

2024 RES-020
AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF USDA FOREST SERVICE
URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY INFLATION REDUCTION ACT GRANT FUNDING
FOR EQUITABLE FORESTRY STABILIZATION MANAGEMENT
AND FORESTRY CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Dane County Parks applied for USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grant Funding to increase tree planting and urban forestry maintenance on Dane County Park properties located in disadvantaged communities across Dane County.

Studies show that communities with access to trees and green spaces are associated with improved health outcomes, reduced crime, lower average temperatures, and an influx of other kinds of investments and new economic opportunities. Through funding from the Inflation Reduction Act, the USDA Forest Service is making historic investments in boosting the nation's tree cover in urban, suburban and rural communities nationwide.

Dane County Parks was awarded a \$1,500,000 grant for two forestry initiatives. The first is to create two Arborist project positions for 4.5 years. The second is increase the scope of Operation Fresh Start crews working on Dane County Parkland to include hands-on experience in urban forestry management. The grant term has a five year term from 2024 – 2028.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and County Executive authorize acceptance of the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grant Funding in the amount of \$1,500,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Land & Waters Resources Director, Dane County Parks Director and the Forester Specialist are authorized to execute documents necessary to submit grant reports and reimbursement requests to the USDA Forest Service and the County Executive is authorized to sign the grant agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that new revenue account LWRPKOP "Forestry IRA Grant" be established for \$152,600 and that new expense account LWRPKOP "Forestry IRA Grant" be established for \$50,000 and that these funds shall carry forward until expended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that position authority in the Department of Land & Water Resources is increased by 2.0 FTE effective 07/01/2024 so as to add 2.0 FTE Arborist – Project (P5) within the Parks Division and that the following accounts be increased:

LWRPKOP	10009	Salaries and Wages	\$65,900
LWRPKOP	10099	Retirement	\$4,500
LWRPKOP	10108	Social Security	\$5,000
LWRPKOP	10117	Health	\$26,800
LWRPKOP	10153	Dental	\$1,700
LWRPKOP	10250	Salary Savings	\$(1,300)

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that these are project positions contingent upon continuing revenue sufficient to support the position.