



Grant Acceptance: Texas A&M Forest Service

PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

JEN BASHAM, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

Overview

- City of Burleson Parks & Recreation awarded two Community Forestry Grants totaling \$120,000 over three years
- Focus: Urban canopy expansion and professional forestry management





Application Award & Timeline

Grant Application Submitted: February 11, 2025

Grant Award Received: June 13, 2025

Grants awarded by Texas A&M Forest Service
ahead of FY 2026 budget cycle

Timing allowed alignment with proposed FY
2026 budget

Tree Planting Grant (\$20,000)

Canopy for Community Resilience Initiative

Funds planting of 40 native/adaptive trees

Focus areas: high-traffic and underserved neighborhoods

Benefits:

- Restore canopy
- Improve pedestrian comfort
- Community engagement through volunteer planting events



Urban Forester Grant (\$100,000)

Supports creation of a dedicated Urban Forester position

Funding distribution:

- FY 2025: \$50,000
- FY 2026: \$25,000
- FY 2027: \$25,000

Role includes:

- Conducting tree inventory
- Developing maintenance schedules
- Leading planting events/workshops
- Public engagement
- Integrating sustainable forestry practices across departments



Budget & Fiscal Impact

Both grant-funded items are included in the proposed FY 2026 budget:

\$20,000 Tree Planting Initiative

\$100,000 Urban Forester Position (over 3 years)

Total Grant Funding: \$120,000



OPTIONS



Approve resolution to formally
accept both grant awards



Deny



Questions / Comments

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