



**City and County of San Francisco
Department of the Environment
Urban Forestry Council**

MEETING MINUTES DRAFT

**Friday, December 10, 2021, 8:30 a.m.
Remote meeting via web conference**

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

Council Members: Andrew Sullivan (Chair), Nicholas Crawford (Vice Chair, San Francisco Public Works), Jillian Keller, Morgan Vaisset-Fauvel, Igor Lacan, Ildiko Polony, Pamela Nagle, Edgar Xochitl Flores, Mike Sullivan, Damon Spigelman (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission), Oscar Hernandez-Gomez (San Francisco Planning Department), Tai Trang (Port of San Francisco), Spencer Potter (Recreation and Parks Department), and Lew Stringer (Presidio Trust)

Order of Business

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Present: Vice Chair Crawford, Member Keller, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter, Member Trang
Excused: Chair Sullivan
Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez

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

No Public Comment

3. Review and vote on whether to approve Resolution File 2021-04-UFC, Resolution Making Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code Section 54953(e).

Speaker: Peter Brastow, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator (Explanatory Document: Resolution File 2021-04-UFC) (Discussion and Action) The Council will consider adoption of a resolution making findings that newly enacted Government Code Section 54953(e) requires in order to allow the Council to hold meetings remotely, as currently required under local law, without complying with infeasible Brown Act requirements.

Upon a motion from Member Lacan and seconded by Member Nagle, the resolution was approved.

There was no public comment.

(Ayes: Member Keller, Vice Chair Crawford, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter; Excused: Chair Sullivan, Member Trang; Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez)

4. Adoption of Minutes of the October 26, 2021, Urban Forestry Council Regular Meeting.

(Explanatory Document: October 26, 2021, Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Possible Action)

Upon a motion from Vice Chair Crawford and seconded by Member Sullivan, the minutes were approved unanimously.

There was no public comment.

(Ayes: Member Keller, Vice Chair Crawford, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter; Excused: Chair Sullivan, Member Trang; Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez)

5. 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.

There was no public comment.

6. Review and vote on approving the 2021 Annual Urban Forest Report. Speaker: Peter Brastow, San Francisco Environment Urban Forestry Council Coordinator (Explanatory Document: Draft 2021 Annual Urban Forest Report) (Discussion and Possible Action)

Vice Chair Crawford explained that Public Works had not yet submitted their data, in part, due to losing responsible staff. He suggested continuing the item to the January meeting of the Council.

Member Trang joined the meeting late due to technical difficulties.

Upon a motion by Vice Chair Crawford and a second by Member Polony, the Council voted unanimously to continue the item to the January meeting.

(Ayes: Member Keller, Vice Chair Crawford, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter, Member Trang; Excused: Chair Sullivan; Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez)

There was no public comment.

7. Review and vote on approval of Resolution File 2021-05-UFC commending Matthew Stephen's service to the Urban Forestry Council. (Explanatory Document: Draft Resolution 2021-05-UFC) (Discussion and Possible Action)

Vice Chair Crawford read the resolution and added his appreciation of Matthew Stephen's insights on technology and tools.

Matthew Stephens expressed his appreciation for his time on the Council, and expressed confidence in his successor, Spencer Potter, for his new role on the Council.

The resolution was approved unanimously.

(Ayes: Member Keller, Vice Chair Crawford, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter; Excused: Chair Sullivan, Member Trang; Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez)

There was no public comment.

8. Review and vote on approval of Resolution File 2021-06-UFC commending Blake Troxel's service to the Urban Forestry Council. (Explanatory Document: Draft Resolution 2021-06-UFC) (Discussion and Possible Action)

Vice Chair Crawford read the resolution.

Member Nagle emphasized Blake's thoughtful and analytical contributions and expressed. Member Sullivan discussed how Blake always brought great new content to working group meetings.

Member Stringer discussed Blake's innovation and collaboration at the Presidio Trust.

Member Vaisset-Fauvel seconded the "force of nature" description.

Vice Chair Crawford said that Blake's fan club is probably growing to more parts of the country and wished him well.

The resolution was approved unanimously.

(Ayes: Member Keller, Vice Chair Crawford, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter, Member Trang; Excused: Chair Sullivan; Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez)

There was no public comment.

9. Discussion and vote on approval of Resolution File 2021-07-UFC in support of San Francisco's 2021 Climate Action Plan. Speaker: Ildiko Polony, Urban Forestry Council Member (Explanatory Document: Draft Resolution 2021-07-UFC SF Climate Action Plan) (Discussion and Action)

Member Polony introduced the resolution by discussing the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan, its purpose and process and the relationship between the resolution and society's response to climate change. She discussed the UFC's role in climate action, including how the UFC's strategic plan goals area reflected in the Healthy Ecosystems Chapter.

Member Polony proceeded to read the resolution.

Member Sullivan, who is also a member of the Commission on the Environment, discussed his support for the Climate Action Plan and the resolution supporting it.

Member Vaisset-Fauvel discussed his concern that planting trees is not going to save the climate. He said that it will help us suffer less.

Member Xochitl discussed his support for the resolution and pushing in the direction of policy change.

Member Stringer discussed his support for the resolution and the plan's language around biodiversity and the balance that it strikes between mitigation and local social and ecological health.

Member Potter discussed and expressed his gratitude for Peter Brastow's work in his role as the Biodiversity Coordinator for getting the Healthy Ecosystems Chapter in place. Member Potter also discussed wanting to acknowledge tensions in the implementation of the plan and mentioned the gas-powered equipment bans as an example as it relates to executing urban forestry.

Member Lacan discussed his concern that trees are in the Healthy Ecosystems Chapter.

Member Vaisset-Fauvel had to leave the meeting.

Public Comment: Marie Dunsmore from District 8 discussed the Climate Action Plan and her support and also her concern about the community paying the capital costs of sidewalk landscaping and also the reality on the ground of trees dying and being removed.

The resolution was approved unanimously.

(Ayes: Member Keller, Vice Chair Crawford, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter, Member Trang; Excused: Chair Sullivan; Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez)

10. Hearing on nomination for Landmark Tree Status of the Cork Oak (*Quercus suber*), located on 20th Street at Noe Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. The Council will hold a hearing to determine whether the tree nominated at the above location meets the criteria for designation as a landmark tree to forward findings to the Board of Supervisors. (Explanatory Documents: Resolution File No. 2021-08-UFC, Nomination Form, Sullivan Evaluation, Nagle Evaluation, Keller Evaluation, Spigelman Evaluation, Vaisset-Fauvel Evaluation, Landmark Tree Committee Report.) (Discussion and Action)

Peter Brastow introduced the item and Member Sullivan (Chair of the Landmark Tree Committee) reported on the unanimity on support for the tree at the Committee.

Vice Chair Crawford reminded the Council of the role of Landmark Trees and how trees in the public right-of-way are great candidates since they are visible to the public and not otherwise affecting anyone's private property rights.

Member Lacan moved to approve and seconded by Member Sullivan.

Public Comment: Dave Dea, the lead gardener at the tree's garden, discussed the beauty of the tree and that it is an anchor plant for the whole garden.

The resolution passed unanimously.

(Ayes: Member Keller, Vice Chair Crawford, Member Lacan, Member Polony, Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer, Member Spigelman, Member Potter,

Member Trang; Excused: Chair Sullivan, Member Vaisset-Fauvel; Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez)

11. Committee Reports: (Discussion)

Planning & Funding Committee. Igor Lacan, Committee Chair.

Landmark Tree Ad Hoc Committee. Mike Sullivan, Committee Chair.

Committee Chair Lacan reported on Brian Quinn's presentation regarding cost-sharing opportunity for LiDAR data flight.

Committee Chair Sullivan discussed that in addition to the cork oak, a couple more Landmark Tree nominations have come in that may be agendaized for January 6th committee meeting.

Public comment: Marie Dunsmore, an electrical engineer, discussed that LiDAR can be used to differentiate among tree types. Spectral type LiDAR data can do an even better job of tree identification (90% vs. 60%)

12. Staff Report. Peter Brastow, Urban Forestry Coordinator, San Francisco Department of the Environment (Discussion)

Peter Brastow discussed a meeting with Supervisor Chan's office re landmarking the McAllister buckeye. Peter discussed the coast live oak missing tree data being completed by an SF Environment intern. He discussed that the process of getting major developments before the UFC has not made any progress, and that the UFC has not had the Strategic Plan on the agenda for a while.

There was no public comment.

13. Urban Forestry Council Member Announcements. (Discussion)

Vice Chair Crawford discussed that CalTrans is supporting the street tree nursery at 5th and Harrison, that they will be putting that in writing by the end of 2021.

He also discussed that during a recent Board of Supervisors meeting, a commenter reminded the Board about the role of the UFC regarding supporting the Board with information and expertise.

There was no public comment.

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

Peter Brastow discussed mention of the street tree nursery; the City of LA forester; the Cal Academy study of landscape plants.

Vice Chair Crawford discussed deferring to Chair Sullivan and that we have a lighter agenda at the next meeting to be able to spend time on the annual report. Peter Brastow mentioned that the nominated Landmark trees may be on the January agenda as well.

There was no public comment.

15. Adjournment.

The next meeting of the Urban Forestry Council is scheduled for Friday, January 28, 2022, at 8:30 a.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.

Remote Access to Information and Participation

This meeting will be held remotely using video conferencing, through the WebEx Meetings platform, and by telephone for members of the public who are unable to attend using computers or smart devices.

Attending the Meeting: Watch or Listen

Members of the public have the following options for attending the meeting:

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=e8e30f0aba317f6ba1439f9237f5f06d4>

- 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);
- If you are able to watch via your smart mobile device: i) Download the Webex Meetings application; ii) Click on the link above; iii) Click "Join"; iv) Enter your name and email; v) Click "Ready to Join".

Option 2: Join the meeting by phone if you do not have access to a computer or smart device.

Dial: **415-655-0001** and then enter the Access Code: **2492 221 4696**

Participating During Public Comment

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 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 Urban Forestry Coordinator, at telephone number 415-355-3733, or via e-mail at peter.brastow@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, including to request items they may wish to be on a future 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, peter.brastow@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).)

Disability Access

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) 355-3733 or peter.brastow@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 peter.brastow@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 415-355-3709或電郵至 peter.brastow@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 415-355-3733, o peter.brastow@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 415-355-3733, o peter.brastow@sfgov.org sa hindi bababa sa 48 oras bago mag miting. Kung maari, ang mga late na hiling ay posibleng pagbibigyan.

Know Your Rights Under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code)

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: soff@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.

Lobbyist Registration and Reporting Requirements

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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Posted: December 6, 2021