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Director

**City and County of San Francisco
Urban Forestry Council
Planning and Funding Committee**

MEETING MINUTES DRAFT

**Tuesday, August 3, 2021, 4:00 p.m.
Remote meeting via web conference**

Refer to the “Remote Access to Information and Participation” section below for instructions.

Committee Members: Members Igor Lacan (Chair), Nicholas Crawford, Andrew Sullivan and Blake Troxel.

Order of Business

Public comment will be taken before the Council takes action on any item.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm.

Present: Chair Igor Lacan, Member Nicholas Crawford, Member Andrew Sullivan, Member Blake Troxel

Absent: None

2. Approval of Minutes of the June 1, 2021 Urban Forestry Council Planning and Funding Committee Meeting. (Explanatory Document: June 1, 2021 Draft Meeting Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

There was an amendment by Chair Lacan.

There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Member Troxel, and a second by Chair Lacan, the minutes including the requested amendment were approved without objection. (Ayes: Chair Igor Lacan, Member Crawford, Member Sullivan, Member Troxel. Noes: None; Excused: None; Absent: None).

3. General Public Comment: Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

There was no public comment.

4. Discussion of federal funding for street tree planting. Speaker: Jon Swae, San Francisco Public Works.
(Discussion)

Jon Swae presented on federal infrastructure stimulus funding for street tree planting. Through Deborah Rafael and Brett KenCairn, Public Works was made aware of an initiative called "Trees for Community Recovery", with a focus on jobs, health, and equity. The initiative is trying to obtain \$4 billion over the next 5 years to support tree planting and job creation in underserved communities.

In April, Mayor Breed signed onto a Trees for Community Recovery letter.

In June-July, Public Works prepared a funding proposal. They are looking for funding sources because Prop E did not provide money for tree planting.

Public Works developed a tree planting strategy. They aim to have 155,000 trees in 20 years, and to plant in low canopy neighborhoods.

The street tree census identified ~30,000 vacant planting sites.

Public Works is proceeding with plans to develop a street tree nursery at Fifth and Harrison. They have received some initial seed funding.

The proposal involves scaling up planting over the next 3 years for a total of 18,000 trees. The bulk of the planting is to be done by contractors. All involved parties will have to double their watering capabilities. The cost will be ~\$67 million total over 3 years.

Public Works will be collaborating with FUF and SF Clean City on workforce development.

The five Vanguard City urban forest expansion budgets were presented.

Public Works received \$2.5 million from Mayor's budget.

Member Sullivan asked for clarification if the numbers meant additional plantings, Swae confirmed yes.

Member Crawford brought up the limitations to scaling up operations that quickly. Member Crawford also thanked Swae for his work.

Chair Lacan said it is good to look at urban forestry as a way to improve multiple things, such as workforce development and climate adaptation. Chair Lacan also brought up concerns about only having 3 years for the initiative. Swae responded and said they believe they will be able to execute the initiative during the 3 years as contractors are on board.

Chair Lacan commented that in the future, it would be good to generally have things in place so that SF and Public Works are considered “shovel ready”, so that they have higher likelihoods of getting selected for funding and opportunities.

Member Sullivan asked how fast things will be moving once this goes forward. Swae responded and said that it should be moving forward in 2-4 weeks, but he doesn't know when funds will be available. Peter Brastow expressed that this is a new initiative and there are many variables, resulting in a lot of uncertainty.

Member Crawford expressed that it is good that they are working with many entities on this initiative, allowing them to be more effective.

Member Troxel asked if things purchased with the current funding will be available for future years. Swae responded and said yes for the equipment, but the staffing positions created by the funding would be temporary.

Member Troxel asked if per tree planting cost from city to city was considered when funding was awarded. Swae said he did not know selection specifics, but would be willing to share the final documents. Member Sullivan said he thought it unlikely due to the scope of the project.

Member Crawford expressed that it may be easier to secure continuing support once programs are underway.

Member Troxel asked how the Council would know when things are moving forward. Swae said he and Peter Brastow will let them know.

Public Comment:

Susan Karasoff expressed appreciation for the efforts that had gone into the proposal. Karasoff mentioned a recent report that the International Panel on Climate Change and the International Panel on Biodiversity coauthored regarding how climate change and biodiversity must be addressed together, expressed that San Francisco cannot lose any more wildlife, and called for more native trees to be planted.

Lance Carnes expressed appreciation for Jon Swae's presentation and asked who is going to manage the overall project. Carnes also expressed that the urban forest plan from 2014 hasn't resulted in a large net increase in trees, and so asked if the Council is considering creating a more modern urban forest plan.

5. New Business/Future Agenda Items. (Discussion and Possible Action)

Member Sullivan said that he has been talking with Michael Boland from Presidio Trust about the study that had been done in conjunction with the CA Academy of Sciences about looking at habitat value of landscape plantings. Member Sullivan suggested there could be a presentation before the

full council about it, and expressed support for a new program studying habitat value of the street trees to help restore native plants.

Chair Lacan said he would send Member Sullivan a paper about habitat value of various plants.

Peter Brastow said he knows of someone from Chico who does relevant work, who might be able to make a presentation as well.

Member Troxel brought up the remote sensing and satellite imaging data, suggested bringing in Brian Quinn to talk about who has access to what data and how to obtain necessary data.

Peter Brastow asked if Public Works was ready to talk about the street tree nursery, either at the next meeting or the meeting after that. Member Crawford said they would need to chat about that.

Peter Brastow gave an update on the Annual Urban Forestry Report, and said it will be brought before the Council likely in October.

Public Comment:

Susan Karasoff expressed appreciation for the Presidio attempting to measure the habitat value of ornamental plants and mentioned a number of papers about habitat value. Karasoff reiterated that native plants need to be planted now.

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

The next Planning and Funding Committee meeting is on September 7, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. In compliance with the San Francisco Health Officer's Order No. C19-07c, directing all individuals to "shelter in place", public meetings, panels and other advisory bodies will continue on a remote conferencing basis only. Find out about upcoming deadlines, public hearings and meetings. Search the SFEnvironment.org website archived minutes and agenda.

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Option 1: Watch the meeting using a computer or smart device by clicking on the following link:

<https://ccsf.webex.com/ccsf/onstage/g.php?MTID=e4125575813efc3e8ca8ecfacb40b2dbb>

- If you are able to and would like to watch via your computer, please follow these instructions: i) Click on the link above; ii) Enter your first name, last name, and email address if desired; iii) Click "Join by Browser" (directly beneath the "Join Now" button);
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Dial: **415-655-0001** and then enter the Access Code: **146 866 6600**

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Members of the public will have opportunities to participate during public comment. The public is asked to wait for the particular agenda item before making a comment on that item. Comments will be addressed in the order they are received. When the moderator announces that the Committee is taking public comment, members of the public can:

Participate over the phone (see above) by pressing *3 (this step is very important, as it will activate the "Raise Hand" icon in the Participant window).

Depending on the number of people also in line ahead of you, you may have to wait before it is your opportunity to speak. When it is your turn, you will be notified that your line has been unmuted, and it will be your opportunity to speak. Your line will be muted again when your allotted time expires.

In accordance with Governor Gavin Newsom's statewide order for all residents to "Stay at Home" - and the numerous local and state proclamations, orders and supplemental directions - aggressive directives have been issued to slow down and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Copies of explanatory documents are available, 1) on the Urban Forestry Council webpage <https://sfenvironment.org/about/taskforce/urban-forestry-council>; or (2) upon request to the Commission Affairs Manager, at telephone number 415-355-3700, or via e-mail at katie.chansler@sfgov.org.

Important Information

The ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at this meeting. Please be advised that the Chair may order the removal from the meeting room of any person(s) responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices.

Public Comment

At this time, members of the public may address the Committee on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee but are not on today's agenda. Public comment will be taken following each agenda item. Each member of the public may address the Committee for up to three minutes, unless otherwise announced by the Chair. If it is demonstrated that the comments by the public will exceed 15 minutes, the Chair may continue Public Comment to another time during the meeting.

NOTE: Persons unable to attend the meeting may submit to the Committee, by the time the proceedings begin, written comments regarding the agenda items above. These comments will be made a part of the official public record and shall be brought to the attention of Committee Members. Any written comments should be sent to: Commission Affairs Manager, Department of the

Environment, katie.chansler@sfgov.org, by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the hearing. Written public comment received by the Council will be posted as an attachment to the minutes.

The Brown Act forbids the Committee from taking action or discussing any item or issue not appearing on the posted agenda. This rule applies to issues raised in public comment as well. In response to public comment, not on an agenda item, the Committee is limited to:

1. Briefly responding to statements made or questions posed by members of the public, or
2. Request staff to report back on a matter at a subsequent meeting, or
3. Directing staff to place the item or issue on a future agenda (Government Code Section 54954.2(a).)

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The Urban Forestry Council meetings will be held virtually. The Committee meeting rooms are closed.

The following services are available on request 48 hours prior to the meeting; except for Monday meetings, for which the deadline shall be 4:00 p.m. of the last business day of the preceding week: For American sign language interpreters or the use of a reader during a meeting, a sound enhancement system, and/or alternative formats of the agenda and minutes, please contact the Department of Environment at (415) 355-3700 or katie.chansler@sfgov.org to make arrangements for the accommodation. Late requests will be honored, if possible.

In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals. Individuals with chemical sensitivity or related disabilities should call the Mayor's Office on Disability at (415) 554-6789 or (415) 554-6799 (TTY) for additional information.

Language Access

Per the Language Access Ordinance (Chapter 91 of the San Francisco Administrative Code), Chinese, Spanish and or Filipino (Tagalog) interpreters will be available upon requests. Meeting Minutes may be translated, if requested, after they have been adopted by the Commission. Assistance in additional languages may be honored whenever possible. To request assistance with these services please contact the Commission Affairs Manager at 415-355-3700 or katie.chansler@sfgov.org, at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing. Late requests will be honored if possible.

語言服務

根據語言服務條例(三藩市行政法典第91章)，中文、西班牙語和/或菲律賓語(泰加洛語)傳譯人員在收到要求後將會提供傳譯服務。翻譯版本的會議記錄可在委員會通過後透過要求而提供。其他語言協助在可能的情況下也將可提供。上述的要求，請於會議前最少48小時致電 415-355-3700或電郵至 katie.chansler@sfgov.org向委員會秘書提出。逾期提出的請求，若可能的話，亦會被考慮接納。

Acceso A Idioma

De acuerdo con la Ordenanza de Acceso a Idiomas "Language Access Ordinance" (Capítulo 91 del Código Administrativo de San Francisco "Chapter 91 of the San Francisco Administrative Code") intérpretes de chino, español y/o filipino (tagalo) estarán disponibles de ser requeridos. Las minutas podrán ser traducidas, de ser requeridas, luego de ser aprobadas por la Comisión. La asistencia en idiomas adicionales se tomará en cuenta siempre que sea posible. Para solicitar asistencia con estos servicios favor comunicarse con el Secretario de la

Comisión al 415-355-3700, o katie.chansler@sfgov.org por lo menos 48 horas antes de la reunión. Las solicitudes tardías serán consideradas de ser posible.

Access Sa Wika

Ayon sa Language Access Ordinance (Chapter 91 ng San Francisco Administrative Code), maaaring mag-request ng mga tagapagsalin sa wikang Tsino, Espanyol, at/o Filipino (Tagalog). Kapag hiniling, ang mga kaganapan ng miting ay maaring isalin sa ibang wika matapos ito ay aprobahan ng komisyon. Maari din magkaroon ng tulong sa ibang wika. Sa mga ganitong uri ng kahilingan, mangyaring tumawag sa Clerk ng Commission sa 415-355-3700, o katie.chansler@sfgov.org sa hindi bababa sa 48 oras bago mag miting. Kung maari, ang mga late na hiling ay posibleng pagbibigyan.

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Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils, and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, City Hall, Room 244, One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4683 at Phone No.: (415) 554-7724; Fax No.: (415) 554-5163; E-mail: sotf@sfgov.org. Copies of the Sunshine Ordinance can be obtained from the Clerk of the Sunshine Task Force, the San Francisco Public Library and on the City's website at www.sfgov.org.

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Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance [SF Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code §2.100, et. seq] to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at: 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 220, San Francisco, CA 94102; telephone (415) 252-3100, fax (415) 252-3112; web site at www.sfgov.org/ethics.

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