



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #:** 23-1642, **Agenda Item #:** 7.

5/4/2023

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### **Posting Language**

Authorize an amendment to a contract for continued urban forest grants management and administration services with Austin Community Foundation, to increase the amount by \$4,000,000 for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.

[Note: This contract was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). For the services required for this contract, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established].

### **Lead Department**

Financial Services Department.

### **Client Department(s)**

Development Services Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$2,750,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Urban Grant Fund Budget of the Development Services Department. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### **Purchasing Language:**

Contract Amendment.

### **Prior Council Action:**

November 14, 2019 - Council approved the original contract, item 38, on an 11-0 vote.  
March 25, 2021 - Council approved an amendment, item 59, on an 11-0 vote.

### **For More Information:**

Direct questions regarding this Recommendation for Council Action to the Financial Services Department - Central Procurement at: [FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov](mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov)  
<<mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov>> or at 512-974-2500.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The proposed amendment provides increased grant administration services on behalf of the City for the Urban Forest Grant. The initial budget was estimated based on historical data. The authority on this contract is from the special revenue fund, not the general fund. The special revenue fund receives funding from development-related tree mitigation when on-site mitigation is not possible. The City's Land Development Code, §25-8, Subchapter B, Tree and Natural Area Protection, provides context for tree mitigation. The special revenue funding source for this contract is volatile and revenues exceeded previous years.

The proposed increased contract authority will allow the City flexibility to utilize the balance in the special revenue fund. The Austin Community Foundation receives funds from the City and awards grants to applicants in consultation with the City. The proposed amendment will increase the amount of funds transferred annually. The increased funding will support tree-related projects throughout Austin. By funding tree-related projects, the City will support the implementation of Imagine Austin, Austin's Urban Forest Plan, Strategic Direction 2023 goals, and Austin's Climate Equity Plan.

Council approved the Tree and Natural Area Protection Ordinance in 1983 with the focus on minimizing impacts to existing trees during development planning and construction. The Urban Forest Grant was created in 2008 as a mechanism to make tree mitigation resources available to fund community forestry initiatives and to promote conservation and improvement projects that benefit Austin's urban forest. The City began contracting services to disseminate Urban Forest Grant funding at that time. This program is supported by the Urban Forest Replenishment Fund which was created to mitigate the impact of tree removals. The Urban Forest Replenishment Fund receives funding from development related tree mitigation when on-site mitigation (tree planting) is not feasible. The Urban Forest Grant enhances the urban forest through projects associated with tree planting, education, public service announcements, award programs, disease control, inventory control and other related efforts.

If this increase in funding is not approved, then the Development Services Department will not be able to utilize the expanding partnerships through the Urban Forest Grant and the funding available through the Urban Forest Replenishment Fund.

**Contract Detail:**

<b>Contract Term</b>	<b>Length of Term</b>	<b>Current Contract Authorization</b>	<b>Requested Additional Authorization</b>	<b>Revised Total Authorization</b>
Initial Term	1 yr.	\$ 750,000		\$ 750,000
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$ 450,000		\$ 450,000
Contract Amendment		\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000
Contract Amendment		\$4,750,000		\$ 4,750,000
Proposed Amendment			\$4,000,000	\$ 4,000,000
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	-		\$ -
Optional Extension 3	1 yr.	-		\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4 yrs.</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>

**Note:** Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.