

Tree Ordinance, Tree Canopy Goals, and Outreach/Education

City Council Work Session

Sept. 11, 2019

Goals Identified in Council Priorities

- ▶ Create a more user-friendly and easier-to-understand Tree Ordinance
- ▶ Establish Tree Canopy Goals
- ▶ Improve the maintenance of mature trees
- ▶ Increase planting on City and private property
- ▶ Improve outreach and education

Process So Far

- ▶ Initial strategy session Oct. 2018
- ▶ UVT tree canopy assessment Feb. 2019
- ▶ Resident survey spring 2019
- ▶ Tree Commission recommendations July 2019
- ▶ CoE efforts on tree canopy goals
- ▶ Council work sessions
- ▶ Suggestions from individuals and groups of residents

Overview, 12.12.010

- ▶ Benefits of the urban forest we want to promote:
 - ▶ Sequesters carbon to enhance resilience and mitigate climate change
 - ▶ Reduces energy consumption
 - ▶ Mitigates temperature extremes
 - ▶ Promotes health through control of air, noise, and visual pollution
 - ▶ Supports wildlife
 - ▶ Enhances aesthetics of the city
 - ▶ Improves property values
 - ▶ Improves quality of life
 - ▶ Controls stormwater runoff
 - ▶ Supports the biologic and hydrologic integrity of watersheds, including Long Branch, Takoma Branch, Sligo Creek, and the Chesapeake Bay

Overview, cont.

- ▶ Stewardship of our urban forest is a community effort
- ▶ Goal of a healthy, biodiverse, resilient urban forest
- ▶ Regulation of the urban forest provides benefits to residents/property owners