

# **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

City and County of San Francisco

RESOLUTION NO. 24-0093

WHEREAS, Green infrastructure protects and enhances the function of the City and County of San Francisco's combined sewer system by reducing the volume and rate of stormwater run-off into the system; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has a multifaceted program to maximize the retention and diversion of stormwater, including through green infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, On November 13, 2018, by Resolution No. 18-0189, this Commission approved the establishment of the Green Infrastructure Grant Program and delegated authority to the General Manager to award grants without further Commission approval; and

WHEREAS, On February 5, 2019, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 26-19, delegating authority under Charter Section 9.118 to the SFPUC General Manager to enter into grant agreements with terms of 20 years under the SFPUC's Green Infrastructure Grant Program, provided that this Commission must approve the award of each grant at a public hearing and with a sunset date of July 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, On February 25, 2020, by Resolution No. 20-0045, this Commission approved revisions to the funding disbursement procedures of the Green Infrastructure Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, On June 23, 2020, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 101-20, extending the Green Infrastructure Grant Program for an additional two years through July 1, 2022, including the delegation of authority under Charter Section 9.118, and removing the prior requirement that grants be awarded at a hearing of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, On July 27, 2021, by Resolution No. 21-0122, this Commission approved increasing the maximum cost per acre from \$765,000 to \$930,000; and

WHEREAS, On March 22, 2022, by Resolution No. 22-0058, this Commission approved modifications to the Program Guidelines to reflect compliance with San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 21G, revise grant team experience and co-benefit eligibility criteria, increase cap on planning and design costs, and revise other program requirements.; and

WHEREAS, The Grant Program Guidelines establish a minimum project size of 0.5 acres of impervious surface and require that grant-funded projects must manage the first 0.75 inches inrainfall depth over the drainage area; and

WHEREAS, SFPUC Staff recommends that the Grant Program Guidelines be amended to raise the maximum cost per acre of impervious surface area managed by grant-funded projects from \$930,000 to \$1,035,000 and the maximum grant award per project from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000, to account for inflation; revise funding disbursement requirements for City Departments only; and revise program eligibility criteria and other program requirements; and

WHEREAS, This action does not constitute a "Project" under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) because the proposed Green Infrastructure Program creates a government funding mechanism which does not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a physical change in the environment. Payments for construction will not be issued for any grant-funded project until the proposed work is reviewed and any appropriate environmental review under the CEQA, if required, has been completed; and

WHEREAS, A copy of the proposed modifications to the Grant Program Guidelines is onfile with the Commission Secretary and was presented to the Commission at its April 9, 2024 meeting; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Commission hereby approves the modifications to the Green Infrastructure Grant Program Guidelines on file with the Commission Secretary to raise the maximum cost per acre of impervious surface area managed by grant-funded projects from \$930,000 to \$1,035,000 and the maximum grant award per project from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000, to account for inflation; revise funding disbursement requirements for City Departments only; and revise program eligibility criteria and other program requirements.

*I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its meeting of April 9, 2024.*

  
Secretary, Public Utilities Commission