



House Outreach

Support City Forest Enhancements in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Date

The Honorable First & Last Name
Address
Address

Re: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
US Forest Service – State and Private Forest Lands – City Forest Enhancements

Dear Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____:

On behalf of (YOUR ORGANIZATION), thank you for including *city forest enhancements* in the House economic stimulus package. The investment in US Forest Service, State and Private Forestry programs proposed by Congress will create thousands of green jobs in both rural and urban areas, stimulating the economy while investing in the green infrastructure that sustains our nation.

(ORG) represents (*where/what issue/what constituents you represent*). In (CITY/STATE) we have documented over \$ _____ million in unfunded urban forestry projects which could be jumpstarted within 90 days of this act's passage. These projects will result in tangible, visible improvements in communities throughout (CITY/STATE) and support small businesses in the nursery and landscape sector in our region.

Taxpayer dollars invested in planting city trees and improving the management of city forests will provide multiple benefits in terms of urban green job creation and specialized training, pollution abatement, healthier and more livable neighborhoods, energy conservation, and long-term infrastructure savings in cities throughout the United States.

City forests are a critical component of the proposed \$550 million investment in State and Private Forestry. We are confident that the the USDA Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program and state forestry agencies will effectively distribute one-time stimulus funds to the field for immediate implementation.

As the legislation moves forward, we ask your support in retaining provisions for *city forest enhancements* as part of the commitment to State and Private Forest Lands in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and, further, ask Congress to waive cost-share requirements traditionally required by cooperative forestry programs.

Again, we greatly appreciate your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with your office to deliver urban and community forestry projects in District (##) in the coming months.





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Sincerely,

Name
Title

