

**RESOLUTION NO. 260217-07**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEONARD, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE FOR THE 2026 COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM, CATEGORY 5 – TREE PLANTING; AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, OR HIS DESIGNATED ASSIGNEES, TO ACT AS THE CITY’S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE; AND COMMITTING TO MEETING ALL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, UP TO AND INCLUDING ANY APPLICABLE LOCAL MATCH.**

**WHEREAS**, the Texas A&M Forest Service administers the Community Forestry Grants Program, offering more than \$1.2 million statewide for 2026 to support Urban and Community Forestry initiatives;

**WHEREAS**, the Category 5 – Tree Planting grant provides up to \$20,000 per award to support expansion of urban tree canopy, climate resilience, air-quality improvement, and long-term environmental sustainability;

**WHEREAS**, Tree Planting grants require projects to address issues identified in the Texas Forest Action Plan, including climate impacts, energy consumption, and water-quality improvements, and must follow proper planting standards as outlined in Appendix A;

**WHEREAS**, the Texas A&M Forest Service classifies the Tree Planting category as a matching grant, requiring a 50% local match in cash or in-kind contributions;

**WHEREAS**, priority is given to communities listed among the Texas A&M Forest Service’s 65 Planting Priority Cities;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Leonard seeks to expand urban canopy coverage, reduce heat impacts, improve air quality, and advance long-term sustainability efforts;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that applying for this grant is in the best interest of the City and its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEONARD, TEXAS, THAT:

**Section 1. Authorization to Apply.**

The City Council hereby authorizes submission of an application to the Texas A&M Forest Service 2026 Community Forestry Grant Program, Category 5 – Tree Planting.

**Section 2. Authorized Representative.**

The City Administrator, or his designated assignees, is authorized to act on behalf of the City for all matters related to the application, acceptance, execution, and administration of the grant.

**Section 3. Local Match Commitment.**

The City of Leonard commits to providing the required 50% local match, whether through cash, labor, materials, or other eligible in-kind services, and will meet all financial requirements of the Tree Planting Grant Program.

**Section 4. Compliance.**

The City commits to complying with all program requirements, including adherence to planting standards, long-term watering and tree-maintenance obligations, and any applicable federal or state regulations.

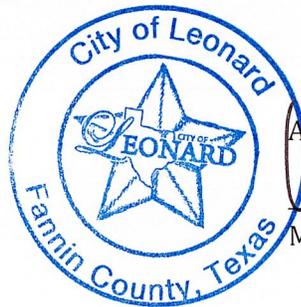
**Section 5. Effective Date.**

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of Leonard, Texas, on this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

APPROVED:

  
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Michael Pye, Mayor



ATTEST:  
  
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Melissa Verde, City Secretary