

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: IX. C.

From: Ross Bintner P.E., Environmental Manager

Action

Discussion

Date: March 5, 2013

Information

Subject: Energy & Environment Commission (EEC) Advisory Communication – Urban Forests Task Force

Action Requested:

The EEC respectfully requests that the Urban Forest Task Force work plan item (Exhibit I) be restored to the 2013 EEC work plan.

Information / Background:

See attached advisory communication.

**Edina Energy and Environment Commission
Advisory Communication**

Date: 03/05/13

Subject: Urban Forests Task Force

Attachments: None

Situation:

This advisory is in response to City Council having removed the Urban Forest Task Force (UFTF) from the 2013 EEC work plan.

Background:

EEC formed the UFTF in response to the need to update City ordinances related to trees as well as to meet the requirements of one of the Green Step Cities best practice actions. The UFTF is composed of Dianne Plunkett Latham (Chair/EEC), Joseph Hulbert (Park Board), Michael Schroeder (Planning) and Tom Horwath (Staff).

Assessment:

Council may not have realized that the UFTF has had at least 8 meetings since it began in 2010 and that it has a preliminary draft report, which the UFTF would like to finish up with a few more meetings and present to Council at EEC's June Work Session with Council

Recommendation:

EEC respectfully requests that the Urban Forest Task Force work plan item (Exhibit 1) be restored to the 2013 EEC work plan.

Routing

From	To	Action Requested
EEC	City Council	Include as correspondence to Council.

Exhibit 1

2013 New Initiative	Target Completion Date	Budget Required	Staff Support Required	Council Approval
<p>Urban Forestry Policy Review and Tree Planting Project Review current tree planting policies and existing efforts in planting, removal, and development requirements. This item is a continuation of work of the Urban Forest Task Force.</p>	<p>December 2013</p>	<p>Staff time in 2013, with potential budget recommendations for future operations.</p>	<p>Moderate: Parks Director, City Forester, City Planner.</p>	