



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
January 21, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
 Submitted by: David Brannigan, Chief, Fire Department  
 Subject: Grant Application: Funding from California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to Support Hazardous Fuels Reduction in Berkeley Wildland Urban Interface

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to submit a grant application in the amount of \$800,484 to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) California Climate Investments (CCI) program to fund a three-year vegetation mitigation program to operate in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) of Berkeley's Fire Zones 2 and 3, and to accept grant funds and execute a resulting grant agreement.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The total project cost for three years of Hazardous Fuels Reduction in Berkeley WUI is \$1,136,197. The grant amount is \$800,484 and two departments within the City of Berkeley will provide in-kind matches. YouthWorks, through the Health, Housing & Community Services Department will contribute an in-kind match of \$232,950 using general funds. The Fire Department will also provide in-kind matches of \$72,763 for labor and \$30,000 for fuel which will both be paid using general funds. Expenditures from the grantor's portion of the project costs will be paid from the general fund and invoiced to the grant for reimbursement.

The attached budget worksheet (Attachment 2) provides further breakdown.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Cal Fire, through its California Climate Investments grant program, is funding Fire Prevention projects statewide with an allocated budget of \$49.7 million. These funds are being made available to cities and other agencies to "...improve the resiliency of forested and forest adjacent communities...while achieving climate goals."

Grant funding will allow the Berkeley Fire Department to run the Vegetation Management Crew program, working in partnership with YouthWorks. This program will reduce vegetation along rights of way in Fire Zones 2 and 3 (in support of the Safe

Passages wildfire evacuation project) while assisting at-risk or in-need property owners to create defensible space around their homes and on vacant properties. Please see a map of Fire Zones 2 and 3 in Attachment 3.

Hazardous Fuels Reduction in Berkeley Wildland Urban Interface is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city. The project also addresses climate change through carbon sequestration and minimizing carbon emissions while supporting Resolution No. 69,147–N.S Declaring Wildfire Prevention and Safety a Top Priority in the City of Berkeley.

### BACKGROUND

The grant, if awarded, would provide the City of Berkeley with support to sustain the Berkeley Fire Vegetation Management Crew (VMC), a program which began with excess equity funding in 2019. The grant funding would support the program for three years beginning in 2021 and with a grant closeout by March 15, 2024.

VMC operations over the three years of the grant would target vegetation in Fire Zones 2 and 3. They would work along 41 miles of narrow streets and 137 walking paths, on unmanaged properties among the 122 vacant lots in the Hazardous Hills inspection areas, and adjacent to the homes of those unable physically or fiscally to create or maintain their own defensible space.

Mitigation would simultaneously reduce the likelihood of a fire starting, reduce the speed of fire spread, and reduce the intensity of any fire which did start. These effects would also reduce carbon emissions due to wildfire and support wildfire evacuation by protecting egress routes and enhance wildfire survivability by improving access for emergency personnel.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Hazardous Fuels Reduction in Berkeley Wildland Urban Interface project will help meet the City of Berkeley's environmental sustainability goals of preparing for the impacts of climate change and preserving natural habitats and minimizing air and water pollution.

The project will also help achieve California Climate Investments (CCI) Greenhouse Gas reduction goals through hazardous fuel reduction along major evacuation and access routes and directly adjacent to homes, thereby addressing all three components of the stated goals of the CCI program:

1. Reducing risk of wildland fires to habitable structures and communities by removing vegetation for fire start, spread, and intensity.
2. Maximizing carbon sequestration in healthy WUI habitat by clearing excess vegetation, thereby supporting food, light, and water availability for remaining, desirable vegetation.

3. Minimizing uncontrolled release of emissions by wildfires by reducing overall fuel availability.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Vegetation mitigation is needed in Berkeley Fire Zones 2 and 3 to help prevent wildfire and to enhance the safety of residents and emergency responders in the event of wildfire. Grant funding will directly support that effort. Action is required for the City of Berkeley to proceed with the Cal Fire CCI grant program application process.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Scott McKinney, Professional Standards Captain, Fire, 510-981-5588

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: Fuels Reduction Grant Project Budget Spreadsheet
- 3: Fire Zones Map

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

GRANT APPLICATION: FUNDING FROM CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION TO SUPPORT HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION IN BERKELEY WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has continued to see a buildup of vegetation in the Wildland Urban Interface in spite of the lessons of the 1923 and 1991 fires in the Hills; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has declared Wildfire Prevention and Safety a Top Priority; and

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2019 the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) began accepting grant applications for Fire Prevention projects aiming to reduce the risk of wildland fires to habitable structures and communities; and

WHEREAS, grant awards are expected in Fall 2020, with grant-funded work beginning in Winter 2021, and with grant closeout by March of 2024; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with Cal Fire by August 31, 2020 to carry out the Hazardous Fuels Reduction project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to: submit a grant application in the amount of \$800,484 to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Grant Program; execute any resulting grant agreements and any amendments; and accept any grants; and that Council authorize the implementation of the project and the appropriation of funding for related expenses, subject to securing the grant. A record signature copy of said agreement(s) and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Tracking #: 19-FP-SCU-1098

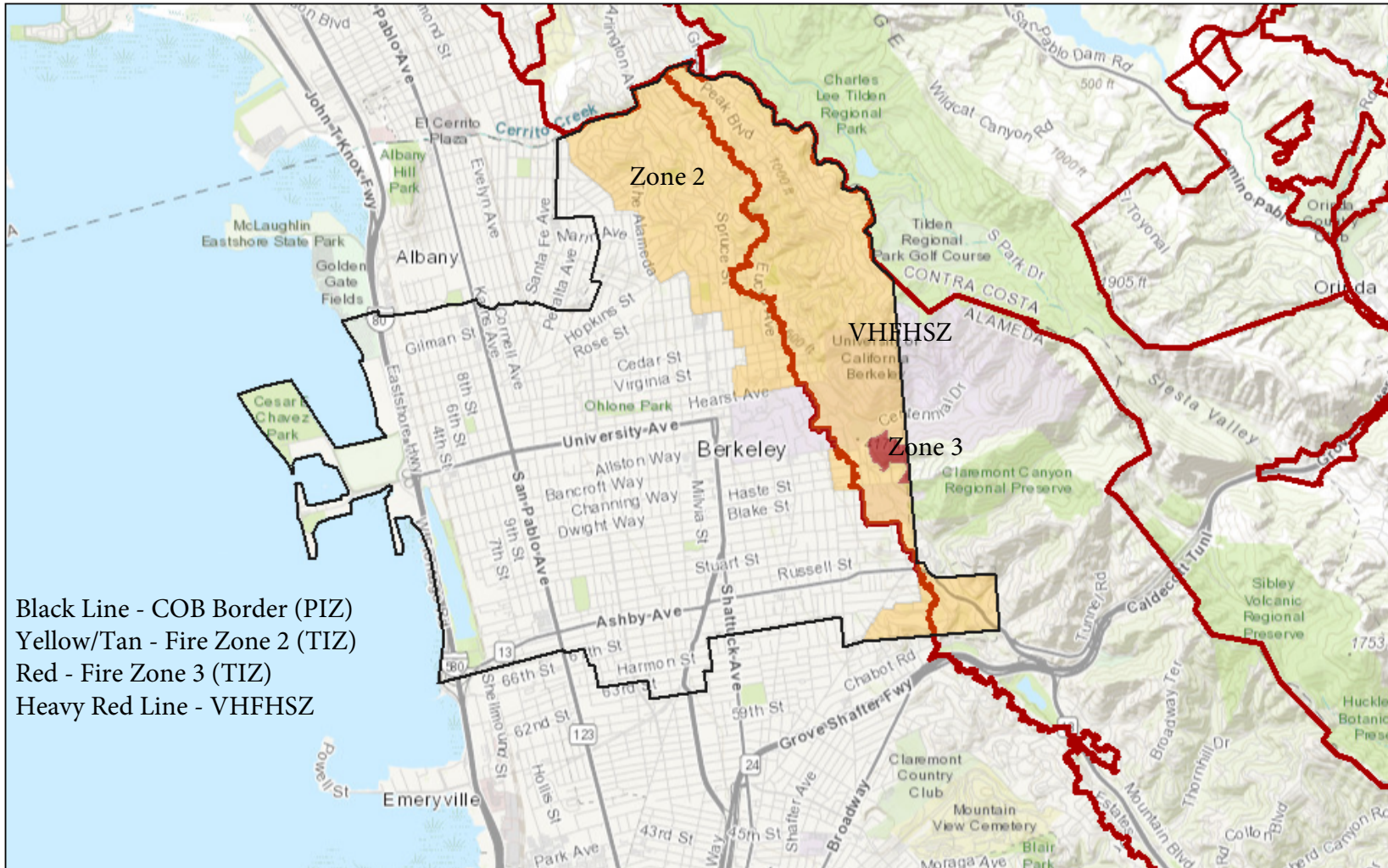
Project Budget

Project Name:

Budget Category	Item Description	Cost Basis			Cost Share (%)			Funding Source (\$)			Total (\$)
		Quantity	Units	Cost/Unit	Grant	Grantee	Partner	Grant	Grantee	Partner(s)	
<b>A. Salaries and Wages</b>											
	Fire Captain FTE for project duration	6240	Hours	\$ 63	100%	0%	0%	\$ 395,242	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 395,242
	Field labor, YouthWorks, 1000/yr	15000	Hours	\$ 15	0%	0%	100%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 217,500	\$ 217,500
	Purch. & Finance, duration	144	Hours	\$ 50	0%	100%	0%	\$ -	\$ 7,200	\$ -	\$ 7,200
	Mgt. Analyst, duration	624	Hours	\$ 60	0%	100%	0%	\$ -	\$ 37,440	\$ -	\$ 37,440
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total Salaries and Wages:							\$ 395,242	\$ 44,640	\$ 217,500	\$ 657,382
<b>B. Employee Benefits</b>											
	Fire Captain @ 0.63	6240	Hours	\$ 40	100%	0%	0%	\$ 248,976	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 248,976
	YouthWorks, 1000/yr*5 @ 7.01%	15000	Hours	\$ 1	0%	0%	100%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,450	\$ 15,450
	Purch., duration @ .63	144	Hours	\$ 32	0%	100%	0%	\$ -	\$ 4,536	\$ -	\$ 4,536
	Mgt. Analyst, duration @ .63	624	Hours	\$ 38	0%	100%	0%	\$ -	\$ 23,587	\$ -	\$ 23,587
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Hours	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total Employee Benefits:							\$ 248,976	\$ 28,123	\$ 15,450	\$ 292,549
<b>C. Contractual</b>											
	CEQA/Forester, est.	160	Hours	\$ 100	100%	0%	0%	\$ 16,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,000
	Transport van, rental, 18 months	540	Daily	\$ 50	100%	0%	0%	\$ 27,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,000
	Portable toilet trailer, rental, 18 months	540	Days	\$ 17	100%	0%	0%	\$ 9,180	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,180
	Truck, utility, crew, rental, 18 months	540	Days	\$ 55	100%	0%	0%	\$ 29,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,700
	Chipper, 6in, gas, rental, 18 mos.	540	Days	\$ 53	100%	0%	0%	\$ 28,350	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,350
	Sub-Total Contractual:							\$ 110,230	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,230
<b>D. Travel &amp; Per Diem:</b>											
		0	Days	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Days	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Days	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Days	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total Travel & Per Diem:							\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>E. Supplies</b>											
	Fuel for veh's, 20 gal/day x 250 days	5000	Each	\$ 6	0%	100%	0%	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ 30,000
	Fuel for tools, 2 gal/day x 250 days	500	Each	\$ 8	100%	0%	0%	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000
	PPE @ 2554/yr for three years	3	Each	\$ 2,554	100%	0%	0%	\$ 7,662	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,662
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total Supplies:							\$ 11,662	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ 41,662
<b>F. Equipment</b>											
		0	Each		0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each		0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Tools cache, OTP + 20% repl./yr	1	Each	\$ 17,624	100%	0%	0%	\$ 17,624	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,624
		0	Each	\$ -	100%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total Equipment:							\$ 17,624	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,624
<b>G. Other Costs</b>											
	Chip transfer/compost by the ton	250	Each	\$ 67	100%	0%	0%	\$ 16,750	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,750
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		0	Each	\$ -	0%	0%	0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total Other Costs							\$ 16,750	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,750
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>								\$ 800,484	\$ 102,763	\$ 232,950	\$ 1,136,197
Indirect Costs (Exclude Equipment)								0%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Project Costs</b>								\$ 800,484	\$ 102,763	\$ 232,950	\$ 1,136,197
Less Program Income								\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Grant Proposed Costs</b>								\$ 800,484	\$ 102,763	\$ 232,950	\$ 1,136,197

19-FP-SCU-1098-MAP-0

### Berkeley Hazardous Fire Zones



November 26, 2019

### Hazardous Fuels Reduction in BER WUI

1:72,224  
0 0.5 1 2 mi  
0 1 2 4 km  
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, Increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri