



CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM

DEPARTMENT	PRESENTED BY	DATE
Administration	Sara Law - Sustainability Coordinator/PIO	August 20, 2024

AGENDA ITEM

Consent Agenda- Approve IRA Urban and Community Forestry Grant

BACKGROUND

The Colorado State Forest Service created the Colorado Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Urban & Community Forestry (UCF) grant program with IRA funding from the USDA Forest Service. The 2024 grant cycle is the first of three rounds of funding over the next three years, and the CSFS has \$1.6 million available in this first year.

This new grant program is designed to grow the tree canopy in disadvantaged areas of Colorado. Eligible projects will prioritize capacity building and community engagement to improve forest canopies in disproportionately impacted (DI) areas, identified through the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool under the federal [Justice40 Initiative](#). Neighborhoods of Salida like the Oak Street corridor are identified as a DI area.

This project aims to increase the tree canopy in the right of ways and/or City easements throughout the Oak Street/291 corridor. Through interdepartmental collaboration and support from the city Tree Board, the project will utilize an Urban Tree program to increase tree plantings, maintenance and pruning plans along with creating a sense of community ownership and stewardship in disadvantaged areas.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the Grant if it is awarded.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact. There is no matching requirements for this grant.

MOTION

A City Councilmember should state "I move to combine and approve the items on the consent agenda", followed by a second and a roll call vote.