



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney St.  
Denton, Texas 76201  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

## Meeting Agenda

### Committee on the Environment

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Tuesday, April 15, 2025

9:00 AM

Denton Civic Center Community Room

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After determining that a quorum is present, the Committee on the Environment of the City of Denton, Texas will convene in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 15th 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Denton Civic Center Community Room at 321 East McKinney Street, Denton, Texas at which the following items will be considered:

#### 1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. [COE25-003](#) Consider approval of the November 12, 2024 minutes.

Attachments: [11.12.24 COE Minutes](#)

- B. [COE25-004](#) Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding progress made toward the City of Denton's Urban Forest Master Plan, and a multiyear forecast explaining future planting efforts and the impact these plantings will have on the City's tree canopy.

Attachments: [Exhibit I - Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[Exhibit 2 - Presentation](#)

- C. [COE25-001](#) Staff Reports

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Fireworks](#)  
[Exhibit 2 - Mid-year Summary Memo COE](#)  
[Exhibit 3 - Action Item Matrix - 4.7.25](#)

#### 2. CONCLUDING ITEMS

A. Under Section 551.042 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, respond to inquiries from the Committee on the Environment or the public with specific factual information or recitation of policy, or accept a proposal to place the matter on the agenda for an upcoming meeting AND Under Section 551.0415 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, provide reports about items of community interest regarding which no action will be taken, to include: expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence; information regarding holiday schedules; an honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen; a reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body; information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; or an announcement involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

#### CERTIFICATE

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the official website (<https://tx-denton.civicplus.com/242/Public-Meetings-Agendas>) and bulletin board at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, on April 09, 2025, in advance of the 72-hour posting deadline, as applicable, and in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY

NOTE: THE CITY OF DENTON'S DESIGNATED PUBLIC MEETING FACILITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE CITY WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION, SUCH AS SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, IF REQUESTED AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. PLEASE CALL THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT 940-349-8309 OR USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES FOR THE DEAF (TDD) BY CALLING 1-800-RELAY-TX SO THAT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION CAN BE ARRANGED.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY



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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** COE25-003, **Version:** 1

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### **AGENDA CAPTION**

Consider approval of the November 12, 2024 minutes.

**COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT MINUTES**  
**November 12, 2024**

After determining that a quorum was present, the Committee on the Environment of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 9:16 a.m. in the Development Services Training Room Five at 401 N. Elm St., Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Members Brian Beck and Joe Holland.

ABSENT: Brandon Chase McGee.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- A. COE24-012** Consider approval of August 13, 2024, minutes.

Members discussed correcting meeting start time to 9:10 a.m. Chair Beck moved to approve. Motion carried.

AYES (2): Members Beck and Holland

NAYS (0):

- B. COE24-010** Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the City of Denton's tree management software.

The item was presented by Haywood Morgan, Jr., the Urban Forester for Parks and Recreation department. Haywood discussed the Tree management software, TreeKeeper, an inventory software that tracks tree inventory data and tree canopy data. He further discussed what a tree canopy is, how fast tree canopy increases and PlanIT Geo 2022-23, Green Hill 2023-present, and the American Forest Tree Equity Map.

- C. COE24-011** Staff Reports

Member Beck – Suggested adding to the Matrix the following: low noise fireworks discussion and to review the tree goals and the findings of the data collection.

Members held a discussion and asked questions.

**2. CONCLUDING ITEMS**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.



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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** COE25-004, **Version:** 1

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### **AGENDA CAPTION**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding progress made toward the City of Denton's Urban Forest Master Plan, and a multiyear forecast explaining future planting efforts and the impact these plantings will have on the City's tree canopy.



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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**ACM:** Christine Taylor, Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** April 15, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding progress made toward the City of Denton's Urban Forest Master Plan, and a multiyear forecast explaining future planting efforts and the impact these plantings will have on the City's tree canopy.

### **BACKGROUND**

Staff will present progress made toward meeting the goals, objectives and actions of the City of Denton's Urban Forest Master plan (UFMP). Staff will also provide information on current City-managed planting efforts, their associated costs, and the future canopy impact the plantings will provide.

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1 – Agenda Information Sheet  
Exhibit 2 - Presentation

Respectfully submitted:  
Haywood Morgan, Jr  
Urban Forester



# Urban Forest Master Plan Progress

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**Haywood Morgan, Jr.**  
**Urban Forester**  
**Parks and Recreation**  
**April 15, 2025**

ID: COE25-004





# Urban Forest Master Plan

- Adopted by City Council in October 2020.
- Areas of Focus:
  - A safe and healthy urban forest
  - Sustain environmental benefits
  - Engage the community to ensure the future of the urban forest.



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004

URBAN  
FOREST  
MASTER  
PLAN

2



# Urban Forest Master Plan

- A Safe and Healthy Urban Forest
  - 3 Goals
  - 7 Primary Objectives
  - 22 Actions
- 5 of 22 Actions completed



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004

## A safe and healthy urban forest

Goal 1: Efficiently manage the community tree resource.

Goal 2: Promote tree health and good structure.

Goal 3: Mitigate and reduce risk of wildfire.

### Primary Objectives:

- Improve understanding of the structure and composition of Denton's community tree resource.
- Following completion of a tree inventory, develop pruning and maintenance cycles.
- Continue to use planting funds successfully.
- Explore the feasibility of the City taking responsibility for the maintenance of community trees in neighborhoods.
- Revise policies and standards for pruning young trees to promote healthy growth and structure.
- Ensure community trees are maintained according to industry standards to promote tree health, longevity, and also public safety.
- Contribute to a fire safe community.

# Urban Forest Master Plan

- Sustain environmental benefits
  - 4 Goals
  - 14 Primary Objectives
  - 51 Actions
- 37 of 51 Actions completed



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004



## **Sustain environmental benefits**

- Goal 4: Recognize trees as green infrastructure.
- Goal 5: Promote tree preservation and protection.
- Goal 6: Develop a City-wide planting plan.
- Goal 7: Adopt Plant Health Care (PHC) policies.

### **Primary Objectives:**

- Minimize the encroachment of other utilities.
- Develop maintenance and design strategies for mitigating conflict with otherwise healthy trees.
- Ensure design standards adequately consider trees.
- Revise and amend the Code of Ordinances to promote the protection of community trees.
- Continue to contribute mitigation fees to the Tree Fund.
- Mitigate the impacts of development on native post oak stands.
- Educate the community about their role in maintaining a safe urban forest.
- Achieve 40% canopy cover by 2040.
- Promote species diversity in the urban forest.
- Encourage equitable distribution of tree canopy across the City.
- Set emphasis on planting the right tree in the right place.
- Encourage the expansion of the urban forest through tree plantings on private property.
- Support stormwater management through the strategic growth of canopy.
- Monitor invasive species.

# Urban Forest Master Plan

- Engage the community to ensure the future of the urban forest.
  - 2 Goals
  - 3 Primary Objectives
  - 15 Actions
- 10 of 15 Actions completed



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004

## Engage the community to ensure the future of the urban forest

Goal 8: Support community engagement and stewardship of the urban forest.

Goal 9: Celebrate the importance of urban trees.

### Primary Objectives:

- Develop and maintain a web page for the Urban Forestry Division on the City website.
- Interact with community members through a variety of outlets.
- Maintain Tree City USA.



# Urban Forest Master Plan

- Summary of Progress - 52 of 88 Actions completed
- Major Accomplishments:
  - Completed tree inventory of all public maintain trees.
  - Created five-year Plan with a sustainable annual planting goal.
  - Released 9 informational videos through DTV.
  - Launched the Urban Forestry webpage.
    - Published a recommended species list.
    - Provided tree related educational material to the public.



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004

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“Though the word beautification makes the concept sound merely cosmetic, it involves much more: clean water, clean air, clean roadsides, safe waste disposal and preservation of valued old landmarks as well as great parks and wilderness areas. To me...beautification means our total concern for the physical and human quality we pass on to our children and the future.

★ LADY BIRD JOHNSON

# Annual Planting Programs

Program	Item
PARD - Urban Forestry Tree Planting	2 - 3 inch caliper trees
Community Tree Giveaway	3 - gallon trees
Redbud Festival Tree Giveaway	3 - gallon trees
Tree Your Block (Neighborhood Giveaway)	3 - gallon trees
Children's Arbor Day	Redbud seedlings
Tree Rebate Program	Tree rebates



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004





# Five-Year Planting Forecast

Fiscal Year	Trees to Plant	Budget	Future Canopy
2024-25	3,252	\$ 459,080.00	0.15%
2025-26	3,342	\$ 447,650.00	0.15%
2026-27	3,345	\$ 448,920.00	0.15%
2027-28	3,328	\$ 465,770.00	0.15%
2028-29	3,321	\$ 448,715.00	0.15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,588</b>	<b>\$ 2,270,135.00</b>	<b>0.76%</b>



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004



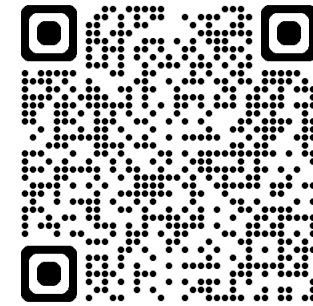


# Questions?

**Haywood Morgan, Jr**

**Urban Forester**

**Parks and Recreation**



Urban Forestry Webpage



4/15/2025

ID: COE25-004

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### AGENDA CAPTION

Staff Reports



## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 15, 2025  
**TO:** Committee on the Environment  
**FROM:** Katherine Barnett, Sustainability Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Low Noise Fireworks

Low noise fireworks are not silent, but they produce less noise than traditional fireworks. Traditional fireworks range from 140 to 170 decibels, while low noise fireworks are around 70 to 90 decibels. Amplified sound exceptions are required for events with sound over 65 decibels on Sunday and over 70 decibels on Monday through Saturday.

Traditional fireworks shows are estimated to cost on average \$1,000 to \$1,200 per minute with larger community shows costing between \$50,000 and \$100,000. City Council approved \$75,300 cash sponsorship and \$14,680 in-kind services for the 2025 Kiwanis Independence Day Jubilee.

A review of online vendors shows fewer low noise than traditional fireworks options. Pricing varies by vendor and low noise categorized options are similar in cost to 20% more than traditional fireworks. Low noise fireworks programs are designed around color effects and choreography and without the loud explosions included in traditional shows. While the cost of low noise fireworks may be slightly more than traditional fireworks, the cost of a professionally designed and choreographed low noise fireworks show is unknown.

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## **OUR CORE VALUES**

Inclusion • Collaboration • Quality Service • Strategic Focus • Fiscal Responsibility



## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 15, 2025  
**TO:** Committee on the Environment  
**FROM:** Karen Boerner, Sustainability Engagement Specialist  
**SUBJECT:** Mid-year Summary of Sustainability Education, Outreach, and Social Media for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Sustainability education and outreach primarily focus on topics such as air quality, land use, waste reduction, transportation, and energy/water conservation and are provided through a variety of events including activities, meetings, presentations, tabling at events, and tours.

### **Total Events for First Half Fiscal Year 2024-2025:**

October 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025		
Event Type	Number of Events	Total Attendance
Activity	19	452
Meeting	4	44
Presentation	30	1,466
Tabling	26	4,974
Tours	7	156
Totals:	86	7,092

In the first half of Fiscal Year 2024-2025, Sustainability participated in 86 events with a total attendance of 7,092. In comparison, the first half of Fiscal Year 2023-2024 had a total of 69 events with 4,440 attendees. The 59.7% increase in attendance was from targeted advertising utilizing flyers placed in local libraries, recreation centers, senior centers, and social media. The Sustainability division also produces a quarterly newsletter, which includes upcoming presentations and activities as well as sustainability tips for the upcoming season.

The Sustainability division manages both the Sustainability and Solid Waste & Recycling (SWR) social media accounts. Sustainability uses Facebook and Instagram to reach residents, and SWR uses Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Nextdoor. Both accounts have seen an increase in followers during these first two quarters, with the Sustainability Instagram seeing the most growth from 199 to 260, a 30.7% increase in followers.

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## **UPCOMING SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS (April - June)**

- DIY Rainwater Harvesting, April 19
- Bird Watching Basics, April 26
- Get Site to Site like a Dentonite, May 7
- World Migratory Bird Day, May 10
- Home Weatherization, May 14
- Invasive Plant Species and How to Avoid Them, May 22
- What's the Buzz on Beekeeping, June 7
- Recycling 101, June 14
- Como Reciclar En Su Casa, June 14
- Outdoor Foraging, June 25

# COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

## NEW BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS MATRIX

	DATE REQUESTED	REQUESTOR	ITEM	DEPARTMENT	STATUS
1.	11/12/24	All	Cost of “silent” fireworks compared to traditional options	ESS	4/15/25