



City of Emeryville

CALIFORNIA

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 2, 2019
TO: Christine Daniel, City Manager
FROM: Andrew Clough, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: **Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville To Accept Funding From The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Commercial Lawn And Garden Exchange Program To Replace Gasoline-Burning Landscaping Tools With Equivalent Electric Tools At No Cost To The City And Appropriate Said Funding To Grant Fund 254**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the above-entitled Resolution.

BACKGROUND

The BAAQMD Commercial Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Program provides funding to public agencies within the Air District's jurisdiction for new battery-powered, zero-emission electric lawn and garden equipment in exchange for still-operable gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment. This funding has been made available through the mediation process resulting from legal settlements with Conoco Phillips, which requires that penalties be used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Priority has been given to areas in Alameda and Contra Costa County near where the air pollution from the referenced settlements initially occurred. Based on its location in Alameda County, the City of Emeryville qualifies for such funding.

The program provides emission reduction benefits and reduces air pollution of reactive organic gas (ROG), nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon dioxide, and particulate matter. In addition, it reduces noise exposure to maintenance staff and the community. The type of equipment targeted includes lawn mowers, leaf blowers, sweepers, chainsaws, line trimmers, and hedge trimmers. In addition to funding for purchasing new equipment, funds are available for the purchase of batteries for each piece of equipment, as well as battery chargers.

DISCUSSION

Public Works staff, in collaboration with the Maintenance Team Supervisor, identified the need for upgrading the old gasoline-powered lawn and garden tools with the new zero-emission equipment. Based on frequency of usage, the Maintenance Supervisor, together with the BAAQMD inspector, selected seven gasoline-powered landscaping tools to be scrapped and replaced. Besides the actual tools, the BAAQMD funding will cover twelve batteries and six additional chargers to ensure easy access and uninterrupted operation of these devices. Since the City's electricity service through East Bay Community Energy

is 100% greenhouse gas-free, this switch is a positive step toward achieving the City's Climate Action Plan goals.

Subsequent to the purchase of the new equipment, the City must comply with two additional conditions as part of the grant acceptance. First, the City must ensure that the old equipment is scrapped at a licensed metal recycling facility. Secondly, the Public Works Department must submit an annual monitoring report in an online format for five consecutive years. The monitoring report seeks to gather information about annual usage and overall equipment performance.

FISCAL IMPACT

Once the replacement equipment and the accessories were selected, the Public Works staff identified the total project costs at \$10,937.89. BAAQMD approved the full amount and accepted the equipment selection.

The BAAQMD has therefore offered a grant award of \$10,937.89 to the City of Emeryville for the replacement of the polluting tools with zero-emission electric lawn and garden equipment. The grant stipulates that the City will purchase the equipment with its discretionary funds and that itemized receipts will be submitted for reimbursement within 30 days from completing this task. Any amount that exceeds the already approved funds for the City of Emeryville will not be covered by BAAQMD.

The tool purchase will be appropriated from the City's Grant Fund 254; staff recommends these grant funds, once received, should be deposited into the same fund.

STAFF COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

There has been no staff communication with the public regarding this program.

CONCLUSION

The Commercial Lawn and Garden Exchange Program grant is an excellent opportunity for the City to update its equipment inventory with the latest emerging technology at no cost. It would also highlight the City's focus to provide safe and healthy working conditions and to limit to a minimum their workers' exposure to contaminants. Accepting and implementing this grant is an example of the commitment of the City of Emeryville toward environmental stewardship and responsibility.

PREPARED BY: Izabela Cirloganu, Environmental Services Intern

**APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE:**



Christine Daniel, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

- Commercial Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Program – Grant Agreement