



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Department of Parks and Recreation

ACM: Christine Taylor

DATE: February 6, 2025

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the City Council's direction to move forward with a two-minute pitch to consider increasing the City's tree canopy by 5% by 2040.

BACKGROUND

On Oct. 9, 2024, Council Member McGee requested a two-minute pitch to increase Denton's tree canopy by 5% by 2040. On Oct. 15, 2024, Council Member McGee received consensus to require an Informal Staff Report to address the feasibility of the pitch request.

The Urban Forest Master Plan adopted in 2020 serves as a guide for managing, enhancing, and growing Denton's tree canopy. The Master Plan currently includes the primary objective to achieve 40% canopy cover by 2040, which requires 16% additional canopy cover from the most recent tree canopy data collected in 2023. This objective heavily relies on planting trees on private property.

Increasing the tree canopy by 5% by 2040 is lower than the goal established in the Urban Forest Master Plan adopted in 2020. Additionally, the request to utilize staff from the Tree Mitigation Fund is allowable.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends providing an update on the Urban Forest Master Plan progress to the Committee on the Environment and the Parks and Recreation Board during Q2 of the fiscal year and including a multiyear forecast as part of the budget process to show how budgeted efforts are impacting the increase in canopy.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

Oct. 9, 2024: Council Member McGee requested a two-minute pitch to increase Denton's tree canopy.
Oct. 15, 2024: Council Member McGee received consensus for an Informal Staff Report.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Fund Balance Dec. 20, 2024, approximately \$2.1 million
Fiscal Year 2024-25 \$1 million is budgeted for city-initiated tree plantings, tree giveaway programs, and prudent land acquisition.

EXHIBITS

- Exhibit 1 - Agenda Information Sheet
- Exhibit 2 - Informal Staff Report
- Exhibit 3 – Process Flow Chart

Respectfully submitted:
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Assistant City Manager

Prepared by:
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