



Brownsville Independent School District

Agenda Category: General Function
Contracts/MOU Board of Education Meeting: 11/05/2025

Item Title: H-E-B Trees for Texans "For
Communities" Grant Agreement

X Action
 Information
 Discussion

BACKGROUND:

The H-E-B Trees for Texans: For Communities program, created by Texan by Nature and H-E-B, awards \$5,000 to nonprofits, schools, municipalities, and civic groups for tree-planting projects. These projects expand tree canopy, add shade to reduce urban heat, enhance green spaces, and beautify public areas across Texas, creating healthier environments.

Brownsville ISD applied to plant 20 native trees: 10 at Burns Elementary and 10 at Del Castillo-Morningside Elementary. With current canopy coverage of 10-13%, these campuses will benefit from added shade, improved environmental conditions, and expanded opportunities for outdoor learning.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the ratified grant agreement between BISD and H-E-B for the H-E-B Trees for Texans: For Communities grant, supporting the district's reforestation goals at Burns Elementary and Del Castillo-Morningside Elementary Schools. The agreement shall be for one year, which includes monitoring and maintenance reports.

Approved for Submission to Board of Education:

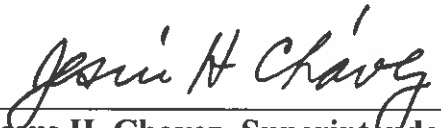
Micaela Escobar 
Submitted by: Principal/Program Director

Dr. Linda Gallegos 
Recommended by: Asst. Supt. Exec. Dir.

Miguel Salinas 
Reviewed by: Staff Attorney

Dr. Linda Gallegos / Mary Garza 

Approved by: Chief Officer / Interim CFO


Dr. Jesus H. Chavez, Superintendent

When Necessary, Additional Background May Follow This.



H-E-B Trees for Texans "For Communities" Grant- Fall 2025 Grant Cycle

Date: October 3, 2025

Prepared by:
Texan by Nature
6805 N. Capital of Texas Hwy, #268
Austin, TX 78731

Brownsville Independent School District
1900 East Price Road,
Brownsville, Texas 78521

Dear Grantee,

Texan by Nature is pleased to inform you that a grant has been approved in the amount of \$5,000 for the project needs outlined in your application to the Trees for Texans "For Communities" program. Funding for this grant opportunity is provided by H-E-B.

This letter and its attachments outline the terms and conditions of accepting this grant. Please read all the terms and conditions carefully, sign, and return no later than **October 17, 2025**. After we receive your signed letter of acceptance, a copy of your organization's W9, and a confirmed planting date occurring before March 1, 2025, we will mail you a check within two weeks.

The funds must be used specifically for the purposes designated in your application by **March 1, 2026**. Should your project timeline require an extension, you must submit a brief request with an explanation to Texan by Nature, info@texanbynature.org, by January 1, 2026, for approval.

Upon signing this contract, your organization states that you agree to:

- Notify Texan by Nature *immediately* if there is any change in your public charity status, if applicable, or changes to your approved project.
- Ensure ALL participants sign the provided [Participant Liability / Media Release](#)
 - [QR Code](#) for any last-minute attendees!
- Post the provided [Photography Notification Form](#)
- Submit the final post-project report by the stated deadline
- Submit photos and videos as directed by the Trees for Texans Marketing Kit

This agreement also grants H-E-B and Texan by Nature your permission to use photographs, logos, published/printed information, and any other materials you supply, without further notice, in press releases and/or publications.

Congratulations on this recognition of your important efforts. We look forward to working with you during the coming year.

Sincerely,
Kenzie Cherniak, Program Manager, Texan by Nature

FOR GRANTEE - ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jesus Chavez".

Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent of Schools
Organization Officer (signature & date)



GENERAL GRANT TERMS, CONDITIONS AND UNDERSTANDINGS

In addition to the specific terms and conditions in the grant award letter dated August 1, 2024, to which these General Grant Terms, Conditions, and Understandings are attached, this grant is awarded to you as the Grantee, contingent upon the following:

Expenditure of Funds:

This grant is made for the purpose outlined in the grant award letter and may not be expended for any other purpose without Texan by Nature's prior written approval. Grant funds must be expended in accordance with the grant application. You may not expend any grant funds for any political or lobbying activity or for any purpose other than one specified in section 170(c)(2)(b) of the Code.

No Assignment or Delegation:

You may not assign, or otherwise transfer, your rights or delegate any of your obligations under this grant without prior written approval from Texan by Nature.

Records and Reports:

You are required to keep a record of all receipts and expenditures relating to this grant and to provide Texan by Nature with a written report summarizing the project promptly following the end of the period during which you are to use all grant funds. The number of trees, species of trees, number of volunteers, people impacted, location, and other relevant metrics should be included in the report. Your report should describe your progress in achieving the purposes of the grant and include a detailed accounting of the uses or expenditures of all grant funds. Texan by Nature will provide you with the report form for your submission prior to the end of the grant period with clear deadlines and instructions. You also agree to provide any other information reasonably requested by Texan by Nature. You are required to keep the financial records with respect to this grant, along with copies of any reports submitted to Texan by Nature, for at least four years following the year in which all grant funds are fully expended.

Required Notification:

You are required to provide Texan by Nature with immediate written notification of: (1) any changes in your organization's tax-exempt status, as applicable; (2) your inability to expend the grant for the purposes described in the grant award letter; or (3) any expenditure from this grant made for any purpose other than those for which the grant was intended.

Reasonable Access for Evaluation:

You will permit Texan by Nature and/or H-E-B and its representatives, at its request, to have reasonable access during regular business hours to your files, records, accounts, personnel, and clients or other beneficiaries for the purpose of making such financial audits, verifications or program evaluations as Texan by Nature deems necessary or appropriate concerning this grant award.

Publicity:

You will abide by all parameters in the marketing toolkit. You will allow Texan by Nature to review and approve the text of any proposed publicity concerning this grant prior to its release, including the use of Texan by Nature and H-E-B logos and names. Texan by Nature and H-E-B may include information regarding this grant, including the amount and purpose of the grant, any photographs you may have provided, your logo or trademark, or other information or materials about your organization and its activities, in Texan by Nature's and H-E-B's periodic public reports, newsletters, and news releases.



For each "For Communities" planting event, all participants must:

- Send a signed copy of this grant agreement, along with a current W9 and a confirmed planting date occurring before **March 1, 2026**.
- Sign the provided [Participant Liability / Media Release](#)
 - [QR Code](#) for any last-minute attendees!
- Event Coordinators must post the provided [Photography Notification Form](#)
- Photographers must submit a [Release of Photography Form](#) for photos submitted in compliance with grant requirements

Right to Modify or Revoke:

Texan by Nature reserves the right to discontinue, modify or withhold any payments to be made under this grant award or to require a total or partial refund of any grant funds if, in Texan by Nature's sole discretion, such action is necessary: (1) because you have not fully complied with the terms and conditions of this grant; (2) to protect the purpose and objectives of the grant or any other charitable activities of Texan by Nature; or (3) to comply with the requirements of any law or regulation applicable to you, Texan by Nature, or this grant.

If Texan by Nature does not receive signed copies of its grant award letter and of these general grant terms within 14 days after the date of Texan by Nature's grant award letter, this grant may be revoked.

The undersigned certify that they are duly elected and authorized officers of the Grantee and that, as such, are authorized to accept this grant on behalf of the Grantee, to obligate the Grantee to observe all of the terms and conditions placed on this grant, and in connection with this grant to make, execute and deliver on behalf of the Grantee all grant agreements, representations, receipts, reports and other instruments of every kind.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

Brownsville Independent School District

Organization Name

Dr. Jesus Chavez, Superintendent of Schools

Organization Officer, Title (typed/printed)



Organization Officer (signature & date)

Micaela Escobar

From: Kenzie Cherniak <kenzie@texanbynature.org>
Sent: Friday, October 3, 2025 12:59 PM
To: Micaela Escobar
Subject: Trees for Texans Grant Acceptance
Attachments: Grant Agreement_BISD.docx

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Brownsville ISD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am pleased to inform you that due to an increase in program funds, **your project has been accepted for the H-E-B Trees for Texans "For Communities" grant for the Fall 2025 cycle!** Please reference the [Trees for Texans Marketing Kit](#) to share the news of your acceptance with your audience/community.

*****There is a lot of information in this email - you may want to save it for future reference!**

Attached, you will find a grant agreement containing the requirements of the grant program. Please sign this grant agreement and send me a copy, along with your organization's W9 and your confirmed planting date, by **EOB Friday, October 17th, 2025** to secure your funding.

As a reminder, by accepting this grant, you are agreeing to the following requirements:

- 501c3 organizations must maintain a valid nonprofit status as designated by the IRS in order to receive donations from the H-E-B Trees for Texans program.
- Funding may not be spent on advertising, individuals, general operating expenses, school trips, sports events, teams, political events, or third-party fundraisers.
- Selected projects **must fill out a post-project report** detailing the final impact of the project. Projects are to be completed by the end of the planting season (March 1, 2026). The Texan by Nature Team will send a link to this report prior to the due date, along with reminders to help you stay on track.
- All volunteers **must sign** the [Participant Liability/media release](#) form provided by Texan By Nature. The [Photography/EVENT notice](#) must be posted publicly.
 - H-E-B and Texan by Nature have your permission to use photographs, logos, published/printed information, and any other materials you supply in press releases and/or publications. Please refer to the Trees for Texas Marketing Kit for more details.
 - The link for the release form can be added to any existing volunteer registration you have. Similarly, if someone signs up on the day of your event, you may use this [QR code](#) to get their signature quickly and easily.
 - TxN will request a list of volunteer names (names only) with your grant report to verify everyone signed, so please retain your volunteer records until the reporting is final!
- In addition to funding, we *want to make your event a success!*
 - **If you are interested in having H-E-B Partner Volunteers (employees) assist in your tree planting, please reach out to your H-E-B Public Affairs regional Contact, Jeannette Gamboa, gamboa.jeannette@heb.com.** Volunteer support is not guaranteed. Requests for volunteers must be submitted at least **four weeks prior** to your planting date. If you do not receive a response within two weeks, please proceed with your event planning independently. H-E-B will assist with volunteer support only and will not coordinate the event.

Next Steps:

- Review, sign, and return the grant agreement letter by **EOD Friday, October 17, 2025.**
- Include a copy of your organization's most recent W9 Form
- **Confirm your mailing address** with Texan by Nature for check disbursement.
- **Confirm your planting date.** Planting dates must be confirmed and occur before March 1, 2026 in order to receive funding.
- Familiarize yourself with the [Trees for Texans Marketing Kit](#) to understand requirements around photos, videos, and social media for grant-funded projects.
- Ensure your grant manager/main point of contact is familiar with the post-grant report requirements and deadlines.
- Plant trees and make a difference in your community! 🌳

Please let me know if you have any additional questions. Once again, congratulations, and we look forward to seeing the impact of your project!

Kind regards,
Kenzie

Trees for Texans - Grant Application

Program Details: Applicants from across Texas are invited to apply for a \$5,000 grant for projects that increase tree canopy, reduce heat island effect, increase available greenspace, and beautify public spaces. Projects must be publicly accessible and include a care and maintenance plan for post-project longevity. While project types are not strictly prescribed, projects must generate verifiable impact. (ie: community seedling giveaways are highly unlikely to be selected). The goal of this program is to utilize funding from the H-E-B Trees for Texans program to generate measurable positive impact on natural resources across the state of Texas, improving the communities in which H-E-B employees and customers live, work, and play.

Award Amount: \$5,000

Grant Funder: H-E-B Trees for Texans program

Application Submission Period: November 1, 2024 - May 30, 2025

Notification of Award: July 2025

Project Completion Deadline: At this time, funding will be awarded for plantings occurring in the 2025-2026 planting season (October 2025-March 2026). Please note in your application if your project will not be complete by this time.

Application Materials: Applicants must complete the application form in its entirety for their application to be considered submitted and eligible for consideration. If you would like to work on your application prior to submission (the form will not let you save progress) you may download a Word version HERE: [Application - Word Version](#) . Please note, the Word version is for your personal use only - applications MUST be submitted via this form!

Eligible Organizations: Nonprofit organizations, government organizations, and municipalities are eligible to apply for this program.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Organizations must maintain a valid 501c3 nonprofit status as designated by the IRS in order to receive donations from the H-E-B Trees for Texans program OR be a valid municipality or governmental organization. Schools are also eligible to apply. Community organizations wishing to take part must partner with one of these types of organizations to be eligible. Individual landowners on private lands and for-profit corporations are not eligible.
- Application for support must be received via the online application form within the designated application period in order to be considered for the relevant granting cycle.
- Regardless of previous grant awards, organizations must reapply online every year if they wish to be considered for funding.

- H-E-B Trees for Texans does not support funding for advertising, individuals, general operating expenses, school trips, sports events, teams, political events, or third-party fundraisers.
- All applicants must provide a care plan for their project for post-planting care and maintenance. Funding from the grant may be spent on irrigation/care as needed.
- All selected projects must fill out a post-project report detailing the final impact of the project. Projects are to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Project Area: Projects must be located within one of the following regions. City lists are not all-inclusive, but provide a general geographic area. If you have an H-E-B in your community, you are eligible for this grant. Unfortunately at this time, West Texas is not included, but this may change in the future. If you are in West Texas, please consider TxN's Conservation Partner program to gain access to additional FREE resources to help find funding for your work!

Austin/Central Texas Region

Austin, Bastrop, Buda, Burnet, Dripping Springs, Elgin, Georgetown, Kingsland, Kyle, Lampasas, Leander, Marble Falls, Round Rock, San Marcos, Taylor.

Border Region

Alamo, Brownsville, Carrizo Springs, Crystal City, Del Rio, Donna, Eagle Pass, Edinburg, Elsa, Harlingen, Hondo, Laredo, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Palmview, Pearsall, Pharr, Port Isabel, Raymondville, Rio Grande City, San Benito, San Juan, Uvalde, Weslaco.

Gulf Coast Region

Alice, Aransas Pass, Bay City, Beeville, Corpus Christi, Cuero, Edna, El Campo, Falfurrias, Gonzales, Ingleside, Kenedy, Kingsville, Mathis, Port Lavaca, Portland, Refugio, Robstown, Rockport, Sinton, Victoria, Wharton, Yoakum.

Houston Region

Alvin, Beaumont, Bellaire, Brenham, Bryan, Clear Lake, College Station, Columbus, Conroe, Crockett, Deer Park, Ellis, Groves, Houston, Huntsville, Katy, Kingwood, Lake Jackson, League City, Livingston, Lufkin, Lumberton, Missouri City, Orange, Pasadena, Pearland, Port Arthur, Santa Fe, Spring, Sugarland, Texas City, The Woodlands, Tomball.

North/West Region

Abilene, Belton, Big Spring, Burleson, Cleburne, Copperas Cove, Corsicana, Ennis, Frisco, Gatesville, Granbury, Harker Heights, Hudson Oaks, Killeen, Lubbock, Marlin, Mexia, Midland, Odessa, Plano, San Angelo, Stephenville, Temple, Waco, Waxahachie.

San Antonio Region

Boerne, Bulverde, Floresville, Fredericksburg, Kerrville, La Vernia, Leon Springs, Lytle, New Braunfels, Pleasanton, San Antonio, Seguin.

Email *

micaela@bisd.us

Applicant Information

Organization Name *

Brownsville Independent School District

Organization Address *

1900 East Price Road, Brownsville, Texas 78521

Contact Name *

Micaela Escobar

Contact Email *

micaela@bisd.us

Contact Phone *

956-698-2159

Please select your organization classification: *

- ☐ Non-Profit
- ☐ Governmental / Municipal
- ☒ Other: School District

Organization Mission *

In collaboration with our families and community, Brownsville I. S. D. provides a safe, healthy, and nurturing learning environment. We offer specialized supports and equitable resources to implement high-quality curricula, student-centered instruction, and exemplary programs.

Organization Website *

www.bisd.us

Organization Mailing Address *

1900 East Price Road, Brownsville, Texas 78521

Organization Social Media *

Please share links to your Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, or other relevant channels

<https://www.facebook.com/BrownsvilleISD/>

How did you learn about the Trees for Texans program? *

UT Health Houston

Project Information

Project Name *

If the project doesn't have a formal name that is okay, please provide a descriptive title of efforts - i.e. X park's restoration efforts, etc.

25-26 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project

Project Website (if applicable) *

n/a

Project Location *

County, City, or full address of the planting event.

Brownsville, Texas

Which region does your project area fall within? *

Please see the above eligibility requirements for a complete list of eligible counties listed in each region.

☐ Austin/Central Texas Region

☒ Border Region

☐ Gulf Coast Region

☐ Houston Region

☐ North/West Region

☐ San Antonio Region

Project History & Background

★

How did the project start? What was the catalyst? If this is a new initiative, what lead to its formation?

The 25-26 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project will be part of an ongoing initiative to plant trees at all BISD schools. Since the 2022-2023 school year, 358 trees have been planted in 18 schools. If the Trees for Texans grant is awarded, two elementary schools will receive trees to provide much-needed shade for students during their outdoor play (recess) and serve as an on-site learning resource. This initiative aligns with the district's commitment to sustainability and student well-being by addressing heat exposure while incorporating environmental education. By enhancing green spaces, the project promotes hands-on learning opportunities and fosters environmental awareness among students, ensuring long-term benefits for both the school community and the surrounding environment.

Project Goals & Objectives

★

What is the purpose of the project? What needs are being met? What are the goals? How are you achieving them?

Purpose of the Project

The project aims to improve outdoor learning spaces and provide necessary shade for students while they play. By planting trees at two elementary schools, the project seeks to enhance student comfort, promote environmental awareness, and support sustainability efforts within the district.

Needs Being Met

This project addresses several key needs within the school community. It helps reduce heat exposure for students during outdoor activities, creating a safer and more comfortable play environment. It also provides hands-on learning opportunities in environmental education, allowing students to engage with nature and understand the importance of trees in urban ecosystems.

Goals

The primary goal of the project is to plant trees at two elementary schools to integrate the tree planting into the curriculum, helping students learn about sustainability, ecology, and the benefits of trees. Another important goal is to encourage student involvement in environmental stewardship, promoting a sense of responsibility for the world.

How We Are Achieving Them

The project will be accomplished by carefully selecting native tree species that provide ample shade and are well-suited to the local climate. Collaboration with city, school staff and students, and community partners will ensure successful planting and long-term maintenance of the trees.

Project Need

★

Please explain the need for this project, using data where possible, to demonstrate the necessity and effectiveness of your proposed solution.

Brownsville, Texas, experiences high temperatures throughout much of the year, with average highs exceeding 90°F in spring and summer. Many BISD elementary schools have limited tree coverage, leaving students exposed to direct sunlight during recess and outdoor learning activities. By strategically planting trees at these two elementary schools, this project will help create cooler outdoor spaces for students, mitigate the effects of urban heat, and foster environmental stewardship within their community, ensuring a lasting positive impact.

Planting Date *

Provide a date for your tree planting. PLEASE NOTE: If you do not have a firm date yet, please note that if selected, you will need to be able to provide a date within 2 weeks of your official notification.

Historically, BISD's tree planting celebrations are held on Fridays in the month of November; therefore, the tentative dates for the events may be November 7th and November 14th, 2025.

Project Impacts

Project Impact - Does this project increase tourism or provide other economic incentives?

★

Please provide data where possible.

While the 25-26 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project is primarily focused on enhancing student well-being and environmental education, it also offers broader community benefits that can contribute to economic incentives. By increasing green spaces on school campuses, the project helps improve the overall aesthetic appeal of the area, which can positively impact property values and neighborhood desirability.

Project Impact - Does this project provide ecosystem services?

★

Please provide data where possible. Data based on figures from general literature review is acceptable.

The 25-26 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project provides valuable ecosystem services by reducing the urban heat island effect, improving air quality, and managing stormwater runoff. The planted trees will help lower temperatures, filter pollutants, prevent soil erosion, and support biodiversity by creating habitats for local wildlife. It will also serve as a hands-on learning resource, allowing students to better understand the role of trees in sustaining ecosystems. Through these benefits, the project promotes a healthier, more sustainable environment for both the school and the community.

What other natural resources are benefitted by the project?

★

Examples include types of plants, wildlife, waterways, habitat areas, etc.

The 25-26 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project will benefit natural resources by improving soil health, conserving water, and supporting local wildlife. The trees will help reduce erosion, enhance groundwater recharge, and provide habitat for birds, pollinators, and small mammals. Additionally, they will improve air quality by filtering pollutants and capturing carbon dioxide while promoting biodiversity on school campuses. Through these efforts, the project strengthens the local ecosystem and contributes to a more sustainable environment.

Project Impact - Does this project help the community save money? If so, how? *

Please provide data where possible.

Since public schools are funded through federal, state, and local taxes, these savings will allow more funds to be directed toward students' education rather than energy consumption, ultimately benefiting the learning environment and overall school resources. Having said this, the 25-26 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project will help the community save money by reducing energy costs, improving stormwater management, and enhancing public health. In Brownsville, Texas, where summer temperatures often exceed 90°F, trees provide natural shade that can lower air conditioning costs by up to 30%. They will also help lower infrastructure maintenance costs, as a mature tree can absorb up to 3,000 gallons of water per year. Additional savings may result from improved air quality, as increased tree cover can lead to fewer respiratory issues, potentially reducing healthcare expenses.

Are there community or employee volunteer opportunities for this project? *

If yes, please share details.

☒ Yes

☐ No

If you answered yes above, How many volunteers are needed?

Texan by Nature and H-E-B will open a volunteer sign-up form for each project, allowing employees to sign up to come help! Volunteer needs **MUST BE** communicated at least **FOUR WEEKS** ahead of your planting date!

10

Estimated # of hours to complete the project

*

Include hours from any anticipated staff and volunteers (ex: 3 staff + 5 volunteers x 4 hours each = 32 total hours)

40

Outline the total number of people participating in the initiative:

*

Please answer numerically, to include staff, partners, volunteers, and any other participants.

30

Outline the total number of people benefitting, such as populations served, and/or people involved that are positively impacted by the project/program.

Please answer numerically (ex: 23 students, 1,000-1,500 residents, etc.)

3500

Demographics

Please answer numerically without the % symbol

Demographics: What percentage of beneficiaries are - Hispanic (non-white)? *

95

Demographics: What percentage of beneficiaries are - Black / Caribbean / African-American? *

1

Demographics: What percentage of beneficiaries are - Asian / Pacific Islander? *

.3

Demographics: What percentage of beneficiaries are - Native American? *

0.00001

Demographics: What percentage of beneficiaries are - Caucasian? *

4

Demographics: What percentage of beneficiaries are - multi-racial / other? *

0.00001

Socioeconomic Breakdown: What percentage of beneficiaries are below the federal poverty line? *

95.4

Socioeconomic Breakdown: What percentage of beneficiaries are on free/reduced lunch? *

If not perfectly relevant, what percentage of the local school district is on free/reduced lunch?

100

Project Details - Natural Resources

Project Size *

Provide impact area in acres, if possible. Close approximations are acceptable - please share details. 1 acre = 43,560sq ft

1

How many trees will be planted? *

20

What species of trees will be planted? *

Ebony, Cypress, Mesquite, Mexican Olive, Western Soapberry

What is the post-project care plan for the trees to ensure their success? *

To include: watering and fertilizing plans, parties responsible for tracking health/status of the trees, etc. You may also submit as a separate document at the end of this application. There are no strict requirements, as we understand different locations have different needs, this is simply to confirm that post-planting care is thought through and accounted for!

BISD has a dedicated department responsible for ensuring schools follow proper tree care practices. Their staff visits schools weekly during the first year and bimonthly thereafter, with non-compliance addressed with the campus principal and area superintendent. Schools are responsible for watering, while the district maintenance department manages mulching, pruning, and aerating the soil to maintain tree health. Additionally, the district curriculum department integrates tree education into lesson plans, promoting sustainability and environmental awareness among students.

Estimated Investment in project to date *

Estimated funds you have spent to date. Please answer numerically without the \$ symbol

80000

If awarded, how will the funding be spent? *

Please provide a detailed breakdown of anticipated spending, such as trees purchased, mulch, equipment rentals, etc. **Funding may be spent on items other than trees to ensure project completion.** You may also share a budget document at the end of the application if you already have one prepared.

If awarded, the funding will be used to purchase trees for the 25-26 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project. With an average cost of \$250 per tree, the project will allow for 20 trees to be purchased. If BISD secures a better price, more trees will be purchased. The district will cover the cost of mulch, water hoses, and other necessary materials. BISD will also handle site preparation and maintenance to support the trees' survival to maturity.

How will this grant be recognized?

Please share plans for social media, press release, or other marketing methods. Texan by Nature will also share a press and social media tool kit with all awardees to assist with announcements.

BISD will recognize this grant by hosting tree planting ceremonies at each elementary school and announcing the project across district media outlets, including social media, the district website, and newsletters. The press will be invited to cover the event, highlighting the project's impact. BISD will also use the press and social media toolkit from Texan by Nature to share the announcement and engage the community.

If available, submit any photos of the project area ("Before photos," with "after" photos to be collected after project completion)



Trees for Texans ...



Add file

Is there anything else you would like to share?

Personal comment: As a parent of a district alum, I was unaware of where my child played until I looked at aerial images of his elementary school. It was disappointing to see that my son's school, as well as many others, lacks shaded areas for students to play. This issue became even more important when BISD approved a recess policy in February 2024, allowing all elementary students, from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade, to have recess. Tree planting has become necessary, as it will provide cooler, safer, and more comfortable outdoor spaces for students to play and learn. By planting more trees, we are not just improving schoolyards; we are investing in the future of our children.

Please upload the following documents here:

- *Current 990*
- *IRS Determination Letter (501c3)*
- *Project Budget (if not included above)*
- *Post-Project Maintenance Plan (if not included above)*
- *Any other supporting documentation*



Trees for Texans ...



Trees for Texans ...



Trees for Texans ...

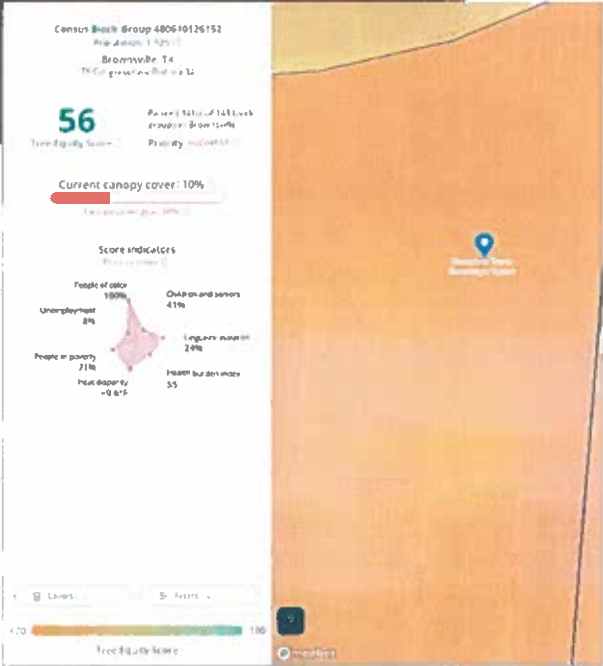


Add file

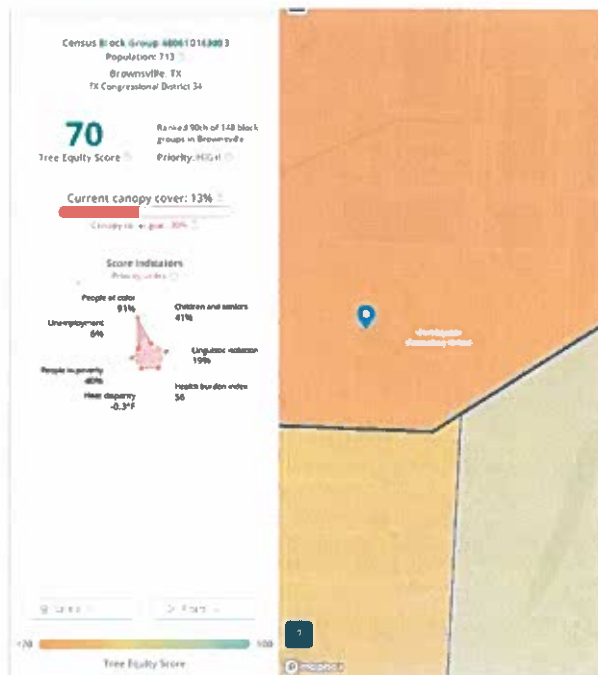
This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

Burns Elementary School



Del Castillo-Morningside Elementary School



Brownsville Independent School District
Records Management & Recycling Department
2025-2026 Brownsville ISD Reforestation Project

Projected Budget

Item	Quantity	Cost Per Unit	Total Cost
Trees (native species)	20	250.00	5,000



Brownsville Independent School District Records Management & Recycling

4330 E. Morrison Rd. • Brownsville, Texas 78521 • 956-544-3972 • records@bisd.us

Date: October 7, 2025

To: Miguel Salinas
Staff Attorney

Thru: Dr. Linda Gallegos *LG*
Chief Human Resources Officer

From: Micaela Escobar *ME*
Director for Records Management / Sustainability / Warehouse

RECEIVED

OCT 15 2025

Superintendent's Office

Subject: Request for Legal Review – Grant Agreement Between Brownsville ISD and the H.E.B.

Attached please find the Grant Agreement between Brownsville ISD and H-E-B to support and fund the district's reforestation initiative at two elementary campuses during the 2025–2026 school year. The grantor requires the District to post notifications about the grant on media outlets and to submit a post-project report.

The agreement is effective from October 2025 through March 1, 2026 and provides \$5,000 to purchase and plant twenty (20) native trees: ten (10) at Burns Elementary and ten (10) at Del Castillo–Morningside Elementary.

We respectfully request your review of the attached agreement and guidance on whether the District may legally enter into it. Please advise if any revisions or additional steps are needed.

Please note **the signed agreement is due no later than October 17, 2025**. The agenda item to approve the ratified agreement will be presented at the November Board Meeting. Thank you in advance for your assistance.