

CITY OF BALTIMORE MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

| TO | The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council |
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| FROM | Laura Larsen, Budget Director |
| DATE | May 5 th , 2025 |
| SUBJECT | 25-0045 Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Department of Recreation and Parks – Service 654 (Urban Forestry) – \$90,000 |

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council City Hall, Room 400

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 25-0045 Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Department of Recreation and Parks – Service 654 (Urban Forestry) – \$90,000, the purpose of which is to increase the Fiscal Year 2025 appropriation of State Funds by \$90,000 to Department of Recreation and Parks – Service 654 (Urban Forestry).

Background

The proposed ordinance amends the Fiscal 2025 budget by appropriating \$90,000 in State grant funding in the Department of Recreation and Parks-Service 654 Urban Forestry. This grant is part of the Forest Health and Deer Management program. The Department was notified about the grant award following the finalization of the Fiscal 2025 budget. The remaining portion of the two-year grant is included in the agency's Fiscal 2026 budget.

Funding from the grant will be used to address deer overpopulation and its negative impact of forested natural areas in Baltimore City. Grant funding will be used to hire a contractual position to oversee program implementation. This position will conduct deer population surveys in eight parks (Gwynn Falls Leakin, Druid Hill, Hanlon, Ft. Armistead, Herring Run, Moore's Run, Powder Mill, and Farring Baybrook).

Fiscal Impact

These funds will be appropriated in Service 654-Urbran Forestry. The breakout by expenditure object is summarized below.

| Personnel | 43,800 |
|----------------------|----------|
| Supplies | 20,000 |
| Contractual Services | 22,000 |
| Indirect Costs | 4,200 |
| TOTAL BUDGET | \$90,000 |

Conclusion

This supplemental appropriation is required to authorize agency spending beyond the amount enacted in the Ordinance of Estimates. The grant funding was not included in the Fiscal 2025 Ordinance of Estimates because the agency was not notified about the grant award until after the budget was adopted. Authorizing this legislation will allow the agency to access the grant funds.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 25-0045.

cc: Michael Mocksten Nina Themelis