



City of Cleveland Memorandum

Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

Department of Public Works

9/28/2022

The Honorable Blaine A. Griffin, President
Cleveland City Council
601 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Re: Legislation for Introduction and Passage under Suspension of Rules on October 3, 2022

Dear Council President Griffin:

I am writing to ask your support for the Introduction and Passage under Suspension of the Rules on October 3, 2022 legislation authorizing the Director of Public Works, Division of Urban Forestry to apply for, accept and expend grant dollars from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Urban Canopy Restoration Grant Program. This is to advance the urban forestry plan's tree canopy goals via residential tree plantings and the maintenance of those newly planted trees.

The reason for the urgency of this request for passage is due to the upcoming grant application deadline of October 14, 2022, as well as the recent repeal of the Office of Sustainability's grants-related authorizing legislation Ordinance #354-2021. The purpose of this piece is to secure grant dollars with the assistance of the Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Climate Justice, to further the urban forestry plan's tree canopy goals, specifically to expend dollars for the planting and maintenance of residential trees. This aligns with the work that will be advanced by the revived Urban Forestry Commission, and will help accomplish the Climate Action Plan goal for increasing the city's tree canopy by 30% by 2040.

The costs for the services contemplated shall be paid from funds approved by the Director of Finance. Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to let us know. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank Williams", written over a blue horizontal line.

Frank D. Williams, Director
Department of Public Works

FDW/mam
Enclosure

Cc: All Members of Council; Patricia J. Britt, City Clerk, Clerk of Council
Ryan Puente, Chief Governmental Affairs Officer
Brenda Nelson
Nancy Lanzola, Legislative Liaison, Dept. of Law; Beverly Gray, Dept. of Law
M. Yanna Maxwell, Dept. of Public Works
John Laird, Asst. Director of Public Works
Sarah O'Keeffe, Director, Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Climate Justice
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