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**DATE:** October 8, 2025  
**TO:** Executive Committee  
**FROM:** Patricia Conley, Workforce Services Specialist/Project Manager  
**RE:** **Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program (EHCRP) Grant**

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## BACKGROUND

In June 2025, Contra Costa County (County) accepted an Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program grant to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) for the County. The plan aims to address environmental inequities by expanding tree canopy coverage in unincorporated and impacted communities, especially those underrepresented in the public decision-making process and historically underserved. The grant is led by the Department of Conservation and Development (DCD).

## CURRENT SITUATION

The UFMP will provide a road map for improving the current tree canopy coverage in the County, identify appropriate tree species for the region, identify policies and best practices for planting and maintaining trees on public and privately owned land, and explore viable funding sources to carry this work into the future. A training program will be build out to develop a green infrastructure workforce. The Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County (WDBCCC), along with Civicorps, The Watershed Project (TWP), and Sustainable Contra Costa are important partners in this work.

## FISCAL IMPACT

Grant award: \$100,000.

## SCHEDULE

1. **Career Exploration & Employer Engagement:**
  - Recruit young adults from within the community to participate in career pathway program.
  - Conduct outreach to potential employers about talent coming out of the training program.
2. **Workforce Training (with Civicorps):**
  - Support ten training sessions for Corpsmembers to complete a Green Infrastructure Career Pathway (five in Year 1 and five in Year 2).
3. **Annual Career Events:**
  - Host green infrastructure-focused job fairs and networking events.

## CONCLUSION

The UFMP will identify tree species and best tree planting practices for reducing average and extreme temperatures in the most impacted areas, improving air quality, increasing public awareness of extreme heat risks, and enhancing community resilience. By centering equity, the UFMP will enhance climate resilience and move towards rectifying longstanding environmental injustices.

For any questions, please contact Patricia Conley, Workforce Services Specialist/Project Manager at 925-655-3818 or email at [pconley@ehsd.cccounty.us](mailto:pconley@ehsd.cccounty.us)