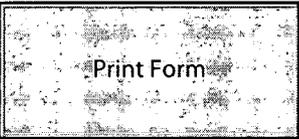
Description	Source	Requested Amount	Funded?

6. Other Project Work - List any other related activities conducted in the proposed project area over the past 3 years. These may be projects conducted by other organizations. Include any contributions of the applying organization to these projects. Include partners and sponsors of the projects, if known. Projects listed should include an explanation of how they relate to the proposed project.

The City of Sacramento has been on the leading edge of urban forest management for decades. It is also the home to the Sacramento Tree Foundation, a regional organization with 28 years of proven leadership in the nonprofit arena. Significant projects undertaken by these organizations over the past 3 years include:

- * A full inventory of public tree resources within the City of Sacramento. This project will support the ongoing use and upkeep of inventory data by its collaborative use by multiple partners. Inventory data collection and tracking methods will form an important piece of our urban forestry and green jobs educational programs.
- * A regional assessment of the urban forest resulting in the 5 million tree campaign. The City of Sacramento is a proven leader in urban forestry within the region. Successful programs here drive and inform region wide initiatives.
- * A pilot program with the USDA food stamp program to provide free fruit trees in underserved communities. The information garnered during this pilot will inform the continued delivery of food-bearing trees to support community health and nutrition.
- * An ongoing, region wide program to preserve native tree resources by gathering and propagating 50,000 native tree seedlings per year. This program will support seed based propagation activities at the Center.
- * The creation of a designated "Air Quality Friendly" trees list with support from local air quality districts. Use of this list will assist with the development of tree planting strategies to reduce air pollution and combat climate change.
- * Ongoing collaboration with the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District to deliver trees to homeowners for energy savings, greenhouse gas emission offsets and more. The information from this partnership will support our urban forestry and green jobs educational programs while expanding the opportunities to plant trees on private properties.

Thank you for your application. Please save a copy and print a copy of the application for your records. Submit the application using the "Submit by Email" button below. You should receive a confirmation email shortly after submittal. To save a copy, please select the file menu and select "save as" or "save a copy as" from the list of options. You will be prompted about how to proceed saving the file.



Date and Time Submitted: