



MEETING DATE: April 10, 2023

SUBJECT: Tree Protection Ordinance

PREPARED BY: Casey Leedom, Sustainability Coordinator

REVIEWED BY: Aida Fairman, Director of Environmental Services and Utilities

BACKGROUND

Staff is working with a consulting firm to provide technical and policy recommendations to inform the update of the City's Tree Protection Ordinance and Street Tree Planting List and to create a Private Tree Planting List for replacement trees.

The Planning and Sustainability Division met with the consultant on February 15, 2023, to kick off the project, assess the current implementation process for the tree protection ordinance, and review goals for the updated ordinance. During this time, the consultant was able to ask questions of the Planning staff and learn more about the Tree Protection Permit Process. Furthermore, the challenges of the process were assessed, as well as the updated ordinance's objectives.

The Parks / Maintenance and Sustainability Divisions met with the consultant on February 22, 2023, to understand the Trees in the Public Right-of-Way Permit Process. Additionally, they discussed the challenges of the current processes and goals for the updated ordinance regarding trees in the public right-of-way.

STATUS UPDATE

The consultant provided a Draft Preliminary Tree List, including recommendations for Street Trees and Private Replacement Trees, on March 14, 2023. Staff distributed the List to other City Departments and the Environmental Commission Subcommittee for review and comment. In the coming week, staff will compile feedback and provide comments to the consultant.

The consultant continues to work on the remaining deliverables and is expected to complete their work in the coming months. Once recommendations for the Tree Protection Ordinance have been updated, City staff will bring these recommendations to the Environmental Commission Subcommittee before bringing them to the Environmental Commission.