



Long Beach Water

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Board of Water Commissioners

April 1, 2021 Board Meeting

CHRISTOPHER J. GARNER, General Manager

Subject:

Adopt Resolution No. WD-1437 authorizing the General Manager to sign and submit all necessary documents associated with the application for a grant agreement from the United States Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for the Direct Install Garden Program for Disadvantaged Communities Project.

Executive Summary:

The Direct Install Gardens (DIG) program is a multi-benefit turf replacement project focusing on disadvantaged and low-income communities in Long Beach. The DIG program removes grass lawns and installs drought tolerant landscapes, while upgrading traditional inefficient irrigation systems, at no cost to the homeowner. The DIG program improves water efficiency and helps to mitigate the impacts of climate change on some of the most negatively impacted neighborhoods in Long Beach. Long Beach Water Department (LBWD) seeks to obtain additional funding to expand the current scope of the DIG program.

The United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) solicited applications for the WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Efficiency Projects. LBWD staff and grant consultants identified the DIG program as a competitive application for this grant opportunity as part of LBWD's overall grant strategy. Staff therefore recommends LBWD submit an application, and a resolution from the Board of Water Commissioners is required as part of the grant application. Should LBWD's application be selected for an award, staff will come back to Board to authorize an agreement with USBR to accept the grant award.

Staff Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution No. WD-1437 authorizing the General Manager to sign and submit all necessary documents associated with the application for a grant agreement from the United States Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for the Direct Install Garden (DIG) Program for Disadvantaged Communities Project.

Fiscal Impact: If selected by USBR, LBWD would be awarded \$75,000 and would need to provide a minimum of \$75,000 to meet the 50-percent matching funds requirement. However, LBWD staff intends to obtain additional outside funds to meet the 50-percent matching requirement. If the grant is awarded to LBWD, staff will bring the award and matching funding strategy to the Board for approval prior to accepting the grant.

B. Anatole Falagan
Assistant General Manager

3/24/21

Date

Christopher J. Garner
General Manager

3/24/21

Date

Attachment

RESOLUTION NO. WD-1437

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF WATER
COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH
AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO SIGN AND
SUBMIT ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED
WITH THE APPLICATION FOR A GRANT AGREEMENT
FROM THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF RECLAMATION'S
WATERSMART GRANTS: SMALL-SCALE WATER
EFFICIENCY PROJECTS FOR THE DIRECT INSTALL
GARDEN PROGRAM FOR DISADVANTAGED
COMMUNITIES PROJECT

WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of
Reclamation (USBR) WaterSMART Drought Response Program established a framework
to provide Federal leadership and assistance to stretch and secure water supplies for the
future; and

WHEREAS, with WaterSMART grants, USBR provides cost-sharing funding
on a competitive basis to implement projects that will build long-term resiliency to drought;
and

WHEREAS, in order for the Long Beach Water Department to receive and
expend grant funding, the USBR requires the Board of Water Commissioners to adopt a
resolution identifying the official with the legal authority to enter into an agreement with
USBR, and authorize the official to commit the Long Beach Water Department to the
financial and legal obligations associated with receipt of the WaterSMART Drought
Response Program Grant financial assistance;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Long
Beach resolves as follows:

Section 1. Approves and supports the filing of an application with the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation for the WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects and further authorizes the expenditure of funds or in-kind contributions by the Long Beach Water Department as specified in the funding plan for the Direct Install Garden Program for Disadvantaged Communities Project.

Section 2. Appoints the General Manager as agent of the Applicant to conduct all negotiations and execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, applications, contracts, amendments, payment requests, and compliance with all applicable laws which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Project.

Section 3. Directs the General Manager to work with the USBR to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board, and the Secretary to the Board shall certify the vote adopting this Resolution.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Long Beach at its meeting on _____, 2021 by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners: _____

Noes: Commissioners: _____

Absent: Commissioners: _____

Secretary
Board of Water Commissioners