

CHARLOTTESVILLE TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Virtual|Electronic Meeting

Call to Order (*P. Van Yahres*) **5:00**

- Approval of February Minutes

Staff Report (*R. Anthony, C. Gensic*) **5:10**

- Urban Forester
- New Tree Planting
- Canopy Study
- Mall Tree Study

Annual Presentation to City Council (*B. Menard, P. Van Yahres*) **5:25**

Public Utilities' Energy Saving Trees Program (*Irene Peterson*) **5:40**

Committee Reports (*P. Van Yahres*) **5:50**

- Education & Advocacy (*Mark R*)
ReLeaf Arbor Day and handout
- Arbor (*J. Aten*)
Arbor Day
- Codes and Practices (*Vicky*)
 - *Prepare for April meeting with NDS & PW Staff*
 - *Zoning ordinance*
 - *Comp Plan*

General Public Comment **6:30**

Items/Announcements Not on Agenda **6:45**

Action Items for Next Meeting **6:55**

Adjourn **7:00**

(†) At the discretion of the Chair, public comments related to particular agenda items may be solicited at that point in the meeting.

This virtual/electronic meeting is open to the public. You may participate electronically by registering at www.charlottesville.gov/zoom or via telephone by using the number provided with the Zoom registration. Or you may contact staff at 434-970-3182 to receive the dial in number. In addition to the Zoom webinar, this meeting will be available on the City's streaming platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and www.charlottesville.gov/streaming.

Individuals with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in the public meeting may call the ADA Coordinator at (434) 970-3182 or submit a request via email to ada@charlottesville.gov. The City of Charlottesville requests that you provide a 48-hour notice so that proper arrangements may be made.

CHARLOTTESVILLE TREE COMMISSION

2022 Organization

Revised 2/22/2022

TC Objectives—

- Advise | Educate | Advocate
- Plant | Preserve | Commemorate
- Monitor | Review | Seek Compliance

TC Annual Goals—Committees will establish goals and an action plan for review by the Commission to ensure that its overall objectives are being met

Committee Structure & Composition—

Education & Advocacy

- Educate community at all levels on the range of benefits of urban trees
- Advocate at all levels of government for funding and support for trees
- Collaborate with groups with aligned goals for the urban forest, sustainability, environment/climate—Cville Climate Collaborative, CATS, Master Naturalists, Public Works
- [Monitor and review](#) Tree Commission and Urban Forestry webpages and provide social media and email (Utility Notes) content for city communications office to post
- Develop strategies and execute projects to increase urban canopy through public and private planting initiatives

Members: Mark R. (chair), Peggy

Arbor

- Maintain and evaluate performance measures for city trees through review of the Commission's annual tree data report
- Review Urban Forester's annual tree planting list and work plan and provide input as needed
- Manage tree nominations process to recognize significant trees and encourage preservation
- Work with Urban Forester and CATS to commemorate a significant tree on Arbor Day
- Coordinate with Urban Forester on Urban Canopy Assessment

Members: Jeff A. (chair), Mark Z. (CATS), Jean

Codes & Practices

- Provide input to city planning [code/ordinances, Comprehensive Plan, zoning ordinances, SDM, BMPs]
- Work with Urban Forester to update and maintain City Tree List and revise Urban Forest Management Plan
- Review tree legislation and ordinances in other localities
- Review and comment on site plans
- Represent TC on roadway projects (esp. entry corridors/gateways)

Members: Vicky, (chair), Tim, Jeff P, Brian

In general—

- Committees should meet to review TC and committee objectives and develop a list of attainable goals and an action plan for the year
- Committees lead but all commissioners can participate in supporting the action plan and projects (e.g., tree-planting, serving as liaisons, nominating trees, attending public hearings)

Commission Representatives—(Smart Scale Projects to be confirmed)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| • Comprehensive Plan Update | Tim Padalino |
| • East High Streetscape | Brian Menard |
| • Barracks/Emmet Street Improvement | Brian Menard |
| • Fontaine Streetscape | Jody Lahendro |
| • Emmett and Ivy Roads | |
| • Integrated Pest Management (IPM) | <i>Vacant</i> |
| • PLACE commission | Mark Rylander |

Charlottesville Comprehensive Plan, 2021 – References to Trees

Chapter 7 ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE, AND FOOD EQUITY COMMUNITY

VISION STATEMENT

‘Charlottesville will be an environmental leader, with healthy air, water, and ecosystems, as well as ample, high-quality, and accessible open space and natural areas, and a preserved and enhanced tree canopy. ‘ p. 65

Goal 6. TREE CANOPY (p. 71-72)

Contribute to the creation, protection, and expansion of robust urban forests.

Related Guiding Principle(s): Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability, Equity & Opportunity

Strategy 6.1 Monitor, protect, and expand the urban tree canopy cover both at citywide and neighborhood levels.

Sub-strategies:

- Continue implementing the Urban Forest Management Plan to protect quality of air, water, and lands; manage stormwater; provide shading; absorb CO₂.
- Address invasive species, diversity, and distribution.
- As the Urban Forest Management Plan is updated, ensure that it describes ways to manage and expand the urban forest as an environmental justice solution to provide equity among all demographics and communities across the city.
- Utilize UVA Equity Center’s Heat Index map, once finalized, to identify areas with lower tree cover investment leading to higher energy costs and negative health implications.

Strategy 6.2 Include trees considerations in all priority streetscape plans (e.g., framework streets, safe routes to school, Strategic Investment Areas). Work to preserve existing healthy trees whenever streets are modified.

Strategy 6.3 Develop methods to support retaining and increasing healthy tree canopy on private lands. Consider the effectiveness of incentives as well as new requirements.

Sub-strategy:

- Study site plan requirements to update them with increased tree protection elements.
- Conduct educational outreach in support of this strategy.

Strategy 6.4 Use the maps of Green Infrastructure Possible Planting Areas from GreenPrint 1.0 to inform tree planting prioritization, in addition to considering prioritization of underserved communities and neighborhoods experiencing related impacts such as urban heat islands.

Strategy 6.5 Evaluate opportunities for reforestation in City-owned parks and recreation areas, to improve livability, mitigate climate impacts, and reduce the city's overall environmental footprint."

Chapter 4. LAND USE, URBAN FORM, AND HISTORIC & CULTURAL PRESERVATION

COMMUNITY VISION STATEMENT...

"Through the City's plans, policies, and regulations, including zoning, Charlottesville will...improve and protect the health of the natural environment (including the tree canopy, air quality, and water quality)..." p.23

Goal 1. ZONING ORDINANCE

Strategy 1.2 Implement changes to the Zoning Ordinance needed to support community health and well-being, context-sensitive design, environmental protection, and climate change mitigation and preparedness.

Sub-strategies...

"Expand requirements for tree canopy protection and, where necessary, replacement, and consider incorporating urban heat island analyses into this process." P.33

Goal 2. FUTURE LAND USE VISION

Strategy 2.1 Through City-led efforts and private development, expand community access to housing, as well as amenities and services that improve quality of life.

Sub-strategies...

"Through City-led projects, private and institutional development projects, and partnerships, address citywide and regional priorities. These include ...tree canopy, environmental sustainability, and climate change mitigation and resilience..." p.35

Goal 7. ENTRANCE CORRIDORS

Strategy 7.1 Within Entrance Corridors, encourage placemaking elements and look for opportunities to support community-centered destinations. Sub-strategies...

"Incorporate street trees and landscaping along streetscapes to provide shade, buffer pedestrians from traffic, and create a sense of enclosure..." p. 40

Goal 11. HISTORIC RESOURCE PROTECTION

Strategy 11.4 Consider and discuss the effects of decisions by all public decision-making bodies on historic resources. Sub-strategies...

“Encourage retaining and replenishing shade trees, particularly large trees, in all historic neighborhoods...” p. 44

Chapter 6 TRANSPORTATION

Goal 1. COMPLETE STREETS

...“Continue to implement recommended design features that improve the safety and comfort level of all users and contribute to the City’s environmental goals. This may include street trees within buffers, street furniture, and adequate sidewalk widths...” P. 57

Goal 2. COORDINATION WITH LAND USE & COMMUNITY DESIGN

...“Coordinate with the zoning rewrite process to ensure that it incorporates elements supportive of urban, walkable scale communities, including ...street trees...” p. 58