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MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 25, 2024

TO: Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Nick Armstrong, Chair for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

RE: Adopting the Rooted in Community Urban Forest Strategic Plan

CC: Boards and Commissions via email
boardsandcommissions@fcgov.com

Dear City Leaders + City Council,

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is deeply supportive and appreciative of the work of the Forestry Department on the Urban Forest Strategic Plan (UFSP).

From the beginning, the work of the Forestry Department, Davey Tree, and the steering committee has been directly aligned with the goals of Our Climate Future, as well as the economic, environmental, neighborhood and community vitality of our City.

We feel the UFSP fully addresses the stated goals of the plan recommendations:

- Communicate the social, economic, and environmental value of the urban forest
- Prioritize equity in service delivery, ensuring that the most vulnerable and underserved communities benefit from a healthy tree canopy
- Plan for proactive tree planting and care of the urban forest
- Identify funding goals and strategies for the Fort Collins urban forest
- Identify and propose improved and enforceable public policy for the protection of community trees
- Build a culture of trust and partnership between Fort Collins residents and the institutions that serve or interact with the urban forest
- Address rising temperatures in the built environment and adaptation needs for a changing climate

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board formally recommends the adoption of the Urban Forest Strategic Plan with our gratitude to the Forestry Department, City Staff and especially Kendra Boot, the Steering Committee, Davey Tree, and City Council for their support of such a forward-thinking resource.

With our thanks,

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board