

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM  
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**AGENDA DATE:** February 13, 2024  
**PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** N/A  
**CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER:** Omar Martinez, Grants & Strat. Initiatives Manager, 915-479-0341  
Yvette Hernandez, P.E., City Engineer, 915-212-0065  
**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** All Districts  
**STRATEGIC GOAL:** No 7: Enhance and Sustain El Paso's Infrastructure Network  
No 8: Nurture & Promote a Healthy, Sustainable Community  
**SUBGOAL:** N/A

**SUBJECT:**

Discussion and action requesting Council support for Eco El Paso's grant application to the Texas A&M Forest Service FY24 Community Forestry Grants program

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

The City of El Paso and the Paso del Norte Community Foundation are providing technical assistance to Eco El Paso to apply to the Texas A&M Forest Service FY24 Community Forestry Grants program as part of the El Paso Million Trees Initiative. Eco El Paso is requesting a \$20,000 grant for tree planting, site development, irrigation, transportation, and staffing to plant 400 trees in historically disadvantaged communities (HDC) in El Paso County.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

\$20,000 – El Paso Downtown Tree Plan

**HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED?**  YES  NO

**PRIMARY DEPARTMENT:** Capital Improvement Department

**SECONDARY DEPARTMENT:**

---

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Yvette Hernandez

*Yvette Hernandez*

---

(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Eco El Paso is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit focused on sustainability in the desert climate of the City of El Paso (the “City”); and

**WHEREAS**, Eco El Paso initiated a tree planting program entitled “Million Trees El Paso”; and

**WHEREAS**, Million Trees El Paso’s mission is to plant and care for at least one million native or drought-tolerant trees across the City, with the goal of restoring the City’s tree canopy cover and reducing the heat island effect, while creating environmental and aesthetic benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, Eco El Paso intends to apply for a Community Forestry Grant through the Texas A&M Forest Service (the “Grant”); and

**WHEREAS**, if selected for the Grant, Eco El Paso would use the funds to plant trees, train tree stewards, and encourage local participation and service under the umbrella of 915 Treekeepers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has actively collaborated with Eco El Paso in the 915 Tree Keepers program, with a current allocation of \$86,500 to that program; and

**WHEREAS**, Eco El Paso has asked the City for its support in Eco El Paso’s submission of an application to the Texas A&M Forest Service FY24 Community Forestry Grants program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

**THAT** the City of El Paso supports Eco El Paso in its submission of a grant application to the Texas A&M Forest Service FY24 Community Forestry Grants program.

**APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

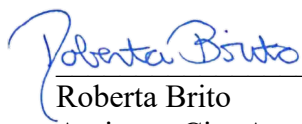
**THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar Leeser  
Mayor

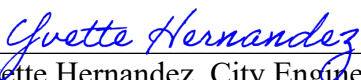
**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura D. Prine  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roberta Brito  
Assistant City Attorney

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Yvette Hernandez, City Engineer  
Capital Improvement Department