



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 19, 2022 Agenda Item 1

Presentation

Tree Canopy Assessment Presentation by the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Laboratory

Recommended Council Action

Receive Presentation

Context with Key Issues

Tree canopy cover is a key metric for the health of our City's urban forest. Higher tree canopy cover correlates closely with the increased environmental services of cooling the City, lowering energy bills, and intercepting stormwater, in addition to other services. The City has contracted with the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Laboratory (SAL) to conduct an analysis of the City's tree canopy cover using data collected using remote sensing technology. This analysis has historically been conducted approximately every three years, providing the ability to compare change in canopy cover over time. The SAL will provide a presentation on their findings and context for how the information may be used to inform urban forest management decisions.

Council Priority

A Livable Community for All
Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Considerations

Trees and the City's tree canopy play an enormous role in providing environmental benefits. This Tree Canopy Assessment aids the City in better tracking changes in this important resource and making management decisions to maximize the benefits our tree canopy provides.

Fiscal Considerations

In the FY23 budget, \$14,941.31 was approved for the services associated with Tree Canopy Analysis technical work, report, and presentation. These funds were carried over from the FY22 budget.

Racial Equity Considerations

Understanding the differential geographic distribution of the City's tree canopy resource helps us track socioeconomic disparities in who benefits from this resource and better deploy resources to the areas of the City that are most in need.

Attachments and Links

None