

Urban Forestry Task Force

Introduction

The purpose of this Task Force is to complete several tasks and provide recommendations to the Mayor and Common Council, including:

Review available research and best practices on promoting a vibrant, healthy, and sustainable urban forest.

Review City policies, practices, programs, and operations that impact the urban forest (e.g. Zoning Code, Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation Plan).

Solicit input from local stakeholders with additional information on the issue as needed (e.g. WI DNR).

Develop recommendations to the Mayor, Common Council, Committees or Commissions, and/or City agencies on the establishment of a Canopy Coverage Goal and action plan for the city covering both public and private trees.

Develop recommendations to the Mayor, Common Council, Committees or Commissions, and/or City agencies to preserve and expand our urban forest resources through a well-planned and systematic approach to tree management.

Develop recommendations to encourage private landowners to protect, preserve and promote a diverse and sustainable urban forest.

Provide guidance for a long-term strategy to departments to promote the sustainability of a healthy urban forest.

Task Force Members

- The Task Force is staffed by the Parks Division and includes the following members:
- Dan McAuliffe – Planning/Zoning Division Representative
- David Ahrens – Common Council Member
- Jackie Suska – Resident
- Jeremy A. Kane – Resident
- Lisa Coleman – Engineering Division Representative
- Marla Eddy – Parks Division Representative
- Michael W. Rewey – Resident
- Sean M. Gere – Resident
- Sheri Carter – Common Council

Roles

Chair: A committee chair serves as the parliamentary head of a committee. The chair sets the committee's agenda, calls the committee together to perform its duties, calls roll, facilitates voting, and presides and maintains order over meetings.

Vice Chair: Presides over the committee in the absence of a vice-chair.

Task Force Staff: Neutral staff members who cannot be part of the discussion but record meeting minutes, ensure items not on the agenda are not discussed, facilitate entry of agendas and meeting minutes into Legistar, or provide technical or facilitative assistance. This is not to include any City employees who are also voting members of the committee.

Initial Agenda

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Disclosures and Recusals
4. Reports
5. New Business
 - a. Introductions and ground rules(10)
 - b. History, core purpose, timeline and key responsibilities (20)
 - c. Review roles and decision making process (20)
 - d. Secure meeting schedule and locations (5)
 - e. Set agenda for meeting 2 (5)