



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Works  
Department No.: 054  
For Agenda Of: February 15, 2011  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Department, 568-3010  
Contact Info: Dacé Morgan, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064  
**SUBJECT:** **Application for Funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Urban Forestry Grant Program for FY 2010/2011; All Supervisorial Districts**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence.**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a resolution in support of the County's application for funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Urban Forestry Grant Program for FY 2010/2011.

**Summary Text:**

The Department of Public Works is seeking Board approval of a Resolution supporting the County's application for funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CalFire) Urban Forestry Grant Program for FY 2010/2011. Funding from this program will allow the Department to prepare an Urban Forest Inventory. Existing records and data for the County's approximately 15,000 street trees will be drawn together into a single, modern database. The database will include categories of information such as: tree type, location, tree condition, condition of surrounding hardscape, and maintenance schedule. The database can also assist the County in having better access to maintenance records when responding to trip and fall claims, as well as damage claims surrounding tree limbs that have fallen and damaged property. Funding is also included for field computers which would allow our urban foresters to access the street tree database for baseline information on the areas where they work, and to update the database directly from the field on their maintenance activities and other observations regarding the urban forest and adjacent hardscape.

**Background:**

CalFire issued a call for projects under the State’s Urban Forestry Program. Funding for this program is from Propositions 40 and 84, passed by the voters in 2002 and 2006, respectively. Eligible jurisdictions from across the state may apply in a competitive process. The Urban Forestry Grant Program will pay for up to 75% of the cost of the Management Plan with local jurisdictions funding the remaining 25%. If your Board approves the attached resolution, the County will submit an application in the amount of \$96,000. If the County receives an award of funding, \$72,000 would be reimbursed to the County from the CalFire grant program, and the County’s existing Measure A Transportation sales tax would provide the necessary matching funds to complete the project in the amount of \$24,000.

The County of Santa Barbara previously submitted an application for grant funding from CalFire’s Urban Forestry program during their 2009/2010 grant cycle. The grant application was for \$96,000 and the program at that time required a 50% local match. During State budget deliberations, the County received a conditional award of grant funding depending on the funding levels contained in the final budget. The County was informed by CalFire that program funding was cut by 30% and therefore the County would not receive funding from this cycle. However, with encouragement from CalFire staff, the County has reapplied for funding from the 2010/2011 cycle.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
CalFire			
Federal			
Fees:			
Other:			\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

Should the County receive an award of funding, CalFire grant funds will be accepted and deposited into: Dept. 054, Fund 0015, Account 4339, and Program 2350.

**Staffing Impacts:**

None

**Special Instructions:**

Please forward one signed original Resolution, and a certified, stamped Minute Order to the attention of Gena Valentine Felix, Public Works Transportation Section, 568-3064.

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Agenda Date: February 15, 2011

Page 3 of 3

**Attachments:**

Attachment A – Resolution in Support of an Urban Forestry Program Grant Application (2 originals)

**Authored by:**

Matt Dobberteen, Alternative Transportation Manager, 568-3576

c: Brian Gilbert, Public Works Accounting

c: John McGray, Roads Maintenance Manager

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