



## CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Elizabeth Gibbs, City Manager

**PREPARED BY:** Amber Rockwell, CORE Manager  
Art Vela, Director of Public Works

**MEETING DATE:** April 14, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Resolution 2026-61, Approving an Energy Efficiency Program Professional Services Agreement for three years with the Arbor Day Foundation through the Southern California Public Power Authority (SCCPA)

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution 2026-61

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA) is a Joint Powers Authority, formed in 1980 under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act of the California Legislature. The City of Banning Electric Utility (BEU) is one of eleven municipal utilities and one irrigation district that make up the members of SCPPA.

Over the years, SCPPA's role has evolved from generation and transmission acquisition, to include legislative advocacy and cooperative efforts to reduce member costs and improve efficiency.

As a SCPPA member, the BEU has the benefit of participating in Professional Services Agreements that SCPPA executes at the request of, and on the behalf of its members. The BEU participates in SCPPA's Public Benefit Committee where activities include the preparation of a State required annual report, which details the use of Public Benefit Funds, and the exchange of information regarding energy efficiency, renewable energy, research, and development programs and low-income services.

In the Spring of 2022, BEU began its partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation on the Energy Saving Trees program. This program provides free shade trees to BEU's residential customers. The program provides a customized portal for residential customers to register for free trees; customer education on the long-term benefits of specific trees planted around a customer's house (including energy savings, air quality, and carbon emissions); and provides a program summary report that include statistics about the program's energy savings and community benefits.

On September 12, 2023, Resolution 2023-158 was approved by the City Council ratifying all current SCPPA Task Orders and Master Service Agreements. Within this Resolution was the adoption of 2023 Task Order BEU-01 and Master Services Agreement for the Arbor Day Foundation. The Arbor Day Foundation Task Order expired on October 19, 2025.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

California Assembly Bill 723 (2012) requires municipal electric utilities to collect revenues for the

following Public Benefit Programs:

- Cost-effective demand-side management services to promote energy efficiency and energy conservation.
- New investments in renewable energy resources and technologies consistent with existing statutes and regulations which promote those resources and technologies.
- Research, development and demonstration programs for the public interest to advance science or technology which is not adequately provided by competitive and regulated markets.
- Services provided for low-income electricity customers, including but not limited to, targeted energy efficiency services and rate discounts. The Arbor Day Foundation tree program falls under this category and the energy saving programs will be administered by the Arbor Day Foundation team in partnership with BEU staff.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funds for the Energy Tree program expenditures are currently budgeted for FY 2025/26. This Task Order shall be effective from April 1, 2026 to February 19, 2029, with a not to exceed amount of \$45,000 for a three year term of the Task Order. The following account from the Electric Public Benefits Fund 675-7020-473.42-54 will be budgeted as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
2026/2027	\$15,000
2027/2028	\$15,000
2028/2029	\$15,000

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [Resolution 2026-61.docx](#)
2. [SCPPA MGSA Arbor Day Foundation 2-19-2026 Executed](#)
3. [City of Banning 2025 Impact Report.pdf](#)
4. [2026\\_Arbor\\_Day\\_Task\\_Order\\_Signature with EG signature line.docx](#)