



# CITY OF CONCORD

## REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Ad-Hoc Street Tree Committee

**DATE:** November 30, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Street Tree Policy

### **Recommendation**

Adopt a policy to promote the planting, preserving, and proper care and maintenance of street trees – especially shade trees, where appropriate – and plantings within City limits, enhancing the attractiveness and environmental health of the City, thereby promoting the general and economic well-being of the City.

### **Background**

Mayor Bouley established an Ad-Hoc Street Tree Committee for the purpose of developing a Street Tree Policy. The Committee is made up of the following City Councilors: Byron Champlin (Chairperson), Candace Bouchard, Gail Matson, Jan McClure, and Brent Todd.

### **Discussion**

The Street Tree Committee held five public meetings and conducted countless hours of research to develop a Street Tree Policy that meets the present and future needs of the community. The Community Development Department, General Services Department and City Administration provided information on existing practices, challenges and opportunities as they relate to street trees and plantings in the City's rights-of-way and adjacent public properties.

Within the Street Tree Policy, the Committee has outlined goals with associated reasoning and examples of potential implementation strategies. It is the intent of the Policy to provide guidance to City staff as it conducts its day to day operations and undertakes reconstruction projects throughout the city. The Policy is intended to also provide guidance to the appointed City boards and committees as they undertake their responsibilities as they relate to public rights-of-way.

The Committee, working with the Community Development Department's Planning Division and the City Arborist of the General Services Department, has provided an Addendum to the policy with a listing of recommended street trees considered most appropriate for the City's rights-of-way. This listing can also be used to advise the City's boards and commissions as they undertake their responsibilities.

On November 30, 2015, the Street Tree Committee voted unanimously to recommend the attached policy to the City Council for adoption.