

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 23-190—SB 965

Environment Committee

Appropriations Committee

**AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE REMOVAL OF HAZARDOUS
OR DEAD TREES BY MUNICIPALITIES**

SUMMARY: By law, the Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP), administered by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), provides municipal grant funds for eligible local capital improvement projects, including hazardous tree removal or trimming for nonutility related hazardous branches, limbs, and trees on municipal property or in a municipal right-of-way.

OPM distributes LoCIP funds to municipalities based on a statutory formula. In addition to the distribution, this act requires OPM, for FYs 24 and 25, to authorize expense reimbursements for tree removal or trimming projects from funds appropriated to OPM for these projects.

The law also generally requires LoCIP applications to have a certification that the project for which the municipality seeks funding is consistent with its local capital improvement plan. The act allows the OPM secretary, for any fiscal year, to (1) authorize reimbursement for these tree removal or trimming projects before the municipality has added the project to its local capital improvement plan and (2) require the municipality to certify that it is taking steps to amend its plan to include the project. This exception already applies to projects like establishing bikeways and greenways, land acquisition for public uses, and certain technology upgrades.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Related Act

PA 23-124 generally revises the LoCIP funding process by requiring OPM to annually distribute LoCIP grant funding by June 30, rather than reimbursing individual eligible project costs.