



## City of San Diego

### Community Forest Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Meeting held at Central Library, 10am - 11.30am

#### Attendees:

Members - Butch Everett, Ami Young, Vince Mikulanic, Morgan Justice-Black, Chris Tiffany, Chris Drayer, Chuck Morgan, Rachele Melious

City Staff – Transportation: Brian Widener, Chaz Wilson, Alandon Joe, Noelle Burke, Ynez Nevarez, John Ide, Parks and Recreation: Erich Kast

Guests – Mike Palat

#### Non- Agenda Public Comment

- Where is the City with latest tree canopy cover values and street tree inventory?
- Street tree inventory, to date, has collected 90% of street trees; remaining 10% to be collected in next several months.
  - o Data currently with GIS waiting to be added to asset management system
  - o Jacaranda top shade tree
    - o 5.2% of inventory
  - o Queen and Mexican fan palm most popular trees
    - o 13.2% and 7.0% of inventory
- LiDAR data from 2021 collected, plan to analyze within next months
  - o 2015 Analysis indicated 12-13% tree canopy cover

#### Actions and Votes:

- Meeting minutes of June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 were approved
- Jim Smith nominated and confirmed as Community Forest Advisory Board Chairperson

#### City Staff Reports:

- Street tree planting for FY23
  - o Free Tree SD completed June 30<sup>th</sup>
    - 905 street trees planted for FY'23
  - o Bay Terrace project still in progress
    - 136 street trees planted in FY'23
  - o Allied Gardens & City Heights
    - 58 street trees are scheduled for replacement in FY'24

- Goal of 1,000 new street trees for FY'23 met
- FY'24 upcoming SDUF work and projects
  - Parks and Rec
    - Waiting on new equipment
      - New bucket truck coming
    - Parks foundation
      - Increase in special projects limiting ability to plant new trees
    - Reduction in SAPW removals
  - New street tree plantings performed by contract
    - The Utilities Undergrounding Program is exploring ways to increase street tree plantings
  - Fiscal Year 2024 Transportation Dept. KPIs
    - 52,000 trees trimmed
      - Includes reactive and proactive trimming
      - Palms trimmed every 2 years
      - Shade Trees Trimmed every 7 Years
    - Plant 8,300 trees citywide
      - City property only, i.e. street trees, Parks, Libraries, etc.
      - Climate Action Plan goals
        - Call for 100,000 new trees by 2035
      - Tree Planting Budget increased for FY'24
        - APCD settlement agreement, \$750,000 additional funds for new trees and watering
        - General funds budget for street tree planting and watering continues to be \$362,000
        - FY'24 street tree planting/watering budget is \$1,112,000
      - ~1000 trees currently being watered by the city
- CFAB report of vacancies and termed out positions
  - Recruitment needed for Council District members
  - Other members to be nominated by council and the Mayor

#### **Discussion:**

- Quarterly CFAB recommendation letter to Council/DSD proposed
- Request for more regular public reporting for Forestry activity
- Street tree watering for 3 years and what's after
  - What happens in drought years
  - Are trees cut off after the 3 years?
  - "Time to water your trees" notices recommended

#### **Adjournment:**

- Meeting adjourned 11:31am