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2026 Texas A&M Forest Service - Community Forestry Grants

February 17th, 2026



**Chihuahuan
Desert**
Climate
Collaborative
POWERED BY THE CITY OF EL PASO

Strategic Alignment

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Goal 8: Nurture and Promote a Healthy, Sustainable Community

8.4. Develop and implement a comprehensive climate action plan aligned with identified community priorities and established strategic objectives focused on transportation, infrastructure, economy and equity

Community Forestry Grant Summary

Community Resiliency

- **Origin:** Texas A&M Forest Service's Community Forestry Program, with support from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- **Program Purpose:** The Community Resiliency grant category is designed to support projects that focus on enhancing the adaptability of urban ecosystems to **create more resilient and sustainable** Texas communities
- **Total Funding:** \$50,000 (\$50,000 match required)
- **Implementation Timeline:** 1-year after award date (May 2027)

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Key Stakeholders and Roles

City of El Paso (CEP)

Program oversight – Climate, Sustainability & Energy with support from City Parks

Partners

Outreach – Sembrando Esperanza Education (Train the Trainer)

- UTEP, El Paso Water

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Financial allocation and Eligibility

Total Project Budget

\$100,000

Federal (Grant): \$50,000

Local Cash Match: \$21,000

Local In-Kind Match: \$29,000

Project Goals

250 trees planted

Projects: 4 Workshops, 4 Planting Events

8 total ambassadors trained

1 Climate Fellow, 1 UTEP Intern

Urban canopy and increased shade

Eligibility

Residential within City limits

Low tree equity

Stewardship commitment

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Council Action

Resolution

To approve THAT the City of El Paso partner with Sembrando Esperanza and UTEP to submit an application to a \$50,000.00 Texas A&M Forest Service Forestry Grants program, with a \$21,000.00 cash and \$29,000.00 in-kind match from the City. THAT the City of El Paso City Council authorize the submission of an application to the Texas A&M Forest Service Forestry Grants program with a \$21,000.00 cash and \$29,000.00 in-kind match from the City, for the 915 Resilient Community Forest project. THAT the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to sign any documents necessary for the proper submission of the Application; THAT the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to sign any documents necessary to accept a grant resulting from the Application, after consultation with the City Attorney's Office; THAT the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to sign any documents related to a grant resulting from the Application, including, but not limited to, revisions to the project scope of work, revisions that increase, decrease or de-obligate program funds, revisions to the operation plan, and documents to reject, amend, correct, and/or terminate the grant; THAT the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to explore funding sources and partnerships that leverage the strength of the Application and any grant resulting from the Application.

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Thank you!

