



## **URBAN FOREST PROJECT FUNDING AVAILABLE NOW**

California ReLeaf has released a Request for Proposals for the 2019 Social Equity Forest Improvement Grant Program, with more than \$500,000 in funding for tree planting projects across California. Applications are due no later than Sunday, March 3, 2019.

The 2019 Social Equity Forest Improvement Grant Program is funded by a grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), which received money in the 2017-18 State Budget from the California Climate Investments Program to support projects that combat climate change. All funded projects must reduce greenhouse gasses, with emphasis on maximizing opportunities to maintain newly planted trees.

### **FAST FACTS ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

- Program provides greenhouse gas reduction benefits by supporting nonprofit and community-based organizations with funding for tree planting projects that meet the critical need of reducing Greenhouse Gasses (GHGs) while simultaneously addressing other statutory and regulatory requirements developed by CAL FIRE, the California Air Resources Board, the State Legislature, and other state agencies.
- Eligible Applicants are incorporated nonprofit organizations and unincorporated community-based groups (with a fiscal sponsor) located in California.
- Eligible Costs include costs for the planting of trees and limited related green infrastructure, the maintenance of these project plantings during the grant period, community education and engagement costs, personnel, contractors and consultants, direct and indirect administrative costs.
- Awards range from \$10,000 to \$75,000.
- A 25% matching fund component is required (all of which can be met through volunteer assistance).
- Deadline to submit an application is Sunday, March 3, 2019.
- Successful applicants will be notified of award by Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- Awarded grants will support projects through Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.
- Grant payments will be made on a reimbursement basis for actual expenses incurred based on receipts. Grant recipients will be required to use their own funds to cover expenses until invoices are reimbursed by California ReLeaf, which may take up to 45 days. Reimbursements will be made on a quarterly basis, but may occur monthly under special circumstances.
- Quarterly reports highlighting project status, trees planted, and a qualitative summary of benefits and GHG emissions are required. A final report is due Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Please direct questions regarding the program to Chuck Mills at California ReLeaf (916) 497-0035 or email [cmills@californiareleaf.org](mailto:cmills@californiareleaf.org).