City and County of San Francisco
Urban Forestry Council

MEETING MINUTES DRAFT

Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
City Hall, Room 416
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Andrew Sullivan (Chair), Nicholas Crawford (Vice Chair, San Francisco Public Works), Igor Lacan, Morgan Vaisset-Fauvel, Pamela Nagle, Edgar Xochitl Flores, Mike Sullivan, Damon Spigelman (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission), Ilaria Salvadori (San Francisco Planning Department), Tai Trang (Port of San Francisco), Spencer Potter (Recreation and Parks Department), and Lew Stringer (Presidio Trust).

Order of Business

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

   The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

   Present: Chair Andrew Sullivan, Vice Chair Nicholas Crawford, Members Igor Lacan, Morgan Vaisset-Fauvel, Pamela Nagle, Mike Sullivan, Damon Spigelman, Ilaria Salvadori, Tai Trang, and Lew Stringer
   Excused: Members Edgar Xochitl Flores and Spencer Potter
   Absent: None

2. Chair’s Welcome and Land Acknowledgement. (Discussion)

   Chair Sullivan welcomed attendees to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.

   Kyle Wehner, Commission Affairs Officer, delivered the land acknowledgment.

   There was no public comment.


   There was no public comment.

   Upon a motion by Member Lacan and a second by Member Nagle, the minutes were approved without objection. (Ayes: Chair Sullivan, Vice Chair Crawford, Members Lacan, Vaisset-Fauvel, Nagle, Sullivan, Spigelman, Salvadori, Trang, and Stringer; Noes: None; Absent: Members Xochitl Flores and Potter)

4. General Public Comment. Members of the public may address the Council on matters that are within the Council’s jurisdiction and are not on today’s agenda. (Discussion)
There was no public comment.

5. **Review and Vote on whether to Approve Resolution File 2023-03-UFC, Resolution Amending the Urban Forestry Council Bylaws, Article VIII.** Speaker: Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator. Explanatory Documents: Resolution File 2023-03-UFC and Urban Forestry Council Bylaws to Be Adopted. (Discussion and Action)

Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator, summarized the proposed amendments to the Urban Forestry Council Bylaws. The proposed amendments grant the Chair the authority to make temporary appointments to subcommittees and establish 1155 Market Street as the location of committee meetings.

Member Lacan and Jesus Lozano discussed the need to identify a meeting location in the Bylaws.

Member Sullivan and Jesus Lozano discussed the location of Landmark Tree Committee meetings.

There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Member Sullivan and a second by Member Lacan, the resolution was approved without objection. (Ayes: Chair Sullivan, Vice Chair Crawford, Members Lacan, Vaisset-Fauvel, Nagle, Sullivan, Spigelman, Salvadori, Trang, and Stringer; Noes: None; Absent: Members Xochitl Flores and Potter)

6. **Presentation and Discussion on Small Project Funding Opportunity from CalFire.** Speaker: Tanner Mar, Regional Urban Forester, CalFire. (Discussion)

Tanner Mar, Regional Urban Forester at the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, discussed funding opportunities for urban forestry programs.

Chair Sullivan and Tanner Mar discussed funding requirements for small projects.

Member Spigelman and Tanner Mar discussed grant opportunities for projects within the wildland-urban interface.

Members Vaisset-Fauvel and Lacan and Tanner Mar discussed funding opportunities for tree projects that do not focus on tree planting.

Vice Chair Crawford discussed the use of suspended pavement systems to support tree growth.

Member Salvadori and Tanner Mar discussed guidelines for special projects and partnerships with community-based organizations.

Member Sullivan and Tanner Mar discussed funding for projects that remove aging non-native trees and install native trees.

Member Stringer and Tanner Mar discuss funding for projects on federal property.

Vice Chair Crawford and Tanner Mar discussed funding for irrigation projects.

Vice Chair Crawford and Tanner Mar discussed coordination with nonprofit and community-based organizations on grant-funded projects.
Member Trang and Tanner Mar discussed funding requirements for one-time projects.

Vice Chair Crawford and Tanner Mar discussed San Francisco’s funding strategy.

Member Stringer and Tanner Mar discussed online information and resources about grant opportunities.

Chair Sullivan, Tanner Mar, and Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator, discussed coordination between the Urban Forestry Council and CalFire regarding funding opportunities.

Member Vaisset-Fauvel and Tanner Mar discussed funding restrictions for state agencies.

Jesus Lozano and Tanner Mar discussed funding for projects for tree planting in open spaces.

Public Comment: Susan Karasoff expressed support for grant funding for projects that support local native trees and plants.

7. Informational Update and Discussion Regarding the Impact of Winter Storms on the Urban Forest. Speaker: Nicholas Crawford, Acting Superintendent, Department of Public Works, and Vice Chair of the Urban Forestry Council. (Informational Update and Discussion)

Vice Chair Crawford and Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator, presented on the impact of the 2022-2023 winter storms on San Francisco’s urban forest, including an estimated 400 storm-related tree removals.

Chair Sullivan, Vice Chair Crawford, and Jesus Lozano discussed trees removed from public properties that are not managed by the Department of Public Works.

Member Vaisset-Fauvel discussed tree damage at the Mount Sutro Open Space Reserve.

Member Trang discussed tree damage on Port properties.

Member Spigelman discussed tree damage on Public Utilities Commission properties.

Member Spigelman and Vice Chair Crawford discussed tree removal work by the Department of Public Works.

Public Comment: Susan Karasoff encouraged Urban Forestry Council staff to include information on tree damage in the 2024 Urban Forest Report.

8. Informational Update and Discussion Regarding the Public Works Street Tree Nursery. Speaker: Nicholas Crawford, Acting Superintendent, Department of Public Works, and Vice Chair of the Urban Forestry Council. (Informational Update and Discussion)

Vice Chair Crawford presented on the Public Works street tree nursery.

Member Sullivan and Vice Chair Crawford discussed the goals of the nursery.

Member Nagle and Vice Chair Crawford discussed aspects of the program’s budget.
Member Salvadori and Vice Chair Crawford discussed funding for art installations at the nursery.

Member Vaisset-Fauvel and Vice Chair Crawford discussed the transportation of street trees and carbon sequestration strategies.

Public Comment: Susan Karasoff expressed support for the nursery and the use of native plants in public projects.

9. **Staff Report on Recent Work Performed by the Urban Forestry Program on Behalf of the Urban Forestry Council.** Speaker: Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator. (Discussion)

   Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator, discussed recent work performed by Urban Forestry Council staff.

   There was no public comment.

10. **Urban Forestry Council Member Announcements.** (Discussion)

   Vice Chair Crawford discussed the Department of Public Works’ grant application for Inflation Reduction Act funding and Bureau of Urban Forestry positions.

   Member Vaisset-Fauvel discussed a joint research project between UCSF and UC Berkeley focused on wood decay.

   There was no public comment.

11. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** (Discussion)

   Chair Sullivan and Jesus Lozano, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator, discussed preparation for the 2024 Urban Forest Report.

   Member Vaisset-Fauvel discussed the Council’s letter describing the need for additional funding for urban forestry programs.

   Member Sullivan and Chair Sullivan discussed appointments to the Urban Forestry Council.

   There was no public comment.

12. **Adjournment.**

    The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.