

STAFF REPORT

City of Lancaster

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12/09/14
MVB

Date: December 9, 2014

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Mark V. Bozigian, City Manager

Subject: **Emergency Watershed Program Grant Funding**

Recommendation:

Provide the City Manager or his designee with Delegation of Authority to approve documents in the event that the City is approved for Emergency Watershed Grant Funding.

Fiscal Impact:

Local sponsors are responsible for providing 25 percent of project costs which can be in the form of cash, in-kind services or a combination of both.

Background:

The Emergency Watershed Protection Program was created by Congress to respond to emergencies caused by natural disasters. The program is designed to help reduce imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fire, drought, earthquakes, windstorms and other natural disasters. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is responsible for administering the program locally.

The City of Lancaster has requested emergency funding to provide permanent solutions to areas in our City severely affected by dust storms. Vast amounts of natural desert flora once provided the necessary ground cover to mitigate dust storms. However, over time extreme dry desert conditions caused by the State's drought have made much of this vegetation cease; leaving behind bare land and dust in undeveloped areas throughout the City. The City has applied for funding for the following areas.

1. 30th Street East- 40th Street East, Avenue J- Lancaster Boulevard
2. 10th Street East, Avenue K-8- Avenue K-15
3. 45th Street West- 50th Street West, William Barnes Avenue- Avenue G
4. 20th Street West, Avenue H
5. Challenger Way- 15th Street East, Avenue I
6. 35th Street East- 38th Street East, Avenue J-8

Because of the emergency nature of this grant, the City would be required to act quickly to complete projects within 10 calendar days after an agreement is signed with NRCS. Grant extensions can be provided several days at a time if there is a justification. However, we would need to prepare as if work was to be completed in 10 days.