

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION, and ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with North East Trees, Inc.(NET), for the Urban Greening in Northeast LA Project (Project) for Ascot Hills Park, Ernest E. Debs Regional Park, and Elysian Park.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. DETERMINE that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 4(3) [Planting of new trees] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15304(b) of California CEQA Guidelines and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption with the Los Angeles County Clerk.
2. APPROVE the Ascot Hills Park, Ernest E. Debs Regional Park, and Elysian Park – Urban Greening in Northeast LA Project that will be constructed and maintained by NET.
3. APPROVE the MOA with NET regarding the Project as detailed in Attachment 1 of the January 23, 2022 Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) report, attached to the Council file, which would allow for tree planting, landscaping, installation of temporary irrigation equipment, removal of invasive weeds; and performance of maintenance and plant establishment work as defined in the MOA.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Board reports that there is no fiscal impact on the Department of Recreation and Parks General Fund as the funds for the Project will come from NET through State Grant funds.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

Summary:

On March 8, 2022, your Committee considered a January 23, 2022 report from the Board relative to approving the Memorandum of Agreement with North East Trees, Inc., for the Urban Greening in Northeast LA Project for Ascot Hills Park, Ernest E. Debs Regional Park, and Elysian Park. The report attached to the Council file contains additional details on this issue.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended that Council approve the recommendations as reflected above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

| <u>MEMBER</u> | <u>VOTE</u> |
|---------------|-------------|
| LEE: | YES |
| BONIN: | YES |
| BUSCAINO: | YES |

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-