

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-41

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL CONSERVANCY WILDFIRE RESILIENCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Albany strives to maintain vegetation on Albany Hill for fire safety and ecosystem health, preserve and enhance native plant communities on the Hill, and consider potential impacts to Monarch Butterflies; and

WHEREAS, the City has been working with consultants and other agencies to study Monarch Butterfly habitat and the decline of Blue Gum Eucalyptus on the Hill; and

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2021 City Council authorized the appropriation of funds to The Albany Hill Eucalyptus Project (CIP No. 41015) in the amount of \$100,000 for a higher level tree assessment and initial funding for plan development and CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Conservancy developed their Wildfire Resilience Grant Program to provide funding for on-the-ground projects (\$10 million) and capacity-building projects (\$7 million) that will restore the health and increase resiliency of California forests, grasslands, and natural lands from Marin County south to Ventura County; and

WHEREAS, staff are proposing that the Coastal Conservancy allocate funding to the City for three activities: 1) development of a plan for eucalyptus tree removal and habitat restoration on Albany Hill 2) support of activities ensuring continuing fire safety on the hill, and 3) development of a natural and cultural history education and research program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes staff to submit an application to the Coastal Conservancy for a Wildfire Resilience Grant in the amount of \$230,000 for the Albany Hill Eucalyptus Project (CIP No. 41015) and associated activities; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if awarded, the City Council authorizes the City Manager to execute the grant agreement and appropriates the grant funding towards the project, which will be provided to the City on a reimbursement basis for work performed. PRESTON JORDAN – MAYOR