



URBAN FORESTRY BOARD RECOMMENDATION 20140820-G04

Date: August 20, 2014

Subject: Urban Forestry Board Recommendation Regarding Care, Maintenance, and Planting of Public Trees

Motioned By: Board Member Brown **Seconded By:** Board Member Vice-Chair Maceo

Recommendation

Support the additional annual funding of \$12.5 million recommended. The motion also included agreement with the recommendation to consolidate the code-mandated functions of the Urban Forester with the City Arborist Program within the Planning and Review Department.

Description of Recommendation to Council

A July 16, 2014 staff memorandum entitled "Care, Maintenance, and Planting of Public Trees" was sent in response to Council Resolution 20130627-070. The accompanying report stated there is currently \$3.8 million annually to provide care, maintenance, and planting services, but that an annual total of \$16.3 million would be needed to provide a recommended level of service.

Rationale:

The Urban Forestry Board recommends that the annual funding gap of \$12.5 million be filled to provide this recommended level of care, maintenance, and planting for Austin's urban forest. By the same voting margin stated below, the UFB agrees with the recommendation to consolidate the code-mandated functions of the Urban Forester with the City Arborist Program within the Planning and Review Department.

Vote

For: (4) – Kite, Maceo, Brown, Newsom

Against: (0)

Abstain: (1) -- Brewer

Absent: (2) – Fleming, Classen

Attest: [Staff or board member can sign]

Robert Clawson
Staff Liaison, Urban Forestry Board