

GRANT ANALYSIS FORM OPERATING GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Department/Division: City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works – Operations - ForestryContact Person & Phone No: Randy Krouse, x8499

Category of Request

**New Grant**

Grant Continuation

Previous Council File No. _____

Change in Previously Approved Grant

Previous Council File No. _____

Project/Program Title: 2024 Urban Forestry Grant Program – Advancing Milwaukee Urban Forestry Workforce Development and TrainingGrantor Agency: Wisconsin Department of Natural ResourcesGrant Application Date: October 2, 2023Anticipated Award Date: December 2023

1. Description of Grant Project/Program (Include Target Locations and Populations):

The 2024 DNR Urban Forestry grant will assist in funding training workshops for the City of Milwaukee Forestry Section including various levels of Chainsaw Safety, Tree Rigging and Removal, and Log Grading and Marketing. Workshops will be targeted to employees at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced or train the trainer level. These training programs will enable the Forestry Section and its employees to stay in compliance with OSHA and ANSI safety standards and State of Wisconsin Apprenticeship Standards while safely delivering forestry services to all neighborhoods and citizens throughout the City of Milwaukee using best management practices.

2. Relationship to City-Wide Strategic Goals and Departmental Objectives:

The Forestry Section is responsible for maintaining a healthy urban forest (up to 194,000 street tree sites) while following industry safety standards and best management practices. On average, the Forestry Section removes 3,600 dead, dying, and hazardous street trees, prunes ~16,000 street trees, and responds to ~7,000 emergency storm damage requests annually. It is essential that all employees are provided with training/refresher training in the proper use of chainsaws and rigging equipment needed to safely and efficiently conduct these operations. The Forestry Section is also committed to urban wood recycling and utilization. Currently, all large wood pieces generated by the tree removal operations are shipped to a local sawmill for processing into best end-use including useable lumber. Part of these workshops may involve training for some employees to learn how to grade logs produced by our removals for potential expansion into other markets. These training programs are part of an overall Arborist training program with the Forestry Section and provide employees with the skill sets needed to remove, prune, and respond to tree emergencies while providing a safe environment for the public.

Entry level training and workforce development with the Forestry Section includes the Urban Forestry Arborist Apprenticeship Program. This approximately 4 year program is a Registered Apprenticeship Program through the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. The Forestry Section has been endorsed by the State to be a qualified instructor of the program for its employees. This endorsement requires experienced Forestry Section Journeyworkers and Qualified Instructors to provide all the training unless supplemented by outside training sources.

3. Need for Grant Funds and Impact on Other Departmental Operations (Applies only to Programs):

Current staff shortages place an increased burden on the experienced employees to provide training for the Forestry Section. The WDNR grant of \$12,550 (50%) will be used to provide these workshops using outside training vendors. This will allow our in-house Journeyworkers and Qualified Instructors to focus on service delivery and training in other work processes. The City match of \$12,550 (50%) will be funded using DPW/Operation/Forestry operating funds.

4. Results Measurement/Progress Report (Applies only to Programs):

6/15/04

5. Grant Period, Timetable and Program Phase-Out Plan:
January 2024 – December 2024
6. Provide a list of Subgrantees:
- 7 If Possible, complete Grant Budget Form and attach to back.