

Mayor's Office of Sustainability

Ord. No. 37-2024

Legislative Summary

To request new legislation authorizing the Department of Public Works to apply, accept, and spend grant funds in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability, to facilitate the implementation of tree risk management (pruning, stump removal, tree planting and quality control) by the Office of Urban Forestry/Department of Public Works.

Background/Purpose:

The City of Cleveland Mayor's Office of Sustainability has become a valuable component to the City's progress on Climate action, within both city operations and the community. One strong component of the City's Climate Action Plan is the goal to achieve tree canopy restoration through maintenance and planting, as described in the Cleveland Tree Plan. This plan was developed to address maintaining the current tree canopy, while increasing the canopy to remedy the tree coverage loss over time and address equitable distribution of new trees. Now, with Mayor Justin Bibb leading as a Climate Mayor, we are seeking to continue expanding tree implementation plans in every ward of the City of Cleveland. Accepting grant funds from Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) "Urban Forestry Grant Program – Inflation Reduction Act Funding" will allow the Urban Forestry Office to further the tree plan's tree canopy goals, and to incorporate work we anticipate will be advanced by the revived Urban Forestry Commission.

Scope of Work/Commodities/Services:

The Department of Public Works in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability is seeking legislative authority for the following scope of work:

- Apply, accept, and spend grant funds to be awarded through the ODNR's "Urban Forestry Grant Program – Inflation Reduction Act Funding", in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability.
- Request authority to enter into one or more requirement contracts for the necessary items of labor and materials needed for urban forestry services, including but not limited to, maintaining and planting trees, and removing trees, stumps, and tree waste material, for the purpose of maintaining and restoring the urban tree canopy of Cleveland.
- If the grant is awarded, Sustainability will collaborate with the Department of Public Works (Urban Forestry – Division of Parks Maintenance and Properties) to execute plans.

Justification/Urgency:

The justification for legislation is due to the need for council's authority to accept and spend grant dollars and a requirement from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to have authorizing legislation from every applying municipality's council, due to the ODNR by January 31, 2024. The urgency for this request is that the application for this grant is due outside of the regular council meeting schedule (December 29, 2023) and the authorizing legislation is a requirement of the application. A letter of commitment to seek this authorizing legislation will be submitted with the grant application in the interim.

Anticipated Costs and funding source:

Anticipated Grant: Up to \$1,000,000. Requires no match from the City of Cleveland.

Schedule or Term of Contract:

4 years (February 1, 2024 - April 1, 2028) for grant implementation. Award notices expected by January 31, 2024.

Current Contract (s):

N/A

Vendor Name	Vendor Address	Vendor Contact
N/A		

Cleveland-Area Small Business Participation:

N/A

Previous contract:

Vendor Name	Vendor Address	Vendor Contact