RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE ALBANY HILL FOREST MANAGEMENT & HABITAT RESTORATION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE USDA FOREST SERVICE COMMUNITY WILDFIRE DEFENSE GRANT 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, and consider potential impacts to Monarch Butterflies; and

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

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2021, City Council approved Resolution No. 2021-105, authorizing the creation of the Albany Hill Eucalyptus Project (CIP No. 41015) and appropriated funds in the amount of \$100,000 to the project for a higher level tree assessment and initial funding for plan development and CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act); and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved Resolution No. 2022-41, authorizing 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, including \$140,000 for development of the Albany Hill Forest Management and Habitat Restoration Plan; and

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2022 the Coastal Conservancy awarded the City the grant in full; and

	WHEREAS, on June 20, 2022 Council owarded Contract No. C22 40 to Posteration
1 2	WHEREAS, on June 20, 2023 Council awarded Contract No. C23-40 to Restoration
3	Design Group (RDG)/Nomad Ecology after staff selected their proposal for development of
4	the Albany Hill Forest Management and Habitat Restoration Plan; and
5	WHEREAS, on March 3, 2025 consultants and staff presented a final Albany Hill
6	Forest Management and Habitat Restoration Plan to Council; and
7	
8	WHEREAS, City Council has weighed the merits of the Plan and considered
9	comments from advisory body commissioners and the public on the Plan; and
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11	WHEREAS, the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) Forest Service Community
12	Wildfire Defense Grants (CWDG) Program is a \$1 billion five-year competitive grant program
13	funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act helping communities plan for and reduce
14	wildfire risk; and
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16	WHEREAS, the City has prepared the first project of three recommended in the Plan
17	for submission to CWDG for construction, along with continued funding for increased habitat
18	restoration and workforce development.
19	
20	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that City Council hereby approve the
21	Albany Hill Forest Management & Habitat Restoration Plan; and
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23	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorize staff to
24	submit an application for grant funding to the USDA Forest Service Community Wildfire
25	Defense Grants Program, and authorize the City Manager to enter into a grant agreement and
26	expend grant funds should a grant be awarded.
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28	
29	ROBIN D. LÓPEZ, MAYOR
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Cíty of Albany

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PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 3rd day of March, 2025, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Hansen-Romero, Jordan, McQuaid, Miki and

Mayor López

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this 4th

day of March, 2025.

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Anne Hsu CITY CLERK