



Legislation Text

File #: RES 2024-035, Version: 1

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

TITLE:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A NEW TREE CANOPY REPLACEMENT GRANT PROGRAM; ADOPTING THE TREE CANOPY REPLACEMENT GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES, ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF AS EXHIBIT "A;" AND AUTHORIZING FUNDING FROM THE TREE PRESERVATION TRUST FUND FOR PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.

BACKGROUND:

In these unparalleled circumstances, a confluence of factors is precipitating a crisis for homeowners in South Florida. The City acknowledges that its residents are confronting unforeseen and escalating financial burdens related to insurance, general landscape and structural maintenance, and various other homeownership expenditures. Tree canopy replacement remains a pivotal community endeavor in the fight against heat and the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). The City has undertaken a steadfast commitment to address the ramifications of climate change, encompassing GHG reduction and heat mitigation, through a comprehensive array of pledges, resolutions, ordinances, and programs. The Tree Canopy Replacement Grant Program is a further embodiment of this commitment, designed to bolster sustainability and proactive preparedness for the future while offering temporary financial relief to our community.

DISCUSSION:

The City is desirous of implementing the Tree Canopy Replacement Grant Program designed to maximize the benefits that trees provide to communities and their residents. It has been well documented that trees improve air and water quality, sequester carbon dioxide, reduce energy demands, prevent erosion and pollution, reduce storm water run-off, provide traffic calming, increase property values, provide a place for wildlife, as well as providing social, aesthetic, and health benefits.

This program shall be funded through the City's Tree Preservation Trust Fund, as outlined in Section 13-448 of the City's Land Development Code. The funds shall solely be used for the planting of trees in Coconut Creek and any other ancillary costs associated with the planting of trees.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

REVENUES: N/A

EXPENDITURES: \$250,000

BUDGETED? N/A

NOTES: Account Number 6151515-6805 - Tree Canopy Replacement Program.