

Introduced By:
Date:
Public Hearing:
Action:
Vote:

City Manager
August 24, 2022
September 14, 2022
Enacted
5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

CITY OF SOLDOTNA
ORDINANCE 2022-026

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF ALASKA, DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION AND INCREASING
ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS BY \$200,000 IN THE PARKS & RECREATION
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND FOR SPRUCE BARK BEETLE MITIGATION AND HAZARD FUEL
REDUCTION

WHEREAS, the City of Soldotna has been awarded a grant, in the amount of \$200,000, from the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Fire Protection; and

WHEREAS, grant funds will be used to remove hazardous trees at Centennial Park, Swiftwater Park, Soldotna Airport, and the West Redoubt property; and

WHEREAS, each site has a unique treatment plan that was developed by the City's consulting forester and is consistent with the City and Borough adopted Community Wildfire Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, work is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2022 and continue through the spring of 2023; with a deadline for completion of July 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Soldotna to accept this grant and appropriate funds for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA, ALASKA:

Section 1. That estimated revenues and appropriations be increased as follows:

Parks & Recreation Capital Projects Fund

Increase Estimated Revenues:

State of Alaska – Division of Forestry & Fire Protection \$ 200,000

Increase Appropriations:

Spruce Bark Beetle Mitigation \$ 200,000

Section 2. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its enactment.

ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 14TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022.


Paul J. Whitney, Mayor

ATTEST:


Brekke Hewitt, CMC, Interim City Clerk

Yes: Chilson, Hutchings, Ruffridge, Nelson, Carey
No: None
Absent: Parker



SOLDOTNA

City of Soldotna, Alaska

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TO: Mayor Whitney and City Council
THROUGH: Stephanie Queen, City Manager
FROM: John Czarnecki, Director of ED+P
DATE: August 5, 2022
SUBJECT: State of Alaska, Division of Forestry Fuel Mitigation Grant – Appropriation of Grant Funds

On May 25, 2022, the City applied for AK Division of Forestry grant funds to assist with hazard tree and fuel mitigation efforts on city-owned lands. These funds would allow for comprehensive forestry treatment techniques to reduce and remove hazard fuel loads and to allow for future tree regeneration.

On August 4, 2022, the City was notified by Forestry that it had been awarded a \$200,000 State grant to accomplish the prescribed hazard tree removal. No local match is required. These State grant funds are from legislative capital improvement appropriations allocated to the Division of Forestry for hazard fuel reduction.

The scope of work for these grant funds includes work at four of the largest city landholdings: Centennial Park & Campground, Swiftwater Campground, Soldotna Airport, and the West Redoubt property. Each site has a unique treatment plan that was developed by the City's consulting forester. The treatment plan and techniques are consistent with the City and Borough adopted Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Work is anticipated to begin in the fall of this year and continue through the spring of 2023. The deadline for completion is July 1, 2023.

Last year, the City received \$165,172 in State Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds for similar purposes. Those funds provided for limited hazard tree removal at several sites to include Centennial, Swiftwater, the Aspen Street Dog Park, and Memorial park. The HMGP funds were used to remove only those trees that posed immediate risk to campers and park users. It was not comprehensive in scope. Many dead and dying trees remain, especially at Centennial and Swiftwater parks.

Your consideration is appreciated.