



## Transportation Board

**Edgar Peyronnin, Chair**  
**Alexa Nickoloff, Vice Chair**

**DATE:** August 21, 2024  
**TO:** Mayor Arndt and City Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Edgar Peyronnin, Transportation Board Chair, on behalf of the Transportation Board  
**CC:** Kelly DiMartino, City Manager  
**RE:** Endorsement of Urban Forest Strategic Plan: Rooted in Community

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

The Transportation Board has voted unanimously in support of the Urban Forest Strategic Plan as presented by Kendra Boot at our meeting in June. The plan aligns with the City's mission, vision, and values for a vibrant, desirable community. Through partnerships it prioritizes equity in service delivery, ensuring that the most vulnerable and underserved communities benefit from a healthy tree canopy strengthening the community. Additionally, a diverse, well-planned urban forest will support stewardship of the City's environment and support its green initiatives.

The plan supports Transportation Board goals in providing a safe and inviting environment for all modes of transportation along the network of streets and roads throughout the community. Research shows that tree-lined streets were perceived to be safer in both urban and suburban conditions. Individual driving speeds were significantly reduced in the suburban settings with trees. The trees provide shade and cover at Transfort stops, both improving the experience for a rider and protecting the shelters themselves from the harsh sun and elements. They help encourage ridership and reduce the cost to maintain this part of the city's infrastructure. They can support traffic engineering solutions for the community into the future.

The Transportation Board requests that City Council support and approve Rooted in Community: The Urban Forest Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edgar U. Peyronnin".

Edgar U. Peyronnin, Transportation Board Chair