



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO

FROM: Councilmember Pam Foley

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: 05/22/2019

Approved

Date

5/22/19

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Our City Forest

Amount of City Funding Required: \$10,000

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.): General Fund

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Proposal Description, including anticipated outcomes (Please describe how change would affect services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc.):

Our City Forest is an organization critical to protecting and preserving the City of San Jose's community forest. The tree canopy in the City of San Jose is a valuable and precious asset that enhances the quality of life, increases property values, cleans our air, provides energy savings, prevents flooding, serves as a pedestrian safety mechanism, combats the urban heat island effect, and provides for many more additional benefits.

Because of their extreme value, our City has supported the planting of drought-tolerant species and fruit trees year-round. According to the California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection, trees are the frontline defense to climate change.

Our City Forest recruits, provides training and coordinates 5,000+ volunteers every year for plantings, maintenance work, tree watering, outreach, education projects and office support. The additional funding will allow for improved management and coordination of these critical components of Our City Forest operations.

More targeted outreach, specialized training, and volunteer recognition are among the needed improvements. Urban forestry activities are varied and often technical, and require a manager to

coordinate staff-led trainings on an ongoing basis and ensure that volunteers are well-matched to assigned tasks.

Funding Source

X Essential Services Reserve (\$4 million):

Other (Program/Project/Fund):

Department or Organization: Our City Forest

Department or Organization Contact (list contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation):

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