

Inflation Reduction Act Funding for Urban and Community Forestry

- \$1 billion of this funding is available directly from the USDA Forest Service through the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) www.iraucfgrants.urbanandcommunityforests.org
- The USDA Forest Service has also allocated a separate amount of IRA funding directly to the state forestry agencies including the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC).
- Municipalities, government agencies, non-profits, and educational institutions can apply for IRA funding in two ways:
 - Directly to the USDA Forest Service through NOFO (www.iraucfgrants.urbanandcommunityforests.org).
 - \$100K minimum, \$50M maximum
 - Requires registration on SAM.gov. Process can take months to complete.
 - Complex application process
 - Directly to the Georgia Forestry Commission
 - \$10k minimum, \$300K per year maximum
 - Simpler application process
- ****PRIORITY IS DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES** as per the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#) (CJST). ** Other government sanctioned data sources may be considered, but focus is on the CJST tool.
- If 100% of the project is serving a disadvantaged community, project is eligible for a match waiver. If not 100% disadvantaged, a 50/50 match will be required.
- GFC's Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) program will make IRA funding available to municipalities, government agencies, non-profits and educational institutions in Georgia through three different grant programs:
 - **Georgia ReLeaf** (partnering with the Georgia Tree Council) for smaller tree planting and tree distribution projects (\$15,000 maximum). Guidelines and application available in late June.
 - **Trees Across Georgia (TAG)** for urban forest planning, management, tree planting, workforce development, heat island mitigation, pests and diseases, storm recovery & resiliency. (\$10K minimum, \$300K maximum per year for 4 years) Guidelines and application available in late July, early August
 - **Technical Assistance Project** (partnering with the Green Infrastructure Center) to provide canopy mapping, code audits, planning & management assistance for smaller communities (50,000 & under population) Announcement and survey available in September.
 - Webinars will be held during each application period to provide more details about applying for GFC's grant programs.
 - Questions about GFC's IRA grants:
 - Joan Scales jscalles@gfc.state.ga.us or (478)733-2604
 - Seth Hawkins shawkins@gfc.state.ga.us or (478) 951-8286
 - Georgia ReLeaf – Mary Lynne Beckley marylynne@gatrecouncil.org or (470) 210-5900