



City Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Grisanti and Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Manager

Reviewed by: Lisa Soghor, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Steve McClary, Interim City Manager

Date prepared: May 3, 2021 Meeting date: May 10, 2021

Subject: Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Grant Application

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorize the grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) for fire prevention and resiliency projects.

FISCAL IMPACT: This grant was not included in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Adopted Budget. If the grant is awarded to the City, both the revenue and the corresponding expenditures will be added to the budgets for the current and next fiscal years.

WORK PLAN: This item is included as part of 1.j. in the Adopted Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

DISCUSSION: On April 13, 2021, Governor Newsom signed a \$536 million wildfire package enabling the State to take urgent action on projects that support wildfire suppression, improve forest health and build resilience in communities to help protect residents and property from catastrophic wildfires in diverse landscapes across the state. As part of that action, the Conservancy was allocated \$12 million of those funds to distribute for immediate fire prevention and fire resiliency projects in the Santa Monica Mountains area. On April 15, 2021, the City of Malibu was invited to submit a request for funding from this grant, and applications for funding of shovel-ready projects were due on May 1, 2021. Grant funds must be expended by September 15, 2021.

Staff submitted a request for \$324,000 for the removal of 100 dead or dying trees on public and private property, as well as 12 community chipper and green waste days. The removal of dead or dying trees and reduction of brush fuel within and around Malibu

neighborhoods, infrastructure and staging areas will aid in the control of wildfire. Reduction of fuel load will also improve ingress and egress along roads within in the City.

Residents with dead and dying trees will be invited to sign up for free tree removal through this program. In addition, the City's Fire Safety Liaison will reach out to property owners with trees that are particularly dangerous to critical infrastructure and surrounding residences. Community chipper and green waste days will provide residents an opportunity to dispose of large amounts of fire-hazardous vegetation with free community curbside chipper pick-up. If the grant is awarded, these projects are designed to be completed by the September 15 deadline.

Due to the short turn-around time, staff was unable to bring the application to the City Council in advance for approval. Staff is now requesting City Council approval of the grant application and intended proposed projects should the City be awarded the grant funds.

ATTACHMENTS: Grant Application

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION			
Project Name: CITY OF MALIBU HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL AND FUEL REDUCTION		Amount of Request: \$324,000.00	
Applicant Name: City of Malibu		Total Project Cost: \$324,000.00 Matching Funds: In-kind Lat/Long: N 34.039267 x W 118.693221	
Applicant Address: 23825 Stuart Ranch Road Malibu, CA 90265		Project Address:	
		County	Senate District
		Los Angeles	27
Phone: (310)4562489 Email: Firesafety@malibucity.org		Tax ID:	
Grantee's Authorized Representative: Lisa Soghor, Assistant City Manager <i>Name and Title</i>		310-456-2489 x224 <i>Phone</i>	
Overhead Allocation Notice: <input type="checkbox"/> Any overhead costs will be identified as a separate line item in the budget and invoices. <input type="checkbox"/> The Conservancy encourages grantees to reduce overhead costs including vehicle and phone expenses. <input type="checkbox"/> The overhead allocation policy has been submitted prior to, or with, the grant application. Outreach and Advertising Requirement: <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant has read the staff report and board resolution regarding contract policies. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant has adopted contract policies for the purpose of increasing outreach and advertising to disadvantaged businesses and individuals. <i>All check boxes must be checked</i>			
Brief Project Description: The removal of 100 dead or dying trees and reduction of brush fuel within and around our neighborhoods, infrastructure, and staging areas to aid in the control of wildfire. Reduction of fuel load will also improve ingress and egress along roads. Grant funds will be used for 12 community chipper and green waste days as well as for tree removal contractors who will assist in the removal of hazardous trees around homes in the urban interface. Additional information is attached. <div style="text-align: right;">*attach additional pages with project detail</div>			
Tasks / Milestones: May 24 - Acceptance of grant by City Council May 25 - Issue RFP for contractor to remove hazard trees		Budget: \$324,000.00	Completion Date 9/15/2021

September 15 – Completion of all grant documentation

Acreage: N/A

Date

STATE OF CALIFORNIA ♦ THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY



City of Malibu

Office of Public Safety

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Request for Grant Funding

Project Name: HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL AND FUEL REDUCTION

Project Description Summary:

The City of Malibu is seeking grant funding to remove hazardous trees and reduce hazardous fuel conditions that exist within the City in order to protect life, property and the environment. The removal of dead or dying trees and reduction of brush fuel within and around our neighborhoods, infrastructure and staging areas will aid in the control of wildfire. Reduction of fuel load will also improve ingress and egress along roads.

Inside the Woolsey Fire burn scar, the City has varying degrees of remaining hazard trees that are within 100 feet of homes, streets, and other common areas. The fire left pockets of hazardous vegetation intermixed within these communities. In addition, most neighborhoods east of Malibu Canyon Road have not had a significant fire in nearly 30 years and are extremely vulnerable to a catastrophic fire.

Grant funds will be used to hire a contractor to assist in the removal of 100 hazard trees and conduct 12 community chipper and green waste days throughout the City of Malibu. The City of Malibu recently developed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) these activities were identified in Section 8.0, CWPP Recommendations, of the action plan.

Residents with dead and dying trees will be invited to sign up for free tree removal through this program. In addition, our Fire Safety Liaison will reach out to property owners with trees that are particularly dangerous to critical infrastructure and surrounding residents. All work will be quantifiable through numbers of trees removed, tons of green waste removed, and number of damaged properties aided. Additional benefits of this project are protection of water supplies, power lines, and communication equipment. Additionally, the City of Malibu is a major transportation thoroughfare for public and private commerce as well as recreation and tourism traffic.

Wildfire Preparedness...Shared Responsibility, Shared Obligation

City of Malibu – Office of Public Safety

SCOPE OF WORK

The proposed project would take place citywide. Approximately 7,000 homes exist within the City and are all immediately adjacent to or within the Wildland Urban Interface. The scope of work includes removing 100 dead and/or damaged trees on both private and public property that pose a hazard to people, personal property or other structures. Removal includes cutting a tree to its base and disposing of the tree material but does not include stump grinding. All work will take place within 100 feet or 1 ½ times the height of a hazard tree in relation to a structure, road, trail, or common area.

Twelve Community chipping and green waste events will also be scheduled in neighborhoods throughout the City allowing homeowners to assist with reduction of fuel loads.

Woody biomass from chipper days and the removal of hazard trees will be chipped on site and removed to local green waste recycling facility. Green Waste from green waste days will be sent to a local green waste recycling facility.

Project Implementation

The project can be implemented according to the following timeline:

- May 24 - Acceptance of grant by City Council
- May 25 - Issue RFP for contractor to remove hazard trees
- May 25 - Schedule Chipper and Green Waste Days
- May 25 – Begin promotion of programs
- July 9 – Award contract for tree removal
- July 9 to Sept 3 – Hazard tree removal
- June 1 to Aug 30 – Completion of Chipper and Green Waste Days
- September 15 – Completion of all grant documentation

Administration

1. The City of Malibu's Public Safety Division staff have experience in managing these types of projects and managing grants. The City recently managed a grant from the state of California for the development of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Wildfire Preparedness...Shared Responsibility, Shared Obligation

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2. Staff will be responsible for tracking project expenses and maintaining project records in a manner that allows for a full audit trail of any awarded grant funds.

Budget

The City of Malibu is requesting \$324,000 in grant funding as follows:

Activity	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total
Equipment and personnel to run Chipper/Green Waste Days	12	\$2,000	\$24,000
Hazard Tree Removal	100	\$3,000	\$300,000