



AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/12/2025

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Tim Bull – City Forester

SUBJECT: New tree planting appeal – 2111 Kansas Avenue

Municipal code Section 56-23 Appeal

Any person who objects to proposed parkway tree planting may appeal to the public works committee within ten days of publication of the notice. The public works committee shall hear such appeal within 30 days of receipt of written notice of appeal. After such hearing the committee shall notify the appealing party of its decision.

ISSUE

A new street tree is scheduled to be planted in the right of way adjacent to this property. The property owner prefers not to have a tree planted. The Public Works Committee needs to decide if the tree is planted at the location or not.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend the tree is planted at the proposed location.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The City of Sheboygan's urban forest provides an annual benefit of around \$3 million, this in part includes: reduced stormwater runoff, reduced summer cooling costs, cleaner air and water, and reduced crime.

The City Forester is tasked with evaluating street-by-street all public right-of-way and public area space and site factors which aid in the determination of the tree genus and species and variety best suited to a particular planting site in regard to growth habits, shape, form, health, disease, insect and pest resistance, conflict with wires, lights, pavement, traffic, pedestrians, sidewalks, environmental pollution, sewers and space availability.

Kansas Avenue was evaluated for Spring 2025 tree planting and all available tree planting sites were assigned a specific tree species suitable for their location.

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

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AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM (CONT.)



The proposed planting site is 15' away from the fire hydrant, 15' away from the driveway, and 20' away from the sewer lateral. (10' is the minimum distance suggestion)

Reasons listed in the appeal letter for not wanting a tree and reasons the City Forester supports having a tree:

- Does not want any sunlight shaded on the house
 - The species being planted is a Robin Hill Serviceberry which matures with an oval-upright shaped canopy reaching 20 feet tall and 12 feet wide.
 - This tree will not shade the house.
- Does not want pipes, street curb or sidewalk damaged by tree
 - The sewer lateral is 20' away from the planting site, which is twice the distance than the minimum suggested. This tree is small and stays small at maturity. It is highly unlikely the tree will damage the sidewalk or road.
- Does not want to clean up more leaves
 - Trees offer more benefits than negatives, this is a small tree and will not be very challenging to clean up.
- Does not want anything to block their view while backing out of driveway
 - One small stationary tree located 15 feet from the driveway will not significantly hinder the ability to back out of the driveway safely.

AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM (CONT.)



FUNDING IMPACT

There is no funding impact with this decision.

NEXT STEPS:

If approved to plant the tree at this location, it will be planted within 10 days by the Forestry Division.

If not approved for planting the tree at this location, it will be planted in October at an alternate location to be determined by the Forestry Division.