



Memorandum

Date: February 16, 2023
To: Tree Commission
Charlie Murphy, Urban Forestry Manager
From: Adrienne Heinig, Assistant to the Director
Tina McKeand & Rachael Sitz, Davey Resource Group
Subject: Item 6A – Urban Forest Management Plan: Discussion & Recommendation

Recommendations

Action Item.

1. Review submitted comments and questions on the draft Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) website for the City of Davis with City staff and representatives of Davey Resource Group; and
2. Consider recommending that City Council adopt the Urban Forest Management Plan at their meeting on March 21, 2023.

Background

The City of Davis received a CAL-FIRE Grant utilizing Proposition 68 funds to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) and to plant 1,000 new trees within the city limits. Tree Davis, the co-applicant with the City on the grant, took the lead in planting the 1,000 trees. The planting effort is complete as of the drafting of this report. The UFMP is required to be submitted to CAL FIRE by March 25, 2023, with Council approval and adoption.

The UFMP will replace the current City's Community Forest Management Plan adopted in 2002. The UFMP will be a 40-year plan that will guide the management of Davis' urban forest program. The UFMP will look at key areas of the urban forest and develop recommendations for managing, budgeting, service level matrices, and process improvements that will help improve and optimize the overall management of the City's urban forest.

The online draft UFMP is located here: <https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/urban-forestry/city-of-davis-urban-forest-management-plan>

The orientation to the draft UFMP was provided by Davey Resource Group at the Special Meeting of the Tree Commission on February 8, 2023. The report provided by staff with additional background on the draft UFMP and staffing recommendations is linked here:

<https://documents.cityofdavis.org/Media/Default/Documents/PDF/CityCouncil/Tree-Commission/Agendas/20230208/Item-4A-Urban-Forest-Management-Plan-Draft-Orientation.pdf>

Next Steps

Before Council Review on March 21

City staff and the consulting team will continue to collect comments and feedback from the public, and incorporate minor draft changes as applicable.

After Council Review on March 21

As stated in the staff memo to the Tree Commission from February 8, 2023, to begin to implement the objectives and action steps within the UFMP, staff is presenting recommendations for staffing levels within the Urban Forestry program to Council. The shift to the implementation of the UFMP is highly dependent on the level of support from Council, and without that guidance, difficult to determine at this stage in the process.

It is important to note, however, that regardless of the outcome of the discussions with Council, staff will need time to develop the recommendations for next steps, and the Commission will also need to catch up on tree removal requests and other regular businesses. In the coming months, staff will recommend that the Commission revisit outstanding projects (such as the enabling resolution update, ordinance update, etc.) and determine the commission's prioritization of those efforts.

Anticipated Next Steps for Plan Review

Anticipated Dates	Steps
February 8, 2023	Introduction of draft UFMP to Tree Commission
February 16, 2023	Discussion of draft UFMP with Tree Commission, including staff recommended next steps after adoption of UFMP
February 2023 (TBD)	Virtual Public Forum on the Draft UFMP
March 21, 2023	Final UFMP review and adoption by City Council
March 25, 2023	Submit UFMP and Prop 68 Grant Report to CAL-FIRE