

**REPORT FROM**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

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Date: October 9, 2024

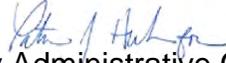
CAO File No. 0130-02164-0000

Council File No. 21-1015

Council District: ALL

To: The City Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer



Subject: **FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS: AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS AND AMERICAN BEVERAGE FOUNDATION FOR A HEALTHY AMERICA – CHILDHOOD OBESITY PREVENTION/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS 2025**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Council, subject to approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN), or designee, to prepare and submit two grant applications for the United States Conference of Mayors and American Beverage Foundation for a Healthy America, Childhood Obesity Prevention/Environmental Health and Sustainability Awards 2025; and,
2. Instruct the Director of LASAN, or designee, to report back if the City is awarded a grant, to request authority to accept the grant award, and to request approval for any related actions to implement the grant award.

**DISCUSSION**

On September 25, 2024, the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) and American Beverage Foundation for a Healthy America released a notice of funding availability for the Childhood Obesity Prevention/Environmental Health and Sustainability Awards - 2025 (USCM grant). The USCM grant aims to support programs that engage community members and promote or stimulate behavior change in the categories of a) childhood obesity prevention, b) environmental health and sustainability, and c) a hybrid program that combines elements of both a) and b). Application submissions for the USCM grant are due on October 18, 2024.

This Office received two project proposals from the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN). LASAN will be applying for the USCM grant under category b) environmental health and sustainability initiatives: Food waste reduction initiatives, composting and other waste/landfill diversion programs.

The first of LASAN's two proposals is the Fork-to-Fuel Initiative which will utilize a more efficient and

mechanical technology to recover underutilized wet waste, specifically brown grease, as a valuable resource for producing renewable fuels. This project will address brown grease waste generated by commercial sources. Brown grease waste poses environmental challenges including clogged sewer systems, increased maintenance costs, and negative impacts on water quality. LASAN will collaborate with Automatic Grease Removal Device (AGRD) companies to provide food service establishments AGRDs to collect brown grease so that it can be transformed into Sustainable Aviation Fuel or renewable diesel.

The second proposal is an Environmental Cleanup and Education Plan which will supplement LASAN's existing eradication efforts to keep the City clean by incorporating education and community engagement. This program will be focused on addressing Citywide cleanliness and the eradication of blight. This project would allow for targeted resources and efforts involving cleaning, residential education, public outreach events, and enforcement of penalties for violations of current city dumping ordinances. LASAN will also implement a Citywide Illegal Dumping Education program focused on environmental cleanups and education.

#### Applicant Eligibility and Availability of Funding

Applicants eligible to apply for the USCM grant awards include:

- City departments and authorities.
- Individual schools or school districts.
- Nonprofit organizations.

All applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The City on behalf of which the application is submitted must be a member of The United States Conference of Mayors.
- The application must include a letter of support signed by the Mayor on City letterhead.

There is no limit to the number of applications that may be submitted on behalf of a member city.

There are \$745,000 in funds available for distribution under the USCM grant. There will be nine grants awarded, with three in each population category: Small City (less than 75,000), Medium City (75,000 to 250,000), and Large City (greater than 250,000). LASAN will apply under Large City and the award amounts are: \$250,000 for first place, \$50,000 for second place, and \$15,000 for third place.

#### LASAN Project Budget and Schedule

The Fork-to-Fuel Initiative has a proposed budget of \$250,000 which includes AGRDs, maintenance, and education for 15 food service establishments in environmental justice communities throughout the City of Los Angeles, primarily in Council Districts 7, 14, and 15. If they are awarded a smaller grant, LASAN will reduce the number of food service establishments to implement the program. The estimated project duration is two years with a potential completion date of January 2027.

The Environmental Cleanup and Education Program's proposed budget of \$250,000 includes establishing agreements with up to 10 non-governmental organizations to assist with Citywide cleanup and education events, education and public outreach, printed education materials, and purchasing equipment and supplies. If a smaller grant is awarded, LASAN will focus on specific areas of need rather than a Citywide approach. The estimated projection duration is 18 months with a potential

completion date of June 2026.

Cost Sharing and Other Requirements

There is no matching fund or cost-sharing requirement.

The application requires the inclusion of a letter of support signed by the Mayor printed on official City letterhead.

Required Approval to Accept Award

In accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6(a), all departments are required to seek Mayor and Council approval before accepting and receiving a grant award. It is therefore recommended that LASAN report back to the Mayor and Council upon award notification to request authority to accept and receive the grant award and confirm that there is no additional General Fund impact.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Approval of the recommendations in this report will not result in a General Fund impact. There is no matching fund or cost-sharing requirement for the USCM grant. However, upon notification of a grant award, a reassessment on the General Fund impact should be completed as it relates to either lower than requested grant award amounts, verification of local match requirements, or front-funding for grants on a reimbursement basis.

**FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendations in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies.

Attachment: Proposed Grant Projects

*MWS/PJH/JVW:JAS:10250085*

*cc: CAO Grant Coordination*

**ATTACHMENT 1 – PROPOSED GRANT PROJECTS**

Grant Administrator: U.S. Conference of Mayors and American Beverage Foundation for a Healthy America  
 Name of Grant: Childhood Obesity Prevention/Environmental Health and Sustainability Awards 2025  
 NOFO Release Date: September 25, 2024  
 Award Date: January, 2025  
 Performance Period: 1 year

Lead Department	Project Name	Childhood Obesity Prevention/ Environmental Health and Sustainability Awards 2025	Total Project Budget (in millions)	Total Grant Request (in millions)	Local Match (in millions)	Planned Completion Date
Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN)	Fork-to-Fuel Initiative	LASAN will collaborate with Automatic Grease Removal Device (AGRD) companies to provide AGRDs to food service establishments to collect brown grease and turn it into Sustainable Aviation Fuel or renewable diesel.	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0	2 years (01/2027)
Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN)	Environmental Cleanup and Education Program	This project will focus on Citywide cleanliness and the eradication of blight through education and community engagement and the implementation of a Citywide Illegal Dumping Education Program.	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0	1.5 years (06/2026)