

## RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR THE “ORGANIC MANAGEMENT” GRANT AND, IF AWARDED, ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00 FROM THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION (TDEC), TO FURTHER GROW THE KNOXVILLE COMPOST PROJECT BY CONTINUING TO DIVERT MUNICIPAL FOOD WASTE FROM THE LANDFILL TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES AND TO PRODUCE COMPOST TO GROW FOOD IN URBAN FARMS, COMMUNITY GARDENS, AND RESIDENTIAL BACKYARDS.

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUESTED BY: Public Service

PREPARED BY: Law

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE: \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTE BOOK: \_\_\_\_\_ PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, In February 2022, the City of Knoxville along with three partner organizations launched the city’s first public compost program, the Knoxville Compost Project. The success of the pilot project led the City to expand its composting efforts through an \$89,270 grant from the USDA in 2023. The USDA grant was completed in February 2025 and thus the Waste and Resources Management Office is seeking additional funding to continue the composting momentum; and

**WHEREAS**, the project has outperformed expectations. It is very popular with the public as residents and restaurants continue to utilize all five food scrap drop-off locations, diverting more food waste from the landfill than the previous year since the program’s creation in 2022. Through the previous USDA grant, the Waste and Resources Management office was able to

offer eight free backyard composting workshops where attendees received a free compost tumbler and countertop food scraps collection bin; and

**WHEREAS**, this grant, if funded, will allow more community partners to host food scrap drop-off locations, providing additional convenient locations for the public to compost their food waste and allow the City to continue offering these valuable workshops to the public.

**WHEREAS**, Grant requires a 50% match (\$25,000) which will be pulled from the Public Service Department's Waste and Resource Management Operating Budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE:**

**SECTION 1:** The Mayor of the City of Knoxville be and hereby is, authorized to execute all documents necessary to apply for, and if awarded, accept a matching grant in the amount of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$25,000.00) from the State of Tennessee, Department of Environment and Conservation to further grow The Knoxville Compost Project through the "Organics Management" grant funding.

**SECTION 2:** This Resolution shall take effect from and after its passage, the welfare of the City requiring it.

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Presiding Officer of the Council

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Recorder