

RESOLUTION 20-55

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SPRING HILL TO
APPLY FOR THE URBAN TAEP COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the preservation of natural areas and education opportunities to the citizens of the City of Spring Hill is of the greatest importance; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture has established a matching grant program to increase the tree resource base in cities and towns throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spring Hill now seeks to participate in this important program to add trees to the southern border of Port Royal Park as an extension and improvement of the buffer between the park and the adjacent neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spring Hill seeks to use this extension and improvement as an educational opportunity by creating an arboretum with educational signage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Spring Hill would pay the grand total of the grant submission amount up to \$20,000 upon award of the grant; and

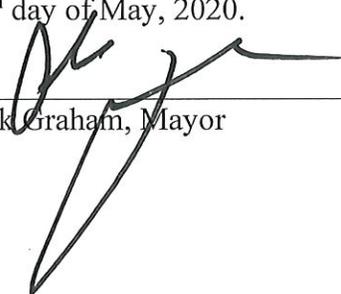
WHEREAS, the Urban TAEP Community Tree Planting Program would reimburse half of the amount awarded for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF SPRING HILL, TENNESSEE the following:

SECTION 1. That the City of Spring Hill is hereby authorized to submit an application for the TAEP Community Tree Planting Matching Grant Program.

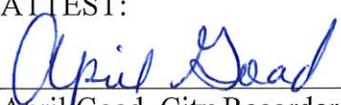
SECTION 2. That the City of Spring Hill is further authorized to provide the initial investment up to \$20,000 of which half will be reimbursed by the grant should it be awarded to the City.

Passed and adopted this 18th day of May, 2020.



Rick Graham, Mayor

ATTEST:



April Goad, City Recorder

LEGAL FORM APPROVED:



Patrick Carter, City Attorney

TREE GRANTS
20,000.00 Total
10,000.00 Grant Funds
10,000.00 City Match
Deadline for submission: June 1, 2020

We propose a twofold tree grant. Monies will be used to plant trees in Port Royal Park and on the Rutherford Creek bank.

- 1) The creek bank (a 35-foot zone extending outward from the creek) will be planted in native bare root seedling creating a riparian buffer in order to stabilize the bank of the creek, create habitat, filter stormwater pollutants, and provide flood storage.
- 2) The area located along the southern border of Port Royal Park will be planted in large native species, trees that will mature at a height of at least 20 feet or more, creating an Arboretum and an educational experience (native tree and shrub identification), shade, habitat, erosion control, as well as extend and increase the buffer between the Deer Creek subdivision and Port Royal Park.

Riparian Buffer
Deadline for submission: June 1, 2020

Riparian Buffer A riparian buffer is the transitional area between land and water that contains a mix of trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers. This vegetated strip of land “buffers” a waterway from human impacts. The function of a riparian buffer is to stabilize the banks of a waterway, create habitat, filter stormwater pollutants, and provide flood storage.

As an effort to mitigate stormwater, improve terrestrial and aquatic life, stabilize the banks of waterways, and improve water quality, the urban staff is accepting grant proposals to plant trees in riparian buffers on public and private lands. A riparian buffer consists of an area within a 35-foot zone extending out from the bank of a waterway. Eligible grantees remain cities & towns, Non-Profits, and institutions of higher learning. Individual landowners do not qualify for this program, however, HOA’s and other community organizations may apply for planting projects on private lands along waterways.

The Tennessee Urban Riparian Buffer Program began with a federal grant from the USDA Forest Service to reclaim and protect eight defined watersheds within Davidson County. Over a three-year span almost 28,000 trees were planted with nearly 2,800 volunteers within 30,451 feet of buffer along waterways. At the conclusion of the project the Tennessee Urban Riparian Buffer Handbook was produced. An online copy is available at: <http://bit.ly/TURBhandbook>.

Species of Trees Not Funded

- Green & White Ash; due to threat of Emerald Ash Borer
- Leyland Cypress; due to Seiridium canker
- Hemlock; due to threat of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
- American Elm; due to threat of Dutch Elm Disease (resistant varieties can be used)
- Silver Maple; it is an undesirable urban species
- Bradford Pear; it is an undesirable urban species

TAEP Community Tree Planting
Urban Forest/Arboretum
Deadline for submission: June 1, 2020

Goal and Objective: The goal of TAEP community tree planting grant is to increase the tree resource base in cities and towns across the state of Tennessee. It is NOT to provide beautification. Trees are work horses for our communities, providing energy savings through shading, storm water mitigation, rain interception, and air quality improvement through filtration and absorption. These are direct cost saving benefits to communities. Beautification should not be used as an objective for a TAEP tree planting project.

Trees planted in the areas located beyond the 35-foot creek bank will be large native species, trees that will mature at a height of at least 20 feet or more, creating an urban forest or Arboretum, creating an educational experience, self-guided tour (native tree and shrub identification), shade, habitat, erosion control, and a buffer between the subdivision Rutherford Creek and Port Royal Park.



REQUEST: Approval of Resolution 20-55

SUBMITTED BY: Alderman Jeff Graves
Kayce Williams, Director of Parks & Recreation
Sonja Rine, Parks & Recreation Program Manager
Spring Hill Parks and Recreation Commission

DATE: May 18, 2020

RE: To apply for the Urban TAEP Community Tree Planting Program

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution 20-55

PURPOSE:

The Parks and Recreation Department would like to apply for this grant. It is a matching grant and we intend to use it to extend and improve the landscape area between Port Royal Park and the adjacent neighborhood, as well as provide an educational opportunity by creating an arboretum to include educational signage.

BACKGROUND:

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has established a matching grant program to increase the tree resource base in cities and towns throughout the state. The grant application deadline is June 1, 2020.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This is a matching grant with no guarantee of dollar amount they would award us. The total amount we are requesting is up to \$20,000. If we were to win the grant at the full amount, the initial city outlay would be \$20,000. Then \$10,000 would be reimbursed by the grant funds. Final city investment would be \$10,000 from the general fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

On April 30, 2020, the Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the final plan revisions and unanimously voted to favorably recommend Resolution 20-55 to participate Urban TAEP Community Tree Planting Program. Staff also favorably recommends approval of Resolution 20-55.

