



City of San Diego City of San Diego

Community Forest Advisory Board Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION

Wednesday, April 10th, 2024

Meeting held at Valencia Park Malcom X Library from 10 am to 11.30 am

- 1.) **Call to Order – 10:00am**
- 2.) **Roll Call**

Members - Jim Smith, Chuck Morgan, Rachele Melious, Morgan Justice-Black, Ami Young, Wes Janssen, Butch Everett, Chris Tiffany, Frank Buncom IV

City Staff- Brian Widener, Ynez Nevarez, Alandon Joe, Noelle Burke, Olivia Mabee, John Ide, Ayad Youkhana, Jonathan Salgado

Guests - Anne Fege, Muriel King, Craig Jones, Mike Palat, Sharon Griswold

- 3.) **Non-Agenda Public Comment**
 - Bioswales to absorb water and drainage issues- Can tree planting also include bioswales and other stormwater benefits. Be more strategic by including more drainage (in D4 and D8)
- 4.) **Announcements and updates**
 - Two new board members Frank Buncom IV (D8) and Alyssa Way(D6).
 - Effort to reinstate the virtual meeting option for Boards & Commissions, CFAB may consider a draft support letter for an Assembly Bill. (Widener)
 - WCISA Conference coming to SD at end of April, beginning of May. (Widener)
 - Trees for Communities making progress, attending community mtgs, planting 700 street trees before end of June. (No saw cuts this fiscal year). (Widener)
- 5.) **Actions**
 - February minutes approved by the Board
 - Frank Buncom IV motion to designate Morgan Justice-Black to take meeting notes until end of calendar year, Ami second motion; unanimous vote.
 - WCA – hired local groups to do direct engagement with residents in other communities.
- 6.) **City Staff Reports**

USFS Grant/Ready Set Grow (Widener)

- City Council approved moving forward with the grant in the 4/9 City Council meeting. USFS wants to execute agreement with City of SD ASAP. Includes LiDAR analysis of data collected in 2021. Will provide funding for 4 new staff employees. 5-year grant.
- Changes: 8,000 to 5,100 trees, administrative costs/overhead increased, LiDAR analysis was added. Maintained tree protection/preservation elements at original scale.
 - WCA contractor – do tree pruning, maintenance, removals and tree planting. Can also help with door hangers. Concrete removal may need a separate contract.

- CFAB -> can we get involved in how the contract is written/structured? Answer: contract is finalized for the new advertising for next month. CFAB is always welcome to review the City's contracts and could make it a discussion item for future meetings.

Public Comment on USFS Grant (Ready, Set, Grow)

- Urban Collaborative Project: Encourage the subcontracting of appropriate tasks (such as maintenance/watering) to local businesses who employ community members. These communities deserve to have the same benefits as more affluent communities. There is desire to be involved in the tree planting process. Resources: work up on pilot project in Chollas View neighborhood of Encanto community planning area. Endorse partnership with UCP as part of the grant.
- Standard operating procedures in terms of [tree size for planting areas](#), and protocols for how trees/sidewalks are repaired. Is there a workforce development program for this grant? Is there an opportunity to update priority zones to include disaster response criteria? (UCP is in Zone 3 for Trees for Communities)
- Kate's Trees – Resident Leadership Academy's (Live Well SD) are important to motivate + engage communities + college students
- Muriel– Need to create some means to connect with residents block by block to get them involved, because that's the only way that these trees are going to be successful. Educate people, especially in D4, against concreting front yards. Ask: Create a subcommittee or some effort to engage individuals specifically.
- WCA – hired local groups to do direct engagement w residents. (Rachele -> trees are pay-tree-otic)

San Diego Arbor Day (Mabee/Burke)

- 124 volunteers have signed up, but aiming for 200/250 volunteers
- Planting 100 trees, looking for arborists to help lead groups; need tree planting experts
- Kick off for Trees for Communities project, first trees planted as part of this project

Current Tree Planting Efforts (Burke)

City of SD has developed a draft of Street Tree Planting Guidelines and seeking feedback from CFAB. *Hard copies presented to all members.*

7.) Discussion

- Anne Fege & Chris Tiffany making progress on code revisions
- Future meeting topics: Food/garden intersections (presentation by Ami or someone from Project New Village), SDGE tree planting efforts (Morgan)
- Asset management: Does this city have anything more than a group of spreadsheets to manage assets? City needs more tools to meet CAP goals for tree canopy.
 - Tree SD uses TreePlotter
 - WCA uses Arbor Access
 - SDG&E uses MyRowkeeper

8.) Adjournment- 11:35am