

1. Describe the proposed ordinance or resolution.

The Department of Public Works-Forestry Services (DPW-FS) and the Environmental Collaboration Office (ECO) has been awarded \$12,000,000 to fund the department's Growing Milwaukee's Tree Canopy and Community Program from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). This program's work focuses on redressing urban tree canopy inequities within Milwaukee through the collaboration of the City of Milwaukee, the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS), Milwaukee County Parks (MCP), and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD). All work will be conducted in disadvantaged census tracts consisting of tree planting and maintenance with depaving in certain circumstances. Additionally, the program will develop workforce and community education surrounding the urban tree canopy.

2. Identify the anticipated equity impacts, if any, of this proposal.

This proposal's equity impacts would be significant as all work will be conducted in disadvantaged census tracts to redress urban tree canopy disparities. The program will use equity priority scoring to determine work site locations and the order in which they are worked. The program's scoring formula focuses work in the very highest need areas to most effectively address urban tree canopy inequities.

3. Identify which minority groups, if any, may be negatively or positively impacted by the proposal.

Multiple minority and marginalized groups will be impacted positively by this program as the equity prioritization model prioritizes census tracts whose residents are persons of color, earn under 200% of poverty, and are housing burdened. Additionally, the prioritization model prioritizes census tracts that are most susceptible to climate change, flooding, and have low urban tree canopy. This proposal directs millions of dollars to bolster the urban tree canopies in these areas.

4. Describe any engagement efforts with minority communities potentially impacted by the proposal.

The proposed program engages community in multiple ways. The program will solicit community feedback on the prioritization formulas characteristics and weighting before finalizing the formula. Additionally, the program will engage communities through urban tree canopy education and workforce development.

Beyond these efforts, some of the program's work will be solicited through the RFP process to be conducted by community-based organizations (CBO), which will be evaluated through a weighted rubric. The program will engage CBOs to provide feedback on the rubric before the RFP is posted. This allows the program to provide the most equitable RFP process, while delivering the greatest service to the communities

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5. Describe how any anticipated equity impacts of the proposal will be documented or evaluated.

The anticipated equity impacts of the proposal will be documented or evaluated by the outcomes produced by the program's activities within the designated census tracts.

6. Describe strategies that will be used, if any, to mitigate any anticipated equity impacts.

NA

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Signature: 

Date: **12/12/2023**