

## Legislation Text

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### Urban Forest Master Plan

#### **Action:**

**Approve the Environment Committee recommendation to adopt the Urban Forest Master Plan.**

#### **Committee Chair:**

Patsy Kinsey, Environment Committee

#### **Staff Resource(s):**

Mike Davis, Engineering and Property Management  
Erin Oliverio, Engineering and Property Management  
Tim Porter, Engineering and Property Management

#### **Current Policy**

- On June 27, 2011, City Council adopted a "50 percent by 2050" policy to increase tree coverage across the city.
- City Council's Environment Focus Area Plan includes the objective to maintain and protect the City's urban forest.

#### **Proposed Plan**

- In 2016, the City of Charlotte and TreesCharlotte worked to identify the greatest challenges facing Charlotte's urban forest and how to reach the City's 50 percent tree canopy goal.
- On April 11, 2016 City Council received a dinner briefing presentation on the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) expected timeline, contracting with a consultant, and details on involving citizens in the planning process.
- The UFMP development involved more than 40 organizations, nearly 3,000 citizens, urban forestry expertise, and national perspective provided by Davey Resource Group.
- The UFMP will serve as guidance for the engagement and action of community leaders, government, residents, and organizations in growing and sustaining our urban forest.
- City staff will follow the UFMP's 10-year achievement timeline with tasks prioritized to work with the community towards the 50 percent tree canopy goal.
- With more than 80 percent of Charlotte's canopy on private property, staff is working closely with residents and stakeholders to form a community canopy team, have a canopy coverage assessment completed, and increase community engagement.
- The UFMP and community involvement will inform policy and budget discussions for 2019 and beyond.

#### **Committee Discussion**

- Environment Committee received presentations on the UFMP on March 14 and December 5, 2016, and April 3, 2017.
- On June 5, 2017, the Environment Committee voted unanimously (Kinsey, Ajmera, Fallon, Austin;

Mitchell was not present) to recommend the adoption of the UFMP.

**Attachment(s)**

Urban Forest Master Plan Executive Summary