



Landscape Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting December 18, 2024 Hybrid Meeting (In-person & Virtual)

This was a hybrid meeting: In-person at Parks & Recreation Administration Building, Mesquite Room, 900 S. Randolph Way; Virtual had a Teams link. All available materials related to the agenda items will be posted on the City Clerk's page: BCC listings, Landscape Advisory Committee [https://www.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/boards?board=44].

Members Present: Petr Chylik (arrived 3:36 pm), Darbi Davis, Teresa Dekoker, Rebeca Field (logged in 3:43 p.m), Jenni Moscato, Kasy Schug, Nick Shipley
Members Absent: Eric Dhruv, Flor Sandoval
Guests/Staff: Nicole Gillett, CMO; Irene Ogata, TW

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 3:33 p.m. by D.Davis; verbal roll call – 5 members present, quorum present

2. Minutes and LAR for Approval

- Approve Nov 20, 2024 minutes and Legal Action Report; motion to approve by K.Schug, second by J.Moscato; no discussion; motion passed: verbal aye/approved=5, no=0, abstain=0

3. Discussion

- Tree Inventory Update: by N.Gillett: Final delivery soon; working on QC; about 79K trees w/ 20K vacant spots; full report will include i-Tree analysis; data will be uploaded into MapTucson; work order will be integrated into GIS layer; will get better snap shot of who's doing what; age and size distribution will also be included. No action.
- Soil Heath Update: unable to contact Kieran Sidkar; no response from UA and soil monitoring – will follow-up.
- LAC Vice Chair: discussion of Vice-Chair resignation; potential – consideration: J.Moscato or T.Dekoker; no formality on Vice-Chair term, but leads into Chair; Teresa Dekoker willing to be Vice-Chair. Motion by J.Moscato to nominate Teresa Dekoker, second by R.Field; no further discussion. Nomination passed: 7=aye; 0=nay, 0=abstain.
- LAC Ad Hoc Committee Updates
 - Plant List. – Jenni logged into Dec meeting; no one else logged on; also had meeting 12/3/2024 (R.Field; E.Dhruv; I.Ogata); will try to finalize filling in plants and criteria by Feb. 2025 to then send to larger LAC for review. R.Field=groundcover/vines; I.Ogata=trees & cacti/succulents; J.Moscato=shrubs; E.Dhruv=grasses/assist with shrubs; pairing down ADWR list and localizing to region.
- City Updates: Nicole: finalizing busstop RFP (Wheat Design) and will have contractor selection; on-going LID code update – on hold; plant list could be included into LID code; 2025 – planning mid-point of Tucson Million tree – sometime in fall – partner with S2S – looking for great tagline; Grow Tucson grant launch in Jan. Turf rebate/replacement update: HOAs, apts and commercial properties have applied; a couple facilities are now going through Planning permit process; no applications with readable landscape plans due to submittal by contractors; plans currently being denied due to less than 50%

vegetation coverage. Ribbon cutting downtown for new bike lanes from Alameda to Congress, with some GSI on median.

4. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events:
 - Zoo Lights currently happening from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 - SAAG shared Stinknet information which also lead to Buffelgrass discussion (check with TAS regarding practice of cutting & burying buffelgrass, no bagging and disposing)
 - Feb.1, 2025 = Heat Summit (invite LAC)
5. Call to Audience (time permitting): no audience
6. Future Agenda Items:
 - Wildfire and wildland urban interface
 - Potential tour of Prof. Bo Yang's watering tree research
 - TCB Youth & Workforce program/AZ Arboriculture program
 - LID ordinance
 - Goats at Sweetwater
 - Update on Palo Verde growing protocol (UA no longer testing)
 - Trees transpiring at night (ask Ursula)
 - Update soil health @ Gunny Berera Park
7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:34 pm