



Direct Install Gardens (DIG): Grant Amendment

January 20, 2022



Long Beach Water
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Program Background

Why DIG?

- Lawn-to-Garden projects require large upfront investment
- Underrepresentation of low-income communities

DIG Overview

- Front yard turf replacement for single-family residences
- Residences must be located in specific census tract
- Launched May 2020

Benefits

- Carbon Sequestration
- Storm-water retention
- Community capacity building
 - Partnership with Conservation Corps of Long Beach



Before and During Construction



Before and After Establishment



Completed Projects



Testimonials

“I am so pleased with the entire experience. The process from the application to completion of the project was so smooth.

I am proud of my new drought tolerant lawn and love to see people stop and admire it. “

- Jacqueline



California Coastal Conservancy Grant

Overview

- Climate Ready Grant Round 5: \$236,388
 - LBWD matched funding
- Previously Board Authorized Pilot Budget: \$472,755
- Deadline: March 31, 2022

Scope of Agreement

- *“The Direct Install Garden Program will replace 25 lawns with drought-tolerant gardens and plant native trees in a disadvantaged community in the City of Long Beach that will sequester carbon, improve air quality, and provide urban cooling.”*



Current Status

10 Gardens Completed

- 10,708 sq. ft. replaced

54 Trees Planted

- Partnered tree planting with Parks Department at Jackson Park

Expended \$248,270 of \$472,755



Estimated Savings

Emission Savings

- 42,897 kg of CO2 Sequestered
- Equivalent to 107,810 miles driven or 4,827 gallons of gasoline consumed

Water Savings

- 183,163 gal/year



Amendment to Grant Agreement

Current Grant Status

- DIG Pilot Program will not be able to complete 25 lawn conversions by March 31, 2022
- California Coastal Conservancy is unable to extend deadline of the Grant due to time restrictions of funding



Amendment to Grant Agreement

Next Steps

- California Coastal Conservancy is amenable to reducing Scope of Agreement from 25 to 10 lawns
- LBWD has completed 10 lawn conversions and has invoiced Coastal Conservancy for the full \$236,388 Grant award amount, thereby fulfilling the Grant scope and the Grant would be considered completed
- LBWD would continue the DIG pilot program using the remainder of previously Board authorized funding



Staff Recommendation

Authorize the General Manager to execute the First Amendment to Agreement No. 18-135 to complete the California Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready Round 5 Grant for the Direct Install Garden Pilot Program.





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