



Request for City Council Committee Action from the City Coordinator's Office

Date: June 16, 2014

To: Honorable Cam Gordon, Chair, Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee

Referral to: Honorable John Quincy, Chair, Ways and Means / Budget Committee

Subject: **Minneapolis Tree Advisory Committee Financial Recommendations**

Recommendation: Abandon three capital projects designated "CTY1202, CTY1302 & CTY1402 for City Property Reforestation" totaling \$450,000 of which \$6,859.66 in costs have been incurred leaving an appropriation balance of \$443,140.34 to fund two new capital projects as follows:

- A) \$393,140.34** for removal of "tree coffin" structures and other paved public areas in the Downtown area and in other public built-up areas and commercial corridors in Minneapolis, replacing the underlying soil infrastructure and paving surfaces with currently accepted better urban tree environments (with a minimum of 500 cubic feet of planting medium available per tree to support healthy, mature trees), and reforesting the areas with new trees; and
- B) \$50,000** to be allocated to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for the planting of fruit and nut tree groves in public parks.

Requested Actions to implement the above recommendations are:

- 1) Amend Capital Resolution 2011R-660 by reducing the appropriation 04100-9010923 CTY02 City Property Reforestation (CTY1202) by \$143,140.34 and adding a \$50,000 project appropriation to the Park Board in 14300-9101000 for Park Fruit and Nut Trees (910AP698) and the balance of \$93,140.34 to a new project appropriation in 04100-9010937 Tree Environment Pavement Modifications (PV109).
- 2) Amend Capital Resolution 2012R-655 by reducing the appropriation 04100-9010923 CTY02 City Property Reforestation (CTY1302) by \$150,000 and adding \$150,000 to the project appropriation in 04100-9010937 Tree Environment Pavement Modifications (PV109).
- 3) Amend Capital Resolution 2013R-573 by reducing the appropriation 04100-9010923 CTY02 City Property Reforestation (CTY1402) by \$150,000 and adding \$150,000 to the project appropriation in 04100-9010937 Tree Environment Pavement Modifications (PV109).

- 4) Amend Bond Resolution 2011R-663 by reducing the bonding request for CTY02 City Property Reforestation (CTY1202) by \$143,140.34 and adding a \$50,000 bonding request for Park Fruit and Nut Trees (910AP698) and a \$93,140.34 bonding request for Tree Environment Pavement Modifications (PV109).
- 5) Amend Bond Resolution 2012R-658 by reducing the bonding request for CTY02 City Property Reforestation (CTY1302) by \$150,000 and adding a \$150,000 bonding request for Tree Environment Pavement Modifications (PV109).
- 6) Amend Bond Resolution 2013R-576 by reducing the bonding request for CTY02 City Property Reforestation (CTY1402) by \$150,000 and adding a \$150,000 bonding request for Tree Environment Pavement Modifications (PV109).

Previous Directives:

April 28, 2014 HECE directed the Minneapolis Tree Advisory Commission to return to the Committee by June 2, 2014 with recommendations for appropriate uses for \$443,140.34 from the City's Capital Improvement Program (CTY02 City Property Reforestation) to maintain and increase tree canopy in Minneapolis, especially related to boulevards and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board land.

Department Information

Prepared by: Lorrie Stromme, Mississippi Watershed Management Organization
Approved by: Jay Stroebel, Acting City Coordinator
Presenter in Committee: Peggy Booth, Co-chair of Minneapolis Tree Advisory Committee

Financial Impact: Financial impacts, appropriations and bonding adjustments are all offsetting in nature with no net change.

Background:

The Minneapolis Tree Advisory Commission (MTAC) was formed in March 2004 by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB). MTAC's mission is to enhance the Minneapolis urban forest and improve its long-term health. MTAC members include a City Council designate (Robin Garwood), mayoral designate (John Slack), five citizen representatives, two representatives from the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, staff from Minneapolis Public Works, a developer/business representative, and representatives from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis Public Schools, the Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Committee, and Tree Trust.

Each year, MTAC presents its report on the State of the Minneapolis Urban Forest to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the Minneapolis City Council.

At their April 28, 2014 Annual Presentation, MTAC was directed to return to the Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee by June 2, 2014 with recommendations for appropriate uses for \$443,140.34 from the City's Capital Improvement Program (CTY02 City Property Reforestation) to maintain and increase tree canopy in Minneapolis, especially related to boulevards and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board land.

Since that time members of MTAC have met with Finance, Public Works, Sustainability, and MPRB staff. These recommendations are based upon limitations of how capital dollars can be spent.

MTAC recommendations:

The Minneapolis Tree Advisory Commission recommends that all but \$50,000 of the sum of \$443,140.34 be devoted to removal of the crumbling “tree coffin” structures and other paved public areas in the Downtown area and in other public built-up areas and commercial corridors in Minneapolis, and to replacing the underlying soil infrastructure and paving surfaces with currently accepted better urban tree environments (with a minimum of 500 cubic feet of planting medium available for tree root zone; in tree trenches, multiple trees can intermingle in the same root zone area), and reforesting the areas with new trees.

The Minneapolis Tree Advisory Commission further recommends that \$50,000 be allocated to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for the planting of fruit and nut tree groves in public parks.

Cc: Mike Abeln, Jack Quale, Bob Carlson, Ralph Sievert