



**URBAN FORESTRY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, November 19, 2014, - 5:30 p.m.  
Northwest Recreation Center  
2913 Northland  
Austin, Texas**

<b>URBAN FORESTRY BOARD MEMBERS:</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>:</b>
Christopher Kite, Chair	Council Member Laura Morrison, Place 4	
Peggy Maceo (Vice-Chair)	Council Member Kathie Tovo, Place 3	
Len Newsom	Council Member Bill Spelman, Place 5	
Patrick Brewer	Mayor Lee Leffingwell	
Nicholas Classen	Mayor Pro-Tem Sheryl Cole, Place 6	
Ryan Fleming	Council Member Mike Martinez, Place 2	
Keith Brown	Council Member Chris Riley, Place 1	

<b>URBAN FORESTRY EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS</b>	<b>:</b>
Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department	
Pat Fuller, Division Manager, Parks and Recreation Department – Director Designee	
Angela Hanson, Forestry Program Manager, Parks and Recreation Department	
Ryan Hebrink, Environmental Compliance Specialist, Watershed Protection Department – Director Designee	
Lara Schuman, Acting Program Manager, Forestry Unit, Parks and Recreation Department.	

**MEETING MINUTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Kite called the meeting to order at 5:36P.M.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes of the Urban Forestry Board meeting of October 15, 2014.  
Motion made by Board member Brown, seconded by Board member Newsom to approve the meeting minutes of October 15, 2014. Approved by Board Chair Kite, Board Vice-Chair Maceo and Board members Brown, Fleming and Newsom. Board member Brewer abstained. Board member Classen absent.

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

The first 4 (four) speakers signed up prior to the calling of the meeting to order are allowed a three-minute allotment each to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.  
There was no citizen communication.

#### **D. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

AIA and PDRD's City Arborist Program hosting "Tree Talk" at 1204 Woodland on November 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. This quarterly meeting is intended to discuss the tree benefits and challenges of incorporating trees within conceptual development plans and during construction activities.

#### **E. URBAN FORESTER EXECUTIVE LIAISON REPORT** – Angela Hanson, Urban Forester, including:

- Austin Urban Forest Plan Implementation Monthly Update. Presentation given.
- Monthly Notification: Removal of protected size trees on parkland that constitute an imminent public safety risk. Presentation given.
- Update on migration of the Urban Forestry Office. Update given.
- Update -- Public Works Department. No presentation given.

#### **F. ACTION ITEM BRIEFINGS**

1. Briefing on City of Austin Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Presenter: Justice Jones, Austin Fire Department -- to be placed on December 17, 2014 agenda.
2. Discuss meeting dates and meeting location for calendar year 2015. Presenter: Chris Kite, UFB Chair. Agenda item discussed.
3. Review draft resolution to require the use of green infrastructure and sustainability incentives within the development of CodeNext. Presenter: Board Member Brewer. Agenda item discussed.
4. Future Urban Forest Grant Program project proposal. Presenter: Allison Orr, Forklift Danceworks. Agenda item discussed.
5. Discussion on *Protecting and Retaining Trees: A Guide for Municipalities and Counties in North Carolina*. Presenter: UFB Board Vice-Chair Maceo. Agenda item discussed.

#### **G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

1. Make recommendation on City of Austin Community Wildfire Protection Plan. To be placed on December 17, 2014 agenda.
2. Approve meeting dates and meeting location for calendar year 2015.  
Motion made by Board Vice-Chair Maceo, seconded by Board member Fleming to approve the meeting dates as presented with the exception of changing the January 21, 2015 date to January 28, 2015 and meetings will remain at Northwest Recreation Center. Approved by Board Chair Kite, Board Vice-Chair Maceo, and Board members Brewer, Brown, Fleming and Newsom. Board member Classen absent.
3. Approve draft resolution to require the use of green infrastructure and sustainability incentives within the development of CodeNext. Presenter: Board Member Brewer.  
Motion made by Board member Fleming, seconded by Board member Brown to accept the resolution as presented. Discussion ensued. Motion amended by Board Member Fleming, seconded by Board member Brown to accept the resolution with changes discussed. Final Resolution attached at end of these minutes.

4. Make recommendation to approve Future Urban Forest Grant Program project proposal.  
Motion made by Board member Fleming, seconded by Board member Brown to approve the grant for the full \$15,000 with the additional requirement that the choreography include an outreach component that literally engages the audience in the care and preservation of the urban forest. Approved by Board Chair Kite, Board Vice-Chair Maceo, and Board members Brewer, Brown and Fleming. Board member Newsom opposed. Board member Classen absent. Motion approved.
5. Action on *Protecting and Retaining Trees: A Guide for Municipalities and Counties in North Carolina*.  
Presenter: UFB Board Vice-Chair Maceo.  
No action taken. Working group to be formed of Board Vice-Chair Maceo, Board member Brown and Environmental Board member.

#### **H. BRIEFINGS – 10 Minute Limit For Each Briefing**

1. University of Texas student project presentations.  
Presentation on Alternative Sidewalk Solutions given by UT students Taylor Banfield, Ryan Lohmann and Antonio Ramirez.  
Presentation on Relationship Between Street Tree Shade and Street Pavement given by UT students Molly Coffman, Brian Landry and Noah McIlhon.
2. Austin Energy Line Clearance Monthly Update – October 2014. Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent, Austin Energy.  
Presentation given.
3. City Arborist Program Tree Preservation and Replenishment Monthly Update October 2014. Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department.  
Presentation given.
4. City Arborist Program Heritage Tree Report – October 2014. Presenter: Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department.  
Presentation given.
6. Update from Treaty Oak Task Force Working Group. Presenter: Patrick Brewer.  
Update given.

#### **I. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

December -- Briefing on City of Austin Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Presenter: Justice Jones, Austin Fire Department  
February -- Update from Treaty Oak Task Force Working Group. Presenter: Patrick Brewer.

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Kite adjourned the meeting at 8:30P.M.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 (four) days before the meeting date. Please call Robert Clawson at the Parks and Recreation Department, at 978-2600, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Urban Forestry Board, please contact Angela Hanson at [angela.hanson@austintexas.gov](mailto:angela.hanson@austintexas.gov) or by phone at 974-9551.



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

URBAN FORESTRY Board

Recommendation #: 20141119-G03 – CodeNext

WHEREAS, environmental protection and access to nature are critical to the community of Austin, Texas; and

WHEREAS, there are Imagine Austin policies encouraging green infrastructure elements including urban forests, rain gardens, green street, etc.; and

WHEREAS, environmental concerns for the future of Austin include drought, pollution and air quality, urban heat island, flooding, and climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE,

The Urban Forestry Board recommends that the City of Austin adopt an ecological systems-based approach to CodeNext to develop a code that requires and incentivizes the integration of green infrastructure into the environments the new code will seek to encourage.

AND, that the City of Austin ensure the CodeNext contractor's scope and team includes a solid emphasis on green infrastructure protection and sustainability.

**Date of Approval:** November 19, 2014

**Record of the vote:** **For:** (6) Board members Kite, Maceo, Brewer, Brown, Fleming, Newsom

**Against:** (0)

**Absent:** (1) Board member Classen

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Clawson  
Staff Liaison  
Urban Forestry Board

