



URBAN FORESTRY TREE COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday June 7, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

If you choose to use the WebEx platform:

- 1) Go to www.webex.com
- 2) Click the “join” button on the top right side of the screen
- 3) Enter Meeting ID#: 2308 577 4854
- 4) Enter password: Treecomm6-7

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-415-655-0001
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 2308 577 4854

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance (Roll Call)
3. Acceptance of Minutes for the (Roll Call) – April 12, 2023 & May 3, 2023
4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at Worcestertrees@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Worcestertrees@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.
5. Public Participation – Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Urban Forestry Tree Commission meetings. To partake in the “Public Participation” section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Officer Manny Familia Way Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the WebEx application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user you may dial *3.

6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)
 7. Old Business
 - Solar Access (Ted Conna)
 8. New Business
 - Newton Ave North Tree Issues
 - Planning and Regulatory Services
 - Question regarding Tree Canopy Cover in New Construction
 - Question regarding tree planting in Parking Lots
 9. Date of Next Meeting:
 - September 6, 2023 (Need date Change)
 - October 4, 2023 (Need date Change) Maybe 9-27-23
 - November 1, 2023
 - December 6, 2023
 - January 17, 2024
 - February 28, 2024
 - March 20, 2024
 - April 3, 2024
 - May 1, 2024
 - June 5, 2024
 8. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)
-



URBAN FORESTRY TREE COMMISSION **MINUTES**

Wednesday April 12, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

If you choose to use the WebEx platform:

- 1) Go to www.webex.com
- 2) Click the “join” button on the top right side of the screen
- 3) Enter Meeting ID#: 2311 280 2081
- 4) Enter password: Treecomm4-12

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-415-655-0001
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 2311 280 2081

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – at 6:11 PM
2. Attendance (Roll Call)
 - a. Commissioners Present:
 - i. Joy Winbourne
 - ii. Robin Karoway-Waterhouse
 - iii. Kristin Wobbe
 - b. Administration Present:
 - i. Robert C. Antonelli, Assistant Commissioner
 - ii. Brian Breveleri, Forestry Supervisor
 - iii. Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant III
3. Acceptance of Minutes for the (Roll Call) – March 22, 2023

- a. Commissioner Karoway-Waterhouse made a motion to accept the minutes. Second by Commissioner Wobbe. All were in favor. Motion was approved 3 – 0.
4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at Worcestertrees@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Worcestertrees@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.
5. Public Participation – Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Urban Forestry Tree Commission meetings. To partake in the “Public Participation” section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Officer Manny Familia Way Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the WebEx application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user, you may dial *3.
6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)
5. Old Business
 - NA
6. New Business
 - Solar Access (Ted Conna)
7. Date of Next Meeting:
 - May 3, 2023
 - June 7, 2023
 - September 6, 2023
 - October 4, 2023
 - November 1, 2023
 - December 6, 2023
 - January 17, 2024 (New Date)
 - February 28, 2024– New date
 - March 20, 2024– New date
 - April 3, 2024– New date
 - May 1, 2024– New date
 - June 5, 2024– New date

7. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. General:

- Urban Forestry Master Plan Update
 - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli informed the Commission there would be a draft of the Urban Forestry Master Plan going to the City Council for April 25th meeting for the May 3rd & 4th Public Hearings, and to the Parks Commission as another method of review. He explained that the city is working with Davey Resource Group in getting public input via public meetings. There will also be some type of survey, where they can look at the master plan and send back comments. He also explained they're looking to try to get the baseline to get the format built so Mr. Breveleri, staff, as well as himself can work with Davey Resource Group on those looking to try to match those up with insert requirements with general practices in the urban forestry world on what ISA mass arborist trying to use all those resources and connect those items into our best management practices.
 - Public Meeting May 3, 2023 (Part of the Urban Forestry Tree Commission Agenda)
 - Public Meeting May 4, 2023 (Part of the Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda)
 - Commissioner Karoway-Waterhouse asked how long the public would have to respond. Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained they would have 3 weeks, which would give time to make any changes to the document.
 - Commissioner Karoway-Waterhouse asked how they will be notifying the public that is going to be ready and that they can comment. Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that he would be working with the City Council to put it on the calendar. Also, will work the City Manager's Office to send out a press release, as well as using the Customer Service 311 and City Manager's social media.
 - Mr. Ted Conna suggested the Department of Sustainability's email newsletter.
- Door Hanger – Commissioner Karoway-Waterhouse suggested some changes to the door hanger which she would email Assistant Commissioner Antonelli.
- Tree Commission attending neighborhood meetings – Assistant Commissioner Antonelli provided the Urban Commission with a list of neighborhood meetings. There was a discussion between Assistant Commissioner Antonelli and the Urban Commission regarding goals of attending these meetings and best ways to benefit from them.
- Tree replacement policy
 - Request Only
 - Mandated replacement
- Neighborhood Based Urban Heat Risk Assessment - NA
- Worcester Now | Next online survey
 - NA
- Green Worcester Advisory Committee
 - NA
- Planting –
 - Spring 2023 Planting - NA
- Customer Service Update
 - Customer Service Contact Information 508-929-1300 &/or 311
- Street Resurfacing Opportunities & Challenges – NA
- Zoning Ordinance Discussion
- Worcester Ordinance Relative to the Protection of Public Trees
- Partnerships –
 - New England Botanical Garden @ Tower Hill - NA
- Grant Applications –
 - NA
- Economic Development Initiatives –
 - NA
- Forestry Vandalism & Graffiti –

- NA
- Donations –
 - NA
- Forestry Operations –
 - Tree City USA – Submitted
 - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - Arbor Day – April 28, 2023 – Assistant Commissioner Antonelli extended and invite to the Urban Forestry Commission
- Budget – Operational & Capital – NA
 - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
- Misc.
- Mr. Ted Conna presented his proposal on Solar Access. The Urban Forestry Commission had comments, Mr. Conna addressed the comments. Assistant Commissioner explained he wanted to get more community input on this item.
- Date of next meeting – May 03, 2023
- Commissioner Karoway-Waterhouse made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Wobbe. All were in favor. 3 – 0 Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

A copy of this full meeting will be available to view and listen to at:

www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes



URBAN FORESTRY TREE COMMISSION **MINUTES**

Wednesday May 03, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

If you choose to use the WebEx platform:

- 1) Go to www.webex.com
- 2) Click the “join” button on the top right side of the screen
- 3) Enter Meeting ID#: 2308 592 0933
- 4) Enter password: Treecomm5-3

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-415-655-0001
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 2308 592 0933

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – at 6:10 PM
2. Attendance (Roll Call)
 - **Commissioners Present:**
 - Alexander Elton
 - Robin Karoway-Waterhouse
 - Joseph Mogel
 - Joy Winbourne
 - Kristin Wobbe
 - **Administration Present:**
 - Robert C. Antonelli, Assistant Commissioner
 - Brian Breveleri, Forestry Supervisor
 - Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant III

3. Acceptance of Minutes for the (Roll Call) – March 22, 2023
 - Commissioner Karoway-Waterhouse made a motion to accept the minutes. Second by Commissioner Wobbe. All were in favor. Motion was approved 3 – 0.
4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at Worcestertrees@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Worcestertrees@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.
5. Public Participation – Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Urban Forestry Tree Commission meetings. To partake in the “Public Participation” section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Officer Manny Familia Way Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the WebEx application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user, you may dial *3.
6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)
7. Old Business
 - Solar Access (Ted Conna)
8. New Business
 - The Urban Forestry Master Plan which can be found here: [Trees in the City - Right Tree, Right Place | City of Worcester, MA \(worcesterma.gov\)](#)
 - The Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Inflation Reduction Act Notice of Funding Opportunity which can be found here: [Urban Forests | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](#)
9. Date of Next Meeting:
 - June 7, 2023
 - September 6, 2023
 - October 4, 2023
 - November 1, 2023
 - December 6, 2023
 - January 17, 2024 (New Date)
 - February 28, 2024– New date
 - March 20, 2024– New date
 - April 3, 2024– New date
 - May 1, 2024– New date
 - June 5, 2024– New date

10. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. General:

- Assistant Commissioner Antonelli gave a report of the success of the Arbor Day event at University Park.
 - Urban Forestry Master Plan Review
 - Public Meeting May 4, 2023 (Part of the Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda)
 - Kerry Gray, Principal Consultant from Davey Resource Group gave the Presentation on the Urban Forestry Master Plan
 - To view a draft of the Urban Forestry Master Plan please go to:
www.worcesterma.gov/parks/Trees
 - After the presentation:
 - Ms. Evelyn Hurwitz shared her thoughts on the Urban Forestry Master Plan.
The bold vision and urgency.
 - After Ms. Hurwitz there were discussions on:
 - Proactive Management Program vs Reactive Management Program
 - Type of feedback requested in survey
 - Grant applications & funding
 - Best Management Program
 - Planting plans & locations
 - Creative solutions for helping districts with smaller amount of trees
 - DCR planting program (private properties)
 - Collaborating with Sustainability to plant more trees in house dense areas
 - Urban Tree Canopy
 - Forestry outreach to teach people on the benefit of trees
 - Having identified goals
 - How to quantify tree benefits and tree replacement values
 - Adding more context on how a decision or calculation was made
 - A lifetime benefit of a single tree
 - Policies and zoning
 - Resources in the City that can contribute to the research
 - Define what is adequate canopy
 - Tree Boxes, proper street tree boxes
 - Collaboration with other city departments
 - The value of trees in public physical and mental health
- Door Hanger - NA
- Tree Commission attending neighborhood meetings - NA
- Tree replacement policy
 - Request Only
 - Mandated replacement
- Neighborhood Based Urban Heat Risk Assessment - NA
- Worcester Now | Next online survey
 - NA
- Green Worcester Advisory Committee
 - NA

- Planting –
 - Spring 2023 Planting - NA
- Customer Service Update
 - Customer Service Contact Information 508-929-1300 &/or 311
- Street Resurfacing Opportunities & Challenges – NA
- Zoning Ordinance Discussion - NA
- Worcester Ordinance Relative to the Protection of Public Trees - NA
- Partnerships –
 - New England Botanical Garden @ Tower Hill - NA
- Grant Applications –
 - NA
- Economic Development Initiatives –
 - NA
- Forestry Vandalism & Graffiti –
 - NA
- Donations –
 - NA
- Forestry Operations –
 - Tree City USA – Submitted
 - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - Arbor Day – April 28, 2023
- Budget – Operational & Capital – NA
 - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
- Misc.
- Date of next meeting – June 7, 2023
- Commissioner Wobbe made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Karoway-Waterhouse. All were in favor. 5 – 0 Meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

A copy of this full meeting will be available to view and listen to at:

www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. General:

- Urban Forestry Master Plan Review
 - Update on status – final document is not currently available
 - The Urban Forestry Master Plan which can be found here: NA
[Trees in the City - Right Tree, Right Place | City of Worcester, MA \(worcesterma.gov\)](https://www.worcesterma.gov/forestry/forestry-operations/trees-in-the-city-right-tree-right-place)
 - The Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Inflation Reduction Act Notice of Funding Opportunity which can be found here: Update
[Urban Forests | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/land-conservation/urban-forests)
- Door Hanger - NA
- Tree Commission attending neighborhood meetings - NA
- Tree replacement policy - Update
 - Request Only
 - Mandated replacement
- Neighborhood Based Urban Heat Risk Assessment - NA
- Worcester Now | Next online survey
 - NA
- Green Worcester Advisory Committee
 - NA
- Planting –
 - Spring 2023 Planting - Update
- Customer Service Update
 - Customer Service Contact Information 508-929-1300 &/or 311
- Street Resurfacing Opportunities & Challenges – NA
- Zoning Ordinance Discussion - NA
- Worcester Ordinance Relative to the Protection of Public Trees - NA
- Partnerships –
 - New England Botanical Garden @ Tower Hill - NA
- Grant Applications –
 - NA
- Economic Development Initiatives –
 - NA
- Forestry Vandalism & Graffiti –
 - NA
- Donations –
 - NA
- Forestry Operations –
 - Tree City USA – Awarded
 - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - Arbor Day –
 - April 26, 2024
 - April 27, 2023 – Festival

- Budget – Operational & Capital – NA
 - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – Update
 - Capital Improvement Program – Update
 - City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
- Misc.



The City of
WORCESTER

Department of Public Works & Parks
Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division
Forestry Operations

50 Officer Manny Familia Way, Worcester, MA 01605
P | 508-799-1190 F | 508-799-1293
Worcestertrees@worcesterma.gov

URBAN FORESTRY TREE COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday June 7, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

Virtual with WebEx

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

GENERAL



To: Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner, DPW&P, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division and Urban Forestry Tree Commission

CC: Eric Batista, Worcester City Manager; Kerry Gray, Davey Resource Group, Inc.; Stephen Rolle, DTM; Peter Dunn, EOOED, Michelle Smith, DPRS

From: John Odell, Chief, Department of Sustainability & Resilience

Date: May 16, 2023

Re: **Comments from the Department of Sustainability & Resilience on the Draft Urban Forestry Master Plan**

The Green Worcester Plan (GWP) calls for the Urban Forestry Master Plan (UFMP) to be a cornerstone in creating connected green and blue spaces. The GWP states that “*planting trees to expand the city’s tree canopy is among the most effective sustainability and climate change adaptation actions that a city can take.*” The Department of Sustainability and Resilience (DSR) supports the UFMP’s dedication to conducting a comprehensive street tree survey across Worcester. However, we feel that the UFMP can be further strengthened if considered the following recommendations:

1) Propose Statement of a Vision That Inspires

- A vision is what inspires action and progress, even when at a present moment, the path to it may not be clear¹. We feel that UFMP needs such a vision. One example is based on the vision proposed by Evelyn Herwitz, Green Worcester Advisory Committee member:

By 2040, Worcester will be home to a healthy urban forest for all, with an equitable distribution of climate-resilient trees, a growing canopy shading heat islands, and cooling corridors that connect our neighborhoods. We will foster public investment, public-private partnerships, and robust community involvement to maximize tree plantings and best-practice stewardship of our urban forest, to ensure a sustainable and resilient environment for generations to come.

2) Increase Specificity of Action Steps, including:

- Increase the total tree canopy of Worcester so that on average 50% of the city is shaded by planting 40,000ⁱⁱ new trees by 2050. This canopy expansion would build on the draft Plan’s existing equity-based efforts to plant new trees in environmental justice areas first.

3) Provide Robust Resources for Stewardship, Transparency and Accountability

- The goals and actions in the draft UFMP are numerous and significant. Adding to the existing tree canopy will expand these goals and actions. We believe it is imperative to discuss in depth the level of internal and external resources needed to allow for this implementation including community engagement, cross-departmental teamwork, tree data management, pursuit of external funding sources, stakeholder collaboration, and more. We recommend a new section is created in the plan to showcase the vision and to explore the needed city structures and resources to support work that protects and promotes the city’s Urban Forest.

¹ Similar to the ambitious Green Worcester Plan goal for Worcester to become the greenest mid-sized city in America by 2050.



ⁱⁱ A recommendation of the 2022 Heat Risk Assessment Study. Increasing from 35,000 (per Heat Risk Vulnerability Assessment) to 40,000 in order to account for inevitable tree loss of new plantings.



May 16, 2023

Rob Antonelli
Worcester Parks & Recreation
50 Officer Manny Familia Way
Worcester, MA 01605

Via email: antonellir@worcesterma.gov

Re: Worcester Draft Urban Forestry Master Plan Public Comment

Dear Mr. Antonelli and the Worcester Urban Forestry Master Planning Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit, on behalf of Mass Audubon, the following comments on the draft Worcester Urban Forestry Master Plan (UFMP) for your consideration. These comments were compiled by Erica Holm, Urban Ecologist, and reviewed by Heidi Ricci, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Deb Cary, Community Advocacy and Engagement Manager, and Jenn Madson, Central Regional Director.

As you know, Mass Audubon is the largest nature-based conservation organization in New England. Founded in 1896 by two women, Harriet Hemenway and Minna Hall, who fought for the protection of birds, Mass Audubon carries on their legacy by focusing on the greatest challenges facing the environment today: the loss of biodiversity, inequitable access to nature, and climate change.

Forests and trees play important roles in addressing all three of these priority challenges. As recognized in the draft Plan, Worcester's urban forest provides many important benefits, including carbon storage and sequestration, cooling and shade, absorption and filtration of stormwater, access to nature, more attractive and livable communities, and public health and social benefits.

In addition to the specific comments on the Plan below, we recommend:

- 1) That the UFMP explicitly address the role of development and redevelopment projects and the regulations and permitting requirements for those projects. We recommend that the City make a commitment to adopting rules that require maximum retention of existing trees on development sites; strengthen requirements for planting **and maintenance** of new trees within development plans; and payments into a tree fund to help offset the unavoidable losses of tree cover due to development. Other communities have adopted such regulations¹.
- 2) That the City of Worcester consider adopting a policy regarding parcels of land with significant tree cover (greater than 40%) which evaluates their climate resiliency attributes prior to development. The balance of conservation and development within these parcels is critical to reducing the impacts of climate change.

We applaud the City of Worcester for undertaking this planning process.

¹ <https://www.mapc.org/resource-library/tree-regulations/>



1) Strengths of the Plan

- Describes direct benefits of trees and urban forestry concepts throughout
- Provides details on historic and current operating information and degree to which other plans intersect with urban forestry
- States the needs for a comprehensive tree canopy assessment, additional planting, proactive tree maintenance, and increased staffing
- Recognizes major problems with suggestions for potential solutions

2) Areas for Improvement

- **Prioritize the Recommendations, reduce overlap/redundancy wherever possible, and expedite action via an Implementation Plan.**
 - i. Do not wait for the urban tree canopy (UTC) assessment to be completed to begin work on the ground. Doing an UTC assessment will make comparisons of urban forestry efforts over time comparable to other cities, and is necessary, but should not prevent action on other Action Steps or Recommendations. It should also not supersede the lived experience of residents in Worcester's environmental justice communities – who often already know where trees and care are needed.
 - ii. Create fewer new strategic plans in favor of expediting action in urban forestry. Do not split into multiple lengthy documents – have one visioning UFMP, paired with one urban forestry implementation plan that covers planting, risk management, roles, includes BMPs, etc. (p. 52).
 - iii. Does this plan cover a specific number of years or other timeframe? The City of Boston's 2022 Urban Forest Plan covers 20 years.
 - iv. Consider using the SMART goals framework and creating checklists within an annual implementation plan.
 - v. A 2022 [article](#) on Portland, Oregon's urban forest showed a 1% decrease in tree canopy for the first time in 50 years. Portland has had [multiple urban forest management plans](#), released in 1995 and 2004. An Urban Forest Action Plan followed in 2007 which has Implementation Updates released almost every year since. Even communities that have a long history of urban tree planning and implementation struggle to attain a net gain in canopy. It is critical to set clear goals and track progress through this plan..
- **Use consistent, accurate, well-defined terms and improve formatting in specific places.**
 - i. Provide a glossary defining tree, urban forest, types of pruning, and other jargon or words that have variable meaning and possible interpretations.
 - ii. When talking about street trees only, do not interchange the word “publicly-managed trees” or just “trees” alone (p. 27).
 - iii. Remove “formerly known as Gypsy moth” – the name was changed for a social justice reason, so there is no need to include the former name, especially when the Latin binomial is provided (p. 33).
 - iv. Update how Mass Audubon is referred to in the plan for correctness and consistency throughout (p. 59, 61 incorrect).
 - v. Charts starting on p. 42 are too difficult to interpret – use the same shade to fill in boxes, have the boxes have a check mark or borders showing, or provide a legend. There are some text formatting issues on p. 45.

- **Focus on recommendation number four, to strengthen the regulations that would ensure tree protection.**
 - i. If Worcester has a tree protection ordinance created in 1761, why does it say that there are no protection regulations outside of Ch. 87 (p. 44)? Boston is working on a tree ordinance right now, and there are countless examples across the country that could be models for Worcester.
 - ii. Increase awareness of statewide and regional urban forestry legislation efforts (e.g. [Municipal Reforestation bill](#), and the successes of the [Greening the Gateway Cities Program](#)).
- **Address inequity and environmental justice more thoroughly.**
- **Focus on both tree planting and maintenance. Mature tree preservation provides greater climate resilience benefits now than tree planting initiatives.**
 - i. Engage residents in mature tree preservation
 - ii. Focus on early tree care with an equitable workforce development component. Consider partnering with nonprofit organizations, e.g. Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook residential intern program, Tower Hill's summer program, and Worcester Green Corps.
- **Address urban forestry technical issues more thoroughly – most importantly -respond more comprehensively to opportunities outside of street trees.**
 - i. Natural areas, private land, parks and conservation land, and campuses (schoolyards, cemeteries, hospitals, etc.) contribute significantly to the urban forest – often to a much greater extent than street trees. Increase emphasis on the importance of understanding these pieces of the urban forest and actions that can be taken in partnership to steward them.
 - ii. Consider expediting development of a plan to treat or manage the 405 ash trees for emerald ash borer.
 - iii. Increase attention given to invasive and problematic tree species like Callery pear and Norway maple, which quickly invade natural areas and outcompete native species guilds.
 - iv. Add additional urban & community forester positions to the staff, rather than a single arborist. Urban foresters can evaluate and work on UFMP implementation planning, partnering with other urban foresters, and engaging the community where arborists do more of the technical tree care work and advisership.
- **Partner to request Inflation Reduction Act funds in the present and consider financial and workforce sustainability and feasibility far into the future.**

3) Working together - opportunities for collaboration with Mass Audubon

- Education and workforce development
- Support and collaboration on funding requests
- Interdisciplinary implementation of conservation science and education - tying urban forestry to wildlife, regional resilience, and public health

Mass Audubon's priorities include urban greening. We look forward to continuing to build our partnerships with, and within, the City of Worcester to improve access to nature and climate resiliency. The following summarizes some of our key priorities and resources that we offer in this shared endeavor:





- Mass Audubon has released an ambitious [Action Agenda](#) for 2021 – 2026 which includes significant investment in creation of new urban green spaces, facilitation of partnerships, and participation in equitable expansion of access and education in urban greenspace.
- Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, located in the heart of Worcester, has offered over 30 years of land stewardship, nature-based education, climate advocacy, and urban tree canopy benefits to a diverse community of constituents in surrounding Environmental Justice communities. Supporting more than 435 acres of land and 5 miles of trails, our team engages 17,000 community members, including more than 2,000 Worcester Public School youth each year. We hope to adopt implementation of this plan, and be included in Worcester's urban forestry considerations as a landowner, source of expertise, educator, and partner.
- Mass Audubon's Conservation Science department employs 15 senior-level ecologists, one solely focused on urban ecology, to advance natural resources education, practitionership, and ecological function of land across the state. Members of this team could be ideal to participate in and potentially build a citywide and regional practitioner group for urban forestry.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to the culmination of these efforts and are grateful for the opportunity to contribute.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer M. Madson".

Jennifer M. Madson
Regional Director, Central

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erica Holm".

Erica Holm
Urban Ecologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah D. Cary".

Deborah D. Cary,
Community Advocacy and
Engagement Manager

Cc: City Manager Eric Batista CityManager@worcesterma.gov





The City of
WORCESTER

To: Robert C. Antonelli Jr., Assistant Commissioner, DPW&P, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division and Urban Forestry Tree Commission

CC: Eric Batista, Worcester City Manager; Kerry Gray, Davey Resource Group, Inc.; Department of Sustainability & Resilience

From: Green Worcester Advisory Committee

Date: May 15, 2023

Re: **Comments from the Green Worcester Advisory Committee on the Draft Urban Forestry Master Plan**

Given the relevance of the Urban Forestry Master Plan (UFMP) to the Green Worcester Plan's goals, and as comments on the first publicly presented draft UFMP are due on May 16, 2023, the Green Worcester Advisory Committee's May 15, 2023 meeting agenda included the item "*Discussion on Draft Urban Forestry Master Plan.*"

In general, Green Worcester Advisory Committee members thought the draft Plan did a thorough job of assessing existing street trees. However, they also thought that the plan should go further with more specific and actionable goals, and should include a vision statement, in order to enable action without needing to wait for additional studies, as recommended in the draft Plan.

To that, the committee voted to endorse **Member Evelyn Herwitz's written statement** (Attachment A) which was previously presented during public comment period at the Urban Forestry Tree Commission meeting on May 3, 2023.

Additionally, the committee voted to submit the **following recommendation** for your consideration as the draft UFMP is further refined:

1. To recommend that the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) include better defined tree planting goals, consistent with the Green Worcester Plan (GWP) and the Heat Risk Assessment Study (Attachment B), with the goal to have a rapid, sustained increase in tree canopy cover. Ideally, the target should be a net gain of 2,000 trees per year to be consistent with the GWP and the Heat Risk Assessment Study.
2. To recommend that the UFMP give additional attention to the entire urban forest, beyond just street trees, or if that's not feasible for this plan, that the UFMP at least identify when and how the city will develop policies to preserve, protect, and grow the entire urban forest.
3. To recommend that the city/UFMP establish a goal of no-net-loss of trees for all street, sidewalk, and public and private development projects and begin to determine how to achieve it.
4. To recommend that the UFMP define the goal that new and existing street, sidewalk, and public development work should always include preserving and planting trees wherever feasible.
5. To recommend the UFMP define as city policy that the city will not plant future shade trees in front of solar collectors and will not grant permits for solar collectors that would be significantly shaded by existing or planned shade trees—just as we would not plant trees that conflict with other utilities or street lighting.

Sincerely,

Mary Knittle, Chair of the Green Worcester Advisory Committee

Feedback on Worcester's Draft Urban Forest Master Plan

Worcester Urban Forestry Tree Commission, May 3, 2023

I'm Evelyn Herwitz, and I live in District 1. Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts about the draft Urban Forestry Master Plan. The Plan is a huge accomplishment, a key step in realizing the Urban Forestry goals of the Green Worcester Plan. I commend Mr. Antonelli and his team along with Davey Resource Group for giving us a very clear picture of the status of our City's urban forest, as well as some foundational goals and recommendations for growing our canopy and better caring for our trees. I also appreciated that you cited my book, *Trees at Risk*, as end-note #1. As I was reviewing the historical timeline, I thought, that looks familiar!

The plan confirms, with data and other research, what we all know to be true: our City's trees need help. I enthusiastically support the recommendations to shift from a reactive to proactive approach to managing and protecting our urban forest, as well as the importance of doing so with a priority on equity, sustainability, and climate resilience. We now have a huge opportunity to significantly improve our efforts with the US Forestry Service Urban & Community Forestry IRA grant program. Time is of the essence, as the deadline for grant applications is June 1.

Here's what I think will help to strengthen the Plan, which should form the basis for the grant application, and improve our chances of getting much-needed resources for its implementation:

Vision: What We Want

While the plan is based on adaptive management principles and does a good job of explaining what we have and how we're currently doing, it needs more clarity, imagination, and specificity regarding what we want and how to get there. In particular, the plan needs a vision that guides the goals and action steps. I offer the following:

In ten years, Worcester will be home to a healthy urban forest for all, with an equitable distribution of climate-resilient trees, a growing canopy shading heat islands, and cooling corridors that connect our neighborhoods. We will foster public investment, public-private partnerships, and robust community involvement to maximize tree plantings and best-practice stewardship of our urban forest, to ensure a sustainable and resilient environment for generations to come.

Action Plan: How to Get There

Current language in the plan includes goals and recommendations. I think we need a greater emphasis on action, sooner than later. A few observations:

- While the Plan recommends a comprehensive urban tree canopy assessment, to pick up where the Plan leaves off, **waiting another two years for the results before defining planting priorities is too long.** We already have ample data from Clark University and WPI studies, the recent heat island study by Urban Climate Consulting, American Forests Tree Equity Score data and other readily available resources to set priorities. We all know that **Green Island and the City's other core neighborhoods need more trees to mitigate heat and help control flooding.** Now is the time to find viable planting locations and work with the neighborhoods to build support for planting and maintenance. The comprehensive tree canopy assessment can inform plantings as we move forward, but we have no more time waste, given the

increase in severe weather events. I also believe that **we have the data and expertise in this community to help us identify viable planting sites and neighborhood canopy cover goals** without waiting for the tree canopy assessment. This should be a Year One priority.

- **Trees and their care need to be priorities in all economic development**, from site planning through construction and after the buildings are completed and occupied. This should be made explicit in the Plan and linked to zoning ordinance reviews, the site permitting process, and any updates to the City's tree ordinance.
- **We need to plant more trees than we remove.** A 1:1 planting replacement goal will continue to result in a net loss of tree canopy, given the many stresses on young trees in an urban setting. I urge you to consider at least 2:1, and even 3:1, as a goal. If we are able to secure federal funding, we can be much more visionary and aggressive with planting diverse species in the right places, while also thinking more creatively about incentives for private land owners to plant trees on their property and ways to overcome resistance to planting and caring for trees.
- **We need to think boldly about what kind of urban forestry department our City needs** to meet the demands of climate change and pressures on our urban forest. The plan makes a modest proposal for additional staffing, and I'm aware of current budgetary constraints on the City. But the USFS grant provides an opportunity to rethink the size and organizational structure of Forestry, so that we have the people and funding support in place to become truly proactive.
- As you address these points and other feedback, it is essential that a **subcommittee of the Urban Forestry Tree Commission work directly with consultants and City staff on any revisions of the Plan.** We have some real expertise on the Commission that will be of benefit to all involved, and your active involvement in shaping the Master Plan is needed.

Edward Winslow Lincoln, who was the 19th century mastermind behind our many green streets, Elm Park, and our municipal parks system, had a vision of shaded streets and ample green spaces where citizens could find respite from a rapidly industrializing city and enjoy the public health benefits that trees provide. As I read through 150 years of Tree Commission reports for my book, I found his words and relentless championing of trees to be an inspiration. We would not have the urban forest that we have today without his visionary efforts.

We are at a crucial point in our City's history, now, as temperatures rise and pressures on our urban environment intensify. We need an inspiring vision and aggressive action plan to meet that challenge. We are blessed with dedicated public servants, as well as expertise and enthusiasm among members of our community who want to help to ensure we have a sustainable, resilient urban forest for the 21st century. Let's go.

Evelyn Herwitz
21 Chippewa Road
evelynherwitz@gmail.com

Antonelli, Robert C. Jr., Parks Asst. Comm.

From: Ted D. Conna [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 5:00 PM
To: WorcesterTrees; Antonelli, Robert C. Jr., Parks Asst. Comm.
Cc: Odell, John W.; Zhaurova, Luba
Subject: Urban Forest Master Plan comments (1-7) and page-by-page suggested edits (8)

Caution: This email came from outside the City of Worcester. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are sure you recognize the sender and you know the contents are safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this planning process for Worcester's urban forest. The draft UFMP is a good, fine-grained treatment of where we are with regard to street trees, and what is needed to improve upon the status quo. I agree that Forestry needs more funding, staff, and resources to do the job we ask of them, and I would support giving them more than the draft plan asks for. But this plan needs a much bolder vision for Worcester's trees.

1) Need more aggressive tree planting goals

The Green Worcester Plan calls for an increase in tree cover to mitigate climate change, and the recent Heat Island Risk Assessment Study suggested a need for a net gain of 30-35,000 trees citywide, which is about the same scale as the ALB reforestation program.

On p. 53, we see that in the past four years, we removed just a few more trees than we planted, for a tiny net loss. What we need is a big, sustained net gain. I agree that a no-net-loss policy should apply to private development projects and to city street and sidewalk work. But there should also be a bold plan to have a target net gain of about 2,000 trees per year citywide, which would get us to 35,000 new trees in 15-20 years.

2) Need to expand focus beyond just street trees

We need an expanded focus, because as the plan makes clear, we'd be lucky if even 20% of those new trees can be planted on city rights-of-way. I understand that street trees are what we know the most about, and that the city has less control over trees on private land. But here are some things that could be expanded upon:

The draft plan mentions the need to strengthen tree protection measures, which is good. It would be a stronger plan if it went into some more detail about that. The city of Providence's Significant Tree Ordinance is one example. Members of the Urban Forestry Tree Commission could be a resource for other possible policies and ordinances to protect trees.

The draft plan also mentions the need to develop tree planting standards and requirements for developers, including for parking lots--also good. There are many ways to accomplish this, and again, it would be good to flesh it out a bit more.

The draft plan could also consider how the city could encourage natural reforestation in certain places--there may be mowed fields or lawns on park, school, or private land that could be allowed to grow in with trees--and trees do plant themselves, for free! Some of these sites could also be planted as small orchards, providing a new local food source as well as tree cover.

Community partnerships will be important here. For example, many school sites have trees, and getting students involved in learning about and caring for the trees would be a win-win-win for students-schools-community.

3) Common sense measures should be expedited

The plan calls for 5 or 6 additional plans and studies, which is fine, but there is common sense progress we could make right now, with this plan, without waiting for further study.

A canopy study may be helpful, but the lack of it is not the limiting factor in the challenging urban neighborhoods that need trees the most. We should begin planting trees on treeless streets asap, and the draft plan should address how we can overcome the obstacles to that.

I've advocated for preserving solar access, and I'm pleased to see it is on the city's radar, but we don't need to wait two years to consider that. The draft plan should define a zero-cost policy that we don't plant large shade trees in front of solar collectors, just as we shouldn't plant them where they block streetlights, on top of utilities, etc. And we should avoid siting utilities and solar collectors that might conflict with existing or planned trees.

4) No net loss of trees for street, sidewalk, public and private development projects

The draft plan should define a goal of no-net-loss of trees for all street, sidewalk, and public and private development projects, and begin to determine how to achieve it--since that may not always be possible onsite and may require offsets elsewhere.

5) Net gain for public development projects should be a priority

The draft plan should define the goal that new and existing street, sidewalk, and public development work should always include preserving and planting trees wherever feasible.

6) Quantify more of the financial benefits of planting trees

The draft plan attempts this, but many of us think the argument could be strengthened. In January, the Green Worcester Advisory Committee was told of a NYC study showing \$5-6 in benefits for every \$1 spent on trees.

7) Role of Urban Forestry Tree Commission

The UFTC is a valuable resource, and the plan would benefit if it better defined the UFTC's role and how the city can take better advantage of the expertise there.

8) Suggested edits

p.7, 22, and 70

To recommendation #5, please add clarification that this includes maintaining adequately sized tree boxes at all times.

p.19

Worcester's street trees alone sequester 182 tons each year and store an equivalent of \$3,008,412

of carbon.

I find this statement confusing in a few ways. To my knowledge, a healthy mature tree removes about 48 lb/year of carbon from the air, and if they were all healthy-mature, that would calculate to 555 tons per year for all the street trees. I understand that number needs to be downgraded because young/sick/old trees don't remove as much carbon, but downgrading by 2/3 seems excessive. And going from 182 tons stored/year to \$3M stored/cumulative-to-date is changing too many variables at once. Including the intermediate step of tons stored/cumulative-to-date would be clarifying. Finally, it would also be nice to have even a crude guesstimate of the tonnage and value of carbon removal by ALL of Worcester's trees--so as not to understate the value of the urban forest.

p.23

Consider moving this plan organization page so that it precedes p.10

p.27-28

8,494 planting sites were inventoried, but the plan really should explain how "planting site" is defined. Does it include only existing, empty tree boxes? Does it include any other potential sites without existing tree boxes? Are any such sites excluded due to obvious constraints like interference with utilities, street lighting, etc.?

p.28

Hard to believe we've gone from 15,500 trees in 2005 to 23,100 trees in 2022, with the ALB infestation in the middle of that. Is it possible the 2022 inventory was more complete?

p.30

maple (29%) exceeds industry guidelines
that a single genus should not make up more than 20% of the tree population
(Table 3).

But table 3 shows maple genus at 38%, which I assume is the correct number.

p.35

Street Tree Maintenance Needs

Each site assessed was assigned a maintenance need, indicating the type of tree work needed to improve tree health, mitigate defects, or grow the public urban forest (Figure 9). The most common primary maintenance need of inventoried sites is pruning, with 53% of established street trees needing routine pruning, 21% of young trees in need of training pruning, and 11% of trees in need of higher-priority (risk-based) pruning. Tree maintenance activities are prioritized based on risk and available resources with tree removals and high priority pruning addressed first before routine pruning, stump removal, and other activities

I would suggest rewording this for clarity and accuracy. As currently worded, it is incorrect. Here is my suggestion:

Each site assessed was assigned a maintenance need, indicating the type of tree work needed to improve tree health, mitigate defects, or grow the public urban

forest. **It is assumed that every tree should be on some type of pruning cycle** (Figure 9). The most common primary maintenance need of inventoried sites is pruning, with 53% of ~~established~~ **all street trees (generally, the established trees)** needing routine pruning, 21% of ~~young~~ **all trees (all the younger trees)** in need of training pruning, and ~~11%~~ **15%** of all trees **(generally, the older trees)** in need of higher-priority (risk-based) pruning. Tree maintenance activities are prioritized based on risk and available resources with tree removals and high priority pruning addressed first before routine pruning, stump removal, and other activities

p.45

The first and fifth bullet points are redundant, and could probably be reworded and/or combined.

p. 46-47

I find this analysis odd, and potentially unhelpful. I think beyond a certain level, the dollars-spent-per-tree metric becomes vulnerable to the perception that a larger number represents inefficiency and waste, and a smaller number is better. Dollars-spent-per-capita, or dollars-spent-per-street-mile, might be a better metric to use. I'd rather see more dollars spent on planting more new trees, but the dollars-spent-per-tree does not measure that. How about a comparison of net-tree-gain targets of Worcester vs. other cities?

p.54

For Worcester's public street and park trees the City should, at a minimum, strive to plant as many trees as it removes each year.

This really does not move the needle from the current status quo. Whether it's a more aggressive replacement ratio, or a target number for net gain of new trees, we need to aim higher here.

p.58

Chapter 12 - Streets and Sidewalks & Section 28 - Protection of Public Trees

I suggest removing the "&" and clarifying that Ch.12, Sect. 28 is a city ordinance enacted in 2009.

p.67

Interdepartmental Coordination. Good working relationships exist between DPW & Parks, Forestry Operations, and other City departments; however, communication typically occurs late in construction and design projects or when there is a conflict between trees and a City construction/infrastructure project. Improved communication and collaboration processes need to be established to ensure trees are considered early on during City projects.

Excellent to see this need highlighted. I think the plan would be stronger if this were fleshed out a bit more (which departments?, what types of projects?, what changes of protocol or jurisdiction would accomplish this goal?, etc.). I also think the need for better interdepartmental coordination should be elevated to the list of plan recommendations on page 7.

p.100

The Plan goals, recommendations, and actions were shared in Section 5. They focus on improving Worcester's urban forest through proactive planning, management, and engagement. And this section, Section 5, outlined ways...
The second "Section 5" is a typo. Should be Section 6.

p.107

Requires tree planting around and within parking lots X Chapter 12, Section 28 (i);

Requires tree plantings around new developments (see also trees in parking lots) X Chapter 12, Section 28 (i);

I think the reference to Sect. 28 (i) here might be wrong, unless it defines the tree warden's authority in relation to other regulations.

respectfully submitted,
Ted Conna
Green Worcester Advisory committee, District 4

[Redacted signature]

Pain is what you feel.
Suffering is what you think.

sent from my desktop, not my dumbphone

DPRS comments on the Draft Urban Forestry Master Plan:

General Comments:

We understand that the focus of this master plan was on street trees and parks, but it would be great if we could acknowledge the need to better manage our canopy on passive open space areas, trees on other city properties (e.g. schools) and canopy on private properties, as a need that while not included in the scope of this plan certainly warrants further investigation and planning for as an action item in the plan (feel free to co-assign it to Planning & Regulatory Services for action! These strategies are so important to further this effort to grow, protect, and maintain canopy health and we feel need to be more explicitly acknowledged as being an absent (i.e. out of scope) if they're not incorporated as strategies themselves – although I'd love for them to be explicit to-dos coming out of the plan (beyond the citywide UTC assessment).

Generally, the responsibility and action matrix should be discussed further for implementation reasonability before this is finalized – there are lots of things our office would like to, and likely should be, involved in implementing/supporting and I'm sure this is the case for others. This matrix really says "Forestry Operations" for everything with other departments referenced in a few places - but this is not something Forestry needs to do alone. This work can't occur in a silo to have the impact it needs to have and this implementation should not be Forestry's sole responsibility – that's way too much to carry alone! Many of these efforts need to be intertwined with the other departments work - who help enforce/implement and should also assist in development of those policies/changes – to be most effective. By collaborating on implementation, I think we end up with a product that hopefully helps promote our collective community goals as effectively as possible! Overall, I think we should revise this to reflect all relevant departmental partners needed to support each of these important efforts. While we're happy to offer specific suggestions (and we added explicit call outs where I felt it was absolutely necessary as a minimum), we think there's a lot more overlap and that we should discuss together. We did not look at priority due to time limits in our review but think this needs more collaboration and would love to collaborate on it! We would love to partner to think through implementation and our roles in supporting this important work!

Specific Comments:

1. Pg. 3, Executive Summary: "Worcester's urban forest — made up of a mosaic of trees growing along the city's streets and in parks and private landscapes"
 - a. Could we also include "open space" or "conservation land" in here as well given how many acres of forest these areas contain?
2. Page 4 – in the last sentence "the plan focuses primarily on Worcester's public trees", adding on: "on Parkland and within Public Rights-of-Ways" or "Public Shade Trees as defined by MGL" could clarify the scope of this study.
3. Page 11 – p1 in right margin "in includes trees growing along city streets, in city parks", and in yards and around businesses". It would be great to and "conservation lands", or "city property" so we're not excluding those?
4. Page 14 – There is a double period at the end of paragraph 1.

5. Page 19 – Middle column, last bolded sentence add “public” to “Worcester’s street trees...”
6. Page 21 – Left column, third to last sentence has a comma before it.
7. Page 22 – Recommendation 2 – add “maintenance” and “on all city owned properties” or is this trying to extend this elsewhere?

Recommendation 4 – add “including making changes to zoning and providing recommended species for select scenarios”.

Recommendation 7 – add “resilience”.

Can there be something about invasives more explicitly (pests and plants – like bittersweet, etc.) maybe revised 10 to add including pests, extreme weather, and invasive vegetation – unless this is intended to mean something else?

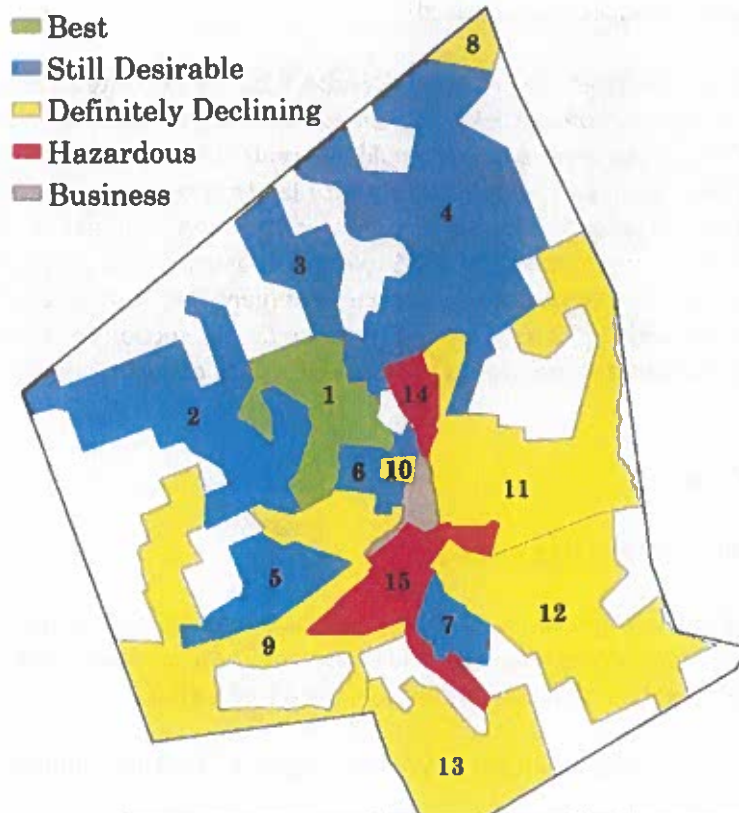
Add something about trees as green infrastructure?

8. Page 27 – include population under communities for context in graph?

Last paragraph - Is there a per mile density we should be aiming for to compare where we are to?

9. Page 28 – Can we call attention to what’s going on in District 4? It’s EJ characteristics (minority, low-income, LEP) and the area’s history of redlining are compounding issues that make investment to correct inequities a part of the work coming out of this plan. That goes hand in hand with taking about impervious surfaces in relationship to the districts to help explain challenges for planting (especially in D4) as to why this tree planting ratio is comparatively so low and – calling attention to this type of inequity should be an important function of this plan.

Here’s the map from this [Research Bureau report](#):



10. Page 30 – gold text – add % change?
11. Page 32 - Can you suggest the need for us to maintain a planting list to provide owners/developers with?
12. Page 33 – delete “council districts” at the end of the Oak wilt paragraph
13. Page 36/37 – Can you talk about capture vs. store and the benefits of young trees for capture and old for storing? Maybe add the number associated with an average tree for the costs shown in graph form to help folks understand the value of planting 1 tree?
14. Page 37 – will you also be recommending that the city better understand/inventory as appropriate non-park city properties (e.g. schools, conservation land, etc.)?
15. Page 41 – is this for the street trees, or what management and players are being referred to?
16. Page 42 – Can you add schools and other city facilities as needing inventories?
17. Page 43 – on coordination – I think one issue touched on is that information is not easily shared/available which compounds problems (e.g. we can’t see where shade trees are, or view their conditions – this should be in GIS so all of Worcester (city and not) can see the tree data). If we could improve ease of information sharing and create pathways to assure collaboration that would be great. We could use support in development of a planting list (what tree where!) for private property.

Why is funder engagement moderate – city council?

18. Pg. 44, Planning & Regulatory Services is mentioned as responsible for “Maintenance of Publicly-Owned Natural Areas” aka ConCom properties – with an assessed performance level of “Low”, given the lack of any forest management plans. It would be great if the recommendations could specifically acknowledge that we have no dedicated staff for land management and that any management that does occur is solely reactive and complaint driven. We’d like to see included the need to increase the capacity/resources for DPRS to conduct assessments and develop & implement management plans to improve our performance in managing 700+ acres of mostly forested area as a recommendation. (Although the recommendations section does include conducting an comprehensive urban tree canopy assessment, which could presumably include ConCom properties)

Funding – comma at the end.

19. Page 45 – add bullet point in front of tree pruning.
20. Page 47 – would be great to shed light on our \$50,000/year land management budget (for all con com property and all ED properties – tax title and other land for disposition), which covers all management (signage, illegal dumping, overgrowth, hazard trees, etc.).
21. Page 48 – Fees - what are we talking about here? We have a general concern about layering on fees.

Budget transfers – not sure who specifically we’re thinking has funding to re-allocate, but it may be worth a specific call out to whomever that is? Agree that the city should provide services to all it’s properties though Parks and consolidate where possible.

Grant opportunities – can you add understanding what we have on larger passive properties via baselines and condition assessments to understand threats to our larger forested tracts (e.g., invasives, etc.).

22. Page 49 – paragraph 1 – “city trees” clarify public shade trees (DPW&P parks & public streets)
23. Page 50 – Consider adding increasing awareness and communication – for example if trees are in GIS others are more aware of them and may be able to flag the need for a tree hearing, etc.

Tree inventory - do you define where else we need to conduct inventories? Can you reiterate here what’s missing from this plan’s scope that needs to be captured by future efforts more explicitly (e.g., schools, other public facilities, trees along private streets, etc.)?

24. Page 52 –Can you provide recommendations about what data and planning needs we have/ we’re missing for the larger forest as a whole (i.e. outside of public shade trees) – for example developing forest management plans or other plans/assessments for natural areas?
25. Page 54 – How was this benchmark determined? Can we raise the minimum to indicate we’re planting more trees than we’re removing to off-set climate impacts and emphasize that we’re

needing to re-plant in the same geographic area to address equity issues... it seems like a reasonable goal to say plant 2x as many trees as we remove?

26. Page 56/57 – Streetscape policy - Add develop standards for tree-grates in the public ROW (we don't have one and need one in more urban areas where we need to preserve sidewalk width; and subdivision regulations require guy lines).

Complete Streets – explicitly state public and private streets and add all city property (schools, municipal buildings, conservation land, etc.).

Open Space and Rec – emphasize need to understand canopy and potential for planting on conservation lands.

Now/Next – we would like to meet to discuss the less than full-throttle/green recommendation of the plan when it comes to trees – we have recommendations that may be more explicit than are public and are developing strategies now. One of the early-action plan headlines is to develop regulations for tree-protection. We'd like to get to revisit this with you and get to green and discuss what's needed to get that endorsement – we would be happy to meet and discuss but it's important for us to change for the final urban forestry plan – we want to get to green!

27. Pg. 58, in ordinance review under recommendations to strengthen city code – it would be great to add "Strengthen requirements for conserving existing trees and planting new trees in wetland resource areas, related riparian buffer zones, and the floodplain." To further resiliency and natural area protection goals.

Should the first bullet say "private" trees vs. public? If not – what do you mean, in the tree hearing/removal process?

Add create standard guidelines with details/specifications for tree-planting and infrastructure (e.g., grates) including minimum spacing and required offsets from intersections/infrastructure, etc. in some form of street design guidelines based on best practices?

28. Page 63 – was anything in a language other than English and/or was any demographic data of respondents collected? I'd call that out if so, compared to the Worcester population.

29. Page 66 - change policies and standards to explicitly reflect "including in street and site design"! Creation of standard guidelines with details/specifications for tree-planting and infrastructure (e.g., grates), including minimum spacing and required offsets from intersections/infrastructure, etc. in some form of street design guidelines based on best practices?

Spotted lanternfly has also been located in SE Worcester.

Ordinances/regulations – is there a way to help us prioritize (further restrict what) public shade tree removals we're permitting? Essentially develop more parameters for when it's appropriate vs. not - mainly with mature trees (e.g. shift a driveway away from a tree, etc.) that can also be applied to private trees?

Species & diversity – can we again emphasize the need for a current planting list and guidelines to get right tree right place? And development of requirements for variety (e.g. require each site to have no more than 20% of a given tree species, etc.)?

30. Page 67 – staffing/resources – can you emphasize planning staff and funding resources are limited to develop or contract to change regulations and manage conservation land (i.e. no dedicated staff for land management)?
31. Page 71 – can we emphasize equity in planting priorities (i.e. areas historically disproportionately effected by under-investment and a need to intentionally off-set that by prioritizing EJ areas)?
32. Page 71/73 Is there a way to suggest forest management plans and baselines for conservation properties here and increasing resources and staff for those as well? Urban forest BMP manual needs to integrate into other ordinances/regulations/guidelines in order to be effective (e.g., street design, subdivision, zoning, etc.) which requires coordination and funding. This also should discuss planning for invasive management (as we have lots of invasives already, like bittersweet, that are slowly taking down trees).
33. Page 74 – add make data available to city staff/public in GIS
34. Pg. 75, Action step 4.6 – “Revise City Codes and Ordinances to strengthen the protection of public trees”, it would also make sense to include private trees in this. It would be helpful to build off this recommendation in making any changes to the Wetlands Protection Ordinance or any other development-related ordinances such as Zoning & board/commission rules & regulations (e.g. subdivisions) that deal with private property and where infrastructure may become public (right now we require 0 shade trees in the ROW in subdivisions, trees are only required on private lots).
35. Page 76 – 5.1 – infuse equity as a sentiment about where to plan to address health disparities and ensure investment in EJ areas.
36. 5.3 – can we be clear that this can be developing a guideline set, including planting lists and context scenarios, that helps folks make this decision so it doesn’t have to be forestry? A tool owners and developers and planners can use to guide selection?
37. Page 77 – can we make clear this needs to be an interdepartmental effort?
38. Page 79 – 7.4 – add “in a variety of different languages”
39. Page 81 – what is covered in state of the forest – just street/park trees? Can we encourage this to expand to be citywide too?
40. Page 82 – 10.2 – Does this have to be limited to public property? Could we just say “Promote and require species diversity in tree planting.” Is the recommendation going to differ for private property? Can this just be more general?

10.3 – do we have a tree-planting list? Can we get a copy?

10.4 – including natural areas such as conservation land – developing updates to baseline plans and/or developing monitoring reports with photos.

41. Page 84 – 1.2 – we're updating our Hazard mitigation plan next year so this should be incorporated into hazard mitigation planning (forestry did not participate in this process to my knowledge the last time this was done).
42. Page 89 – 4.5 should include Transportation & Mobility, Planning & Regulatory Services
43. Page 90 - 4.6 should include Planning & Regulatory Services
4.7 – should include Conservation Commission and Planning & Regulatory Services
44. Page 91 – 5.1 needs to involve Transportation & Mobility
5.3 – needs to be more specific. When do we evaluate– do you mean create a decision tree
Forestry is only deciding on some places – we need guidance elsewhere too!
45. Page 92 – both 6.1 and 6.1.1 – add Sustainability & Resilience/ Planning & Regulatory Services/
Transportation & Mobility
6.4/6.5 - add Sustainability & Resilience/ Planning & Regulatory Services
46. Page 94 – 8.3 add Planning & Regulatory Services
47. Page 95 – 9.3 add “developers” to action step
48. Page 97 – both 10.1 - add Planning & Regulatory Services/Conservation Commission
10.2 – add Planning & Regulatory Services/Dept. of Public Facilities & DPW
10.3 – share the list with other staff
49. 10.4 - Include on conservation land
50. Page 99 – The plan doesn't really discuss the Tree Commission, it's role or the purpose of its creation, which I think is relevant to the plan and worth inclusion?
51. Page 100 – Moderate (E)- formatting
52. Page 105 – Wetlands Protection Ordinance restricts removals within 15' of any waterbody/wetland in the city.
53. Page 107 – Approved Tree List - We don't use this because they're not ALB resistant... (should be removed and just refer to an approved list.

"Requires tree plantings around new developments" should include "Zoning Ordinance, Article 5, Section V (C) (Landscape Design Standards); Zoning Ordinance - Off-Site Accessory Parking Requirements (Note 6 - Interior Landscaping)"

54. It would be nice to use graphics of Worcester in the plan if possible – I see some but not all?
55. Will this be translated into Spanish once it's final , or the Executive Summary?

City of Worcester
Customer Service Request System
Work Order

Number: [REDACTED]
Priority: STANDARD
Status: Open

Request: Tree Inspection

Description: caller stated she does not want city trees planted on her property

Additional Information: n/a

Location: Primary: [REDACTED]
Routes: Plow Route: [REDACTED] Sweep Route: [REDACTED] Sanitation Route: [REDACTED]

Take: Entered by: StraceskiS Date / Time: 5/19/23 12:41 pm

Intake Script:

Question	Answer
Please provide a detailed location of the tree at this address.	n/a
Why does this tree need to be inspected?	n/a

Requestor: [REDACTED]
WORCESTER, MA 01610

Cell: [REDACTED]

Activity Log:
05/19/23 12:41PM StraceskiS Intake
05/19/23 12:41PM StraceskiS Automatic Routing

10

11

12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20

21

22



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2023may16115240

Attachment for Item #

8.9 C

May 23, 2023

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

The attached communication relative to the City of Worcester being named Tree City USA for thirty-seventh consecutive years and a recipient of the Growth Award for the twenty-fourth consecutive year as received from Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of the Department of Public Works & Parks, is forwarded for the information of your Honorable Body.

I am pleased to report to the City Council that the DPW&P has been notified that the City of Worcester has once again been chosen by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA recipient and a Growth Award recipient. I would like to echo the Commissioner's sentiments and congratulate the Forestry Operations within DPW & Parks for their dedication to the revitalization of the Urban Forest for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER
Department of Public Works & Parks

Department of Public Works & Parks
Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner
20 East Worcester Street, Worcester, MA 01604
P | 508-929-1300 F | 508-799-1448
dpw@worcesterma.gov

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works and Parks
Date: May 23, 2023
Re: Tree City USA 2022

The Arbor Day Foundation has named the City of Worcester a Tree City USA (the thirty-seventh consecutive year) and Tree City USA Growth Award (the twenty-fourth consecutive year). The Tree City USA and Growth Award honor comes from the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Urban and Community Forestry Program. The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the care and recognition of the value trees play in our community.

Communities receiving the national recognition are awarded the Tree City USA designation upon recommendation by their state forester. Numerous standards must first be met including having a tree board or department, a comprehensive urban forestry program, and observation of Arbor Day. The City of Worcester has exceeded these standards through an efficient and effective street tree management program. This recognition is a continuation of the steps the Department of Public Works and Parks is using to revitalize the Urban Forest for future generations.

As the Urban Forestry Master Plan comes to completion, Forestry will be able to continue to exceed the standards set by the Arbor Day Foundation with new & improved operational optimizations.

Congratulations to the Forestry Operation Team headed up by Certified Arborist Brian Breveleri for their dedication and commitment to the care and revitalization of the City's Urban Forest.

Sincerely,

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner, Department of Public Works & Parks

PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERY

Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner
 50 Skyline Drive
 Worcester, Massachusetts 01605
 (508) 799-1190

The mission of the Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Division is to provide efficient and effective grounds maintenance, permitting and renovations at/for over sixty parks and playgrounds. In addition, the Division maintains and repairs public park buildings, manages the City's urban forest (street trees) and the Division's comprehensive summer aquatic and recreation programs. The Division is also responsible for maintaining and managing a 160+ acre cemetery (including burials), completing the physical set up for all National, State and Local elections and providing staff and technical support to the Parks and Recreation Commission, Hope Cemetery Commission, GAR Hall, and Auditorium Board of Trustees.

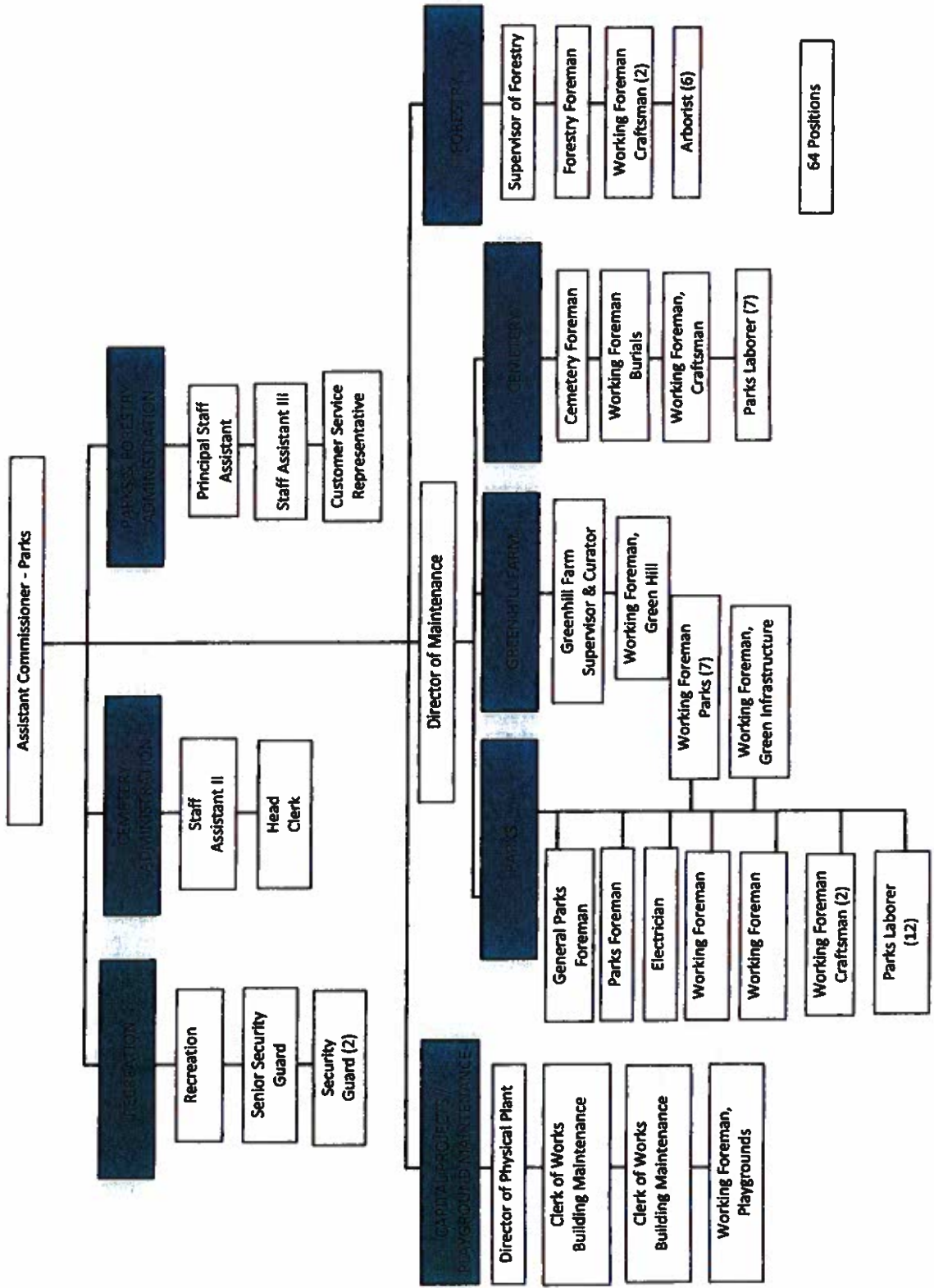
Department Allocation Summary

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Actual Fiscal 2022</u>	<u>Approved Budget for Fiscal 2023</u>	<u>Actuals as of 3/31/23</u>	<u>Recommended Appropriation Fiscal 2024</u>
Salaries	\$ 3,815,520.18	\$ 4,388,367.00	\$ 3,428,023.48	\$ 4,621,230.00
Overtime	642,631.32	529,062.00	413,947.59	529,062.00
Ordinary Maintenance	2,532,789.80	2,507,001.00	1,578,289.43	2,202,155.00
Capital Outlay	-	-	32,025.50	-
Total	\$ 6,990,941.30	\$ 7,424,430.00	\$ 5,452,286.00	\$ 7,352,447.00
Total Positions	62	64	64	64

Operating Budget Highlights

The tax levy budget for Fiscal 2024 is recommended to be \$7,352,477, which is a decrease of \$71,983 from the Fiscal 2023 amount of \$7,424,430. The salary increase is mainly due to step increases for employees that are not at maximum pay, and 3% Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) for non-represented employees. For unions without settled contracts, funding for a similar COLA adjustment has been appropriated to the Contingency budget and will be transferred to departments upon execution of union contracts. The Ordinary Maintenance decrease is a result of transferring the copier lease funding to the Innovation and Technology Department and removing the funding allocated mid-year in Fiscal 2023 to fund tree planting.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS PARKS / RECREATION / HOPE CEMETERY DIVISION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



64 Positions

JAY J. FINK, P.E., COMMISSIONER

CITY OF WORCESTER - RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL 2024
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS
DIVISION OF PARKS/ RECREATION / HOPE CEMETERY- DIVISION #CC706

FY23 TOTAL POSITIONS	APPROVED FY23 AMOUNT	PAY GRADE	TITLE	FY24 TOTAL POSITIONS	RECOMMENDED FY24 AMOUNT
1	\$ 135,141.00	51EM	ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER PARKS	1	\$ 138,657.00
1	86,289.00	46EM	DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL PLANT	1	88,546.00
1	83,436.00	40M	RECREATION COORDINATOR	1	85,611.00
1	63,677.00	40M	PRINCIPAL STAFF ASSISTANT	1	65,344.00
1	80,990.00	40	CLERK OF WORKS, BUILDING MAINTENANCE, GRADE D	1	83,104.00
1	78,158.00	39	CLERK OF WORKS, BUILDING MAINTENANCE, GRADE C	1	80,191.00
1	72,773.00	37	STAFF ASSISTANT 3	1	74,663.00
1	41,646.00	24	CUSTOMER SERVICE REP	1	46,405.00
1	49,966.00	4	SENIOR SECURITY GUARD	1	51,639.00
2	91,617.00	2	SECURITY GUARD	2	100,397.00
11	\$ 783,693.00		REGULAR SALARIES #7201	11	\$ 814,557.00
1	\$ 86,346.00	43EM	DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE PARKS/CEMETERY	1	\$ 88,610.00
1	63,677.00	40M	GREENHILL FARM SUPERVISOR & CURATOR	1	71,601.00
1	70,679.00	40	ELECTRICIAN	1	81,079.00
1	75,562.00	40	GENERAL PARK FOREMAN	1	76,948.00
1	62,432.00	36	PARKS FOREMAN	1	70,388.00
2	116,178.00	34	WORKING FOREMAN, CRAFTSMAN	2	119,497.00
1	58,089.00	34	WORKING FOREMAN, GARDENER	1	65,500.00
1	58,089.00	34	WORKING FOREMAN PARKS (GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE)	1	41,481.00
10	521,956.00	34	WORKING FOREMAN PARKS	10	540,017.00
12	500,221.00	26	PARK LABORER	12	575,898.00
31	\$ 1,613,229.00		REGULAR SALARIES #7203	31	\$ 1,731,019.00
1	\$ 87,727.00	44EM	SUPERVISOR OF FORESTRY	1	90,003.00
1	62,432.00	36	FORESTRY FOREMAN	1	70,388.00
2	88,419.00	34	WORKING FOREMAN, CRAFTSMAN	2	131,000.00
6	261,796.00	28	ARBORIST	6	283,710.00
10	\$ 500,374.00		REGULAR SALARIES #7204	10	\$ 575,101.00
1	\$ 62,432.00	36	CEMETERY FOREMAN	1	\$ 70,388.00
1	67,689.00	35	STAFF ASSISTANT 2	1	69,457.00
1	58,089.00	34	WORKING FOREMAN BURIALS	2	131,000.00
1	40,195.00	34	WORKING FOREMAN, CRAFTSMAN	0	-
		32	HEAD CLERK	1	50,524.00
7	293,756.00	26	PARK LABORER	7	329,303.00
1	32,364.00	24	CUSTOMER SERVICE REP	0	-
12	\$ 554,525.00		REGULAR SALARIES #7206	12	\$ 650,672.00
64	\$ 3,451,821.00		TOTAL SALARIES - ALL DIVISIONS	64	\$ 3,771,349.00
	(26,300.00)		VACANCY FACTOR		(106,313.00)
	9,812.00		EM INCENTIVE PAY		7,389.00
	152,500.00		HOPE CEMETERY TEMPORARY LABORERS		152,500.00
	245,500.00		PARKS TEMPORARY STAFF		245,500.00
	111,300.00		PARKS STEWARD/ TEMPORARY STAFF		111,300.00
	367,500.00		AQUATICS PROGRAM/TEMPORARY STAFF		367,500.00
	252,909.00		CONTRACTUAL STIPENDS- MEO RATES		252,909.00
64	\$ 4,565,042.00		TOTAL RECOMMENDED SALARIES- ALL DIVISIONS	64	\$ 4,802,134.00
	\$ (162,267.00)		<u>FUNDING SOURCES:</u>		\$ (166,496.00)
	(14,408.00)		PROJECT FUNDS		(14,408.00)
	\$ (176,675.00)		CREDIT FROM GOLF COURSE		\$ (180,904.00)
			TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES		
64	\$ 4,388,367.00		TOTAL RECOMMENDED PERSONAL SERVICES	64	\$ 4,621,230.00

JAY J. FINK, P.E., COMMISSIONER

CITY OF WORCESTER - RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL 2024

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS

DIVISION OF PARKS/RECREATION / HOPE CEMETERY- DIVISION #CC1076

FY23 TOTAL POSITIONS	APPROVED FY23 AMOUNT	PAY GRADE	TITLE	FY24 TOTAL POSITIONS	RECOMMENDED FY24 AMOUNT
	\$ 52,000.00		RECREATION DIVISION OVERTIME		\$ 52,000.00
	220,000.00		MAINTENANCE DIVISION OVERTIME		220,000.00
	135,000.00		FORESTRY DIVISION OVERTIME		135,000.00
	65,753.00		HOPE CEMETERY DIVISION OVERTIME		65,753.00
	56,309.00		SNOW REMOVAL OVERTIME		56,309.00
	<u>\$ 529,062.00</u>		TOTAL RECOMMENDED OVERTIME		<u>\$ 529,062.00</u>
	\$ 156,000.00		ELECTRICITY		\$ 156,000.00
	94,450.00		LEASES & RENTALS		90,026.00
	5,000.00		ARCHITECTS		5,000.00
	13,300.00		SPECIAL POLICE		13,300.00
	851,701.00		HIRED SERVICES		551,279.00
	28,000.00		TELEPHONE		28,000.00
	10,000.00		VETERINARIANS		10,000.00
	7,000.00		SECURITY SERVICES		7,000.00
	9,100.00		NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING		9,100.00
	4,200.00		REGISTRATION FEES		4,200.00
	2,600.00		EXTERMINATOR SERVICES		2,600.00
	19,545.00		PRINTING		19,545.00
	2,400.00		RUBBISH REMOVAL		2,400.00
	35,000.00		MAINTENANCE & REPAIR		35,000.00
	22,000.00		MAINTENANCE SYSTEM SOFTWARE		22,000.00
	365,000.00		MAINTENANCE/REPAIR BUILDING		365,000.00
	40,955.00		MAINTENANCE/REPAIR EQUIPMENT		40,955.00
	4,800.00		TRAINING CERTIFICATIONS		4,800.00
	179,000.00		MAINTENANCE/REPAIR VEHICLE		179,000.00
	5,000.00		CLEANING SERVICES		5,000.00
	24,000.00		RECREATION PROGRAMS		24,000.00
	30,500.00		ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES		30,500.00
	10,000.00		HARDWARE NETWORK SUPPORT		10,000.00
	2,000.00		PREPARED MEALS		2,000.00
	4,250.00		MEMBERSHIP DUES		4,250.00
	17,000.00		AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIES		17,000.00
	93,500.00		BUILDING SUPPLIES		93,500.00
	800.00		FOOD SUPPLIES		800.00
	8,500.00		OFFICE SUPPLIES		8,500.00
	15,000.00		NATURAL GAS		15,000.00
	21,000.00		OTHER SUPPLIES		21,000.00
	10,600.00		SAND & GRAVEL SUPPLIES		10,600.00
	80,500.00		RECREATIONAL SUPPLIES		80,500.00
	20,000.00		AUTO FUEL NO LEAD GAS		20,000.00
	18,200.00		DIESEL FUEL		18,200.00
	114,250.00		PARTS/EQUIPMENT SUPPLIES		114,250.00
	12,000.00		SAFETY SUPPLIES		12,000.00
	5,500.00		CHEMICAL SUPPLIES		5,500.00
	23,500.00		CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES		23,500.00
	10,500.00		HARDWARE/DEVICES		10,500.00
	92,000.00		LANDSCAPING SUPPLIES		92,000.00
	10,000.00		OTHER CHARGES & EXPENDITURES		10,000.00
	25,000.00		TAG DAY		25,000.00
	3,350.00		LICENSES		3,350.00
	<u>\$ 2,507,001.00</u>		TOTAL RECOMMENDED ORDINARY MAINTENANCE		<u>\$ 2,202,155.00</u>
	\$ 32,025.50		CAPITAL OUTLAY		\$ -
	<u>\$ 32,025.50</u>		TOTAL RECOMMENDED CAPITAL OUTLAY		<u>\$ -</u>
	<u>\$ 7,456,455.50</u>		TOTAL RECOMMENDED TAX LEVY		<u>\$ 7,352,447.00</u>

Dept.	Category	Project Title	FY24 Borrowing	FY24 Cash Purchase	FY24 New Authorization	Prior Year Loan Authorizations	Grant/Donation Funds
DPW Parks	Equipment	Various DPW Parks Equipment	\$ 780,000	\$ -	\$ 625,000	\$ 700,000	\$ -
DPW Parks	Facility	Aquatics Renovations	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -
DPW Parks	Facility	East Park Building	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Golf Improvements	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Bennett Field Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 350,000
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	East Park	\$ 1,250,000	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Indian Hill Park	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Lincoln Square Memorial	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Memorial Improvements	\$ 140,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140,000	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Playground Renovations	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 175,000	\$ 75,000	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Green Hill Park	\$ 3,338,475	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,338,475	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	University Park	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ 1,900,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 1,000,000
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Tacoma Street Playground	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 7,000,000
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Dog Park Upgrades	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -
DPW Parks	Infrastructure	Dog Park Upgrades	\$ 10,508,475	\$ -	\$ 12,950,000	\$ 6,453,475	\$ 8,850,000
		DPW Parks Sub-Total:					

Various DPW Parks Equipment - Equipment for Parks, Hope Cemetery, and Forestry.
 Aquatics Renovations - Infrastructure renovations to concrete and interior aquatic functions.
 East Park Building - Design and construction of a park building to house equipment, restrooms, concessions.
 Golf Improvements - Irrigation equipment, pump, & system upgrades.
 Bennett Field Improvements - Gates Street wall replacement and remediation of containment soils DEP & EPA will be looking for an funding schedule in 2023. Future work to include new field, parking lot upgrades and woodland access.
 East Park - FY24 Design and FY24 construction of baseball field & parking lot with lights.
 Indian Hill Park - To complete current project that includes a new softball field with lights and walking path.
 Lincoln Square Memorial - Renovations to Lincoln Square.
 Memorial Improvements - Design and construction costs to citywide memorials.
 Playground Renovations - Safety surfacing replacement for various parks and fields.
 Green Hill Park - Design & construction of community gardens and paving from Channing St. to Park Rd.
 University Park - Design and construction of park improvements supported by LWCF grant.
 Tacoma Street Playground - Design and construction of park improvements including a new spray park supported by ORLP and ARPA grants.
 Dog Park Upgrades - Design and construction for upgrading various City dog parks.

Dept.	Category	Project Title	FY24 Borrowing	FY24 Cash Purchase	FY24 New Authorization	Prior Year Loan Authorizations	Grant/Donation Funds
DPW Sewer	Capital Outlay	Miscellaneous repairs, Improvements, and Purchases	\$ -	\$ 24,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Equipment	Sewer Capital Equipment	\$ 1,200,000	\$ -	\$ 240,000	\$ 960,000	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Equipment	Sewer Generators	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Facility	Sewer Building Rehabilitation	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Sewer Reconstruction	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 5,900,000
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Sewer System Control Plan	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Sewer Interceptor Rehabilitation	\$ 7,400,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000	\$ -	\$ 4,300,000
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Sewer Pumping	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Infiltration/Inflow	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Green Island Flooding	\$ 310,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 310,000	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Surface Drainage	\$ 125,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,000	\$ 3,000,000
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Quansigmond Ave CSU Treatment Facility Upgrades	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ -
DPW Sewer	Infrastructure	Quansigmond Ave CSU Treatment Facility Upgrades	\$ 21,485,000	\$ 24,500	\$ 14,540,000	\$ 7,045,000	\$ 13,200,000
		DPW Sewer Sub-Total:					

