



Thursday, September 28, 2006

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**Watershed Protection and Development Review
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

ITEM No. 63

Subject: Approve a resolution authorizing negotiation and execution of an agreement with the Texas Forest Service (TFS) of the Texas A&M University System for U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service funding for an Oak Wilt Suppression grant with required City matching funds of \$25,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding of up to \$25,000 is available in U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service grant funding administered by the Texas Forest Service. Local matching funds of \$25,000 are required in local matching funds and are available in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Approved Operating Budget of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Additional Backup Material

(click to open)

Resolution

For More Information: Michael Embesi 974-1876 ; Joan Esquivel 974-3371

The Texas Forest Service (TFS) selected the City of Austin for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service Texas Oak Wilt Suppression funding for an Oak Wilt Partnership Grant in Fiscal Year 2005-2006. TFS approved funding for a second year in Fiscal Year 2006-2007 to continue this program. The grant supports a city forester position to provide technical assistance and promote public awareness and education concerning the identification, prevention, and suppression of oak wilt in the city limits of Austin. Additional activities include public tree planting and maintenance programs as well as enforcement of city tree protection and landscaping ordinances. Grant and matching funds will be used for salary and benefits and additional matching funds will be used for office expenses, supplies and equipment.

The total estimated project cost is \$50,000 for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. USDA Forest Service funds administered by TFS will provide up to \$25,000 and the City of Austin will provide the required matching funds of \$25,000. The grant funds were appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Approved Operating Budget.

RESOLUTION NO.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City authorizes the negotiation and execution of an agreement with the Texas Forest Service of the Texas A & M University System for U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service funding for an Oak Wilt Suppression grant of \$25,000 with required City of Austin matching funds not to exceed \$25,000.

ADOPTED: _____, 2006 **ATTEST:** _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk

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