

Combating Greenhouse Gas Emissions with Urban Forestry

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Urban Forest Defined

- "Urban forest" means those native or introduced trees and related vegetation in the urban and near-urban areas, including, but not limited to, urban watersheds, soils and related habitats, street trees, park trees, residential trees, natural riparian habitats, and trees on other private and public properties. PRC 4709.04(d)

Partnerships

- Local Governments
- Special Districts
- Non-profits
- Industry
- Federal Agencies
- Education/Research
- Environmental Groups
- Professional Societies/Associations

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
 - Cities and Counties
- Special Districts
 - School Districts
 - Flood Control Districts
 - Fair Districts
 - Municipal Utility Districts
 - Others
- Non-profit Organizations

2014 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)

- GGRF Grant Types:
 - Green Trees for the Golden State
 - \$150,000-\$500,000
 - Urban tree planting
 - site preparation
 - tree establishment care during grant period and possibly an endowment of maintenance funds

City of Richmond

- Tree Planting - 750 large canopy trees
- Great Partnerships
- Disadvantaged neighborhoods
 - Santa Fe
 - Triangle
 - Park Plaza
 - Pullman
 - Coronado
 - North & East Richmond

2014 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)

- GGRF Grant Types:
 - Management Activities for GHG Reduction
 - \$150,000-\$750,000
 - Cities, Counties, and Special Districts only
 - Establish new jurisdiction-wide tree inventory and/or urban forestry mapping and analysis and/or long-term management plan or update existing versions
 - May include new ordinance development
 - Must include tree planting

City of San Diego

- Inventory
 - All publicly owned trees
 - Parks, streets, open-spaces
- Urban Tree Canopy Analysis
 - Identify what is present and condition
 - Identify where the need is for more
 - How to Increase
- Implement city-wide tree planting program

2014 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)

- GGRF Grant Types:
 - Urban Wood & Biomass Utilization
 - \$150,000-\$500,000
 - Use woody biomass for its highest and best use to divert from the urban waste stream
 - Example: using sawmills and kilns to mill logs and then commercialize the wood product via value added products

Sacramento Tree Foundation

- Urban Wood Rescue
 - Partnering with Industry and City
 - Develop a sustainable business plan
 - Divert useable urban logs from the waste stream for future wood products
 - Job training and creation

2014 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)

- GGRF Grant Types:
 - Green Innovations –
 - \$200,000-\$1,500,000
 - Uses vegetation, including trees, in engineered urban infrastructure solutions with multiple benefits.
 - Examples: vegetated swales (bio-swales), rain gardens, green walls, green roofs, community gardens and orchards. Usually includes more than one of the example treatments within a project.

City of Farmersville

- Urban Reforestation & Park Development
 - Develop 24 acre park
 - 50 large native species
 - 825' linear bio swale
 - Capture water for irrigation
 - Treat storm water runoff
 - Estimated 1.3 acre feet capture = 52 acre feet in 40 years
 - Community Involvement and Education
 - 4 water wise landscaping and tree care workshops
 - Community tree planting events
 - Guided walking field trips for over 1,000 students

2014 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)

- GGRF Grant Types:
 - Woods in the Neighborhood
 - \$200,000-\$1,500,000
 - Purchase of blighted urban lots for purpose of using vegetation, including trees, to provide neighborhood solutions with multiple benefits.
 - Example treatments may be similar to Green Innovations, above, or may be solely tree planting.

2014-15 Grant Cycle Facts

- First funding cycle with GGRF
- \$15.7 million to award
 - \$107.4 million requested
- 169 Concept Proposals received
 - 62 applicants invited to submit full proposals
- Up to 3 years to encumber funds
- Up to 5 years for project completion
- Oversubscribed by 600%

Moving Forward

- 2015-16 Currently has no funds assigned to CAL FIRE
 - Governor's May Revise for 2015-16 Budget has \$37.8 million from GGRF for CAL FIRE
 - FULLY SUPPORTED BY CAL FIRE
 - Continued Goal to tie Urban Forestry to existing statewide public policy priorities

Thank you.

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**“A funny thing happened
on the way to ...”**



State Senate Proposal

(August 17, 2015)

Shift \$49 million of
GGRF dollars from
CAL FIRE to
Resources Agency to
create a new
community greening
program that will
expand opportunity
beyond urban
forestry.



Huh?

- **CAL FIRE U&CF Program is more than trees**

- Bioswales
- Park restoration
- Community Gardens
- Woody biomass



ALL PROJECTS MUST REDUCE GHGs

What's Next?

- **Legislature and Administration:**
 - Pass a supplemental budget bill for GGRF before June, 2016
 - Pass a Budget Bill in June that incorporates unallocated GGRF from 2015
 - Uses remaining unallocated GGRF for other purposes (i.e. Trans Special Session)



Show Me the Money

- **Cities scored 38% of GGRF grants**

Farmersville
San Diego
Los Angeles
Richmond
National City
Modesto



Salinas
Colton
Atwater
Parlier
Patterson

- Next round should extend beyond DACs
- Almost all awarded projects require some city oversight

Responding to State Statute

CAL U&CF Program is designed to advance major public policy goals directly related to

- * sustainable communities (SB 375)
- * climate change (AB 32 and AB 1532)
- * environmental justice (SB 535)



Call to Action

- Letters, calls, faxes, to Legislature and Governor.
- Public support from the League



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