



27400 Southfield Rd  
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To: DDA Board of Directors  
From: Austin Colson – Community & Economic Development /DDA Director  
Date: July 16, 2024  
RE: Wildtype Native Plants and Ecological Services

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The purpose of this memo is to seek approval for the purchase of trees from Wildtype Native Plants and Ecological Services. This acquisition is part of our ongoing initiative to replace dead or diseased trees and enhance the green infrastructure within the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) district and surrounding areas.

We have identified the need to plant a variety of native trees in key areas to improve the urban canopy, support local biodiversity, and enhance the aesthetic appeal of our community. The selected vendor, Wildtype Native Plants and Ecological Services, has provided a detailed quote for the trees and related materials.

The DTE Energy Foundation Tree Planting Grant was awarded to the City in October 2023 to offset some of the project costs. The grant is in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and ReLeaf Michigan, providing funding to municipalities for tree planting projects aimed at improving community sustainability and resilience to climate change. Our proposed project focuses on planting a diverse range of native trees in key areas within the DDA district along Southfield Road, Annie Lathrup Park, and Municipal Park adjacent to City Hall.

A comprehensive three-year maintenance plan will be implemented, adhering to the guidelines provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. This includes regular watering, mulching, pruning, and monitoring for pests and diseases. Maintenance activities will be managed by municipal crews with support from resident volunteers. All tree plantings must be completed by September 1, 2024.

**Wildtype Native Plants and Ecological Services - \$1,510.40**