

LRB-RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

ITEM 14, FILE 090082

May 13, 2009

MARY E TURK

File 090082 is a resolution relating to authorizing application, acceptance and funding of a 2009 USDA Forest Service Cooperative Forestry Assistance Grant.

Background and Discussion

1. The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the Department of Public Works – Operations (Forestry Division) to apply, accept and fund a USDA Forest Service Cooperative Forestry Assistance Grant to provide comprehensive career training targeted at low-income Milwaukee residents and link them with green industry employment.
2. Environmental Services will train up to 20 participants over a 2-year period in the urban forestry profession.
3. The City will be partnering with the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board and Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership/BIG STEP who will employ the trainees. No trainees will be City employees.
4. Participants will be trained and supervised by Environmental Services staff and work on City property during the 6-month training program.
5. The City will partner with the Tree Care Industry Association to link successful participants with private tree care and/or landscape companies for employment.
6. The total project cost is \$450,510, of which \$201,600 (45%) will be provided by the grantor, \$100,000 (22%) will be contributed by the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board and \$148,910 (33%) will be provided in-kind by the City.
7. The City portion of the project, \$148,910, will cover the costs of the staff salaries, fringe benefits and overhead for training and supervision.

Fiscal Impact

The City will provide \$148,910 (33%) in in-kind support for training and supervision.

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