



Tree Board 2018 Annual Report

City of Lake Forest Park



Introduction

This report summarizes the work conducted by the Tree Board for calendar year 2018, as well as the current commissioner term status and work for the upcoming year and beyond.

- The Lake Forest Park tree board advises the city council, with a primary responsibility for making policy and regulatory recommendations concerning the management of trees and forest canopy in Lake Forest Park.
- The tree board additionally holds the responsibility of providing outreach and education to the community on tree-related issues, including, but not limited to, organizing public events involving trees.

Tree Board Members

Member	Term Expires	Status
David Kleweno (*)	2/28/20	Active
Courtney Siebken (**)	2/28/20	Active
Julia Bent	2/28/19	Retiring
Timothy Hohn	2/28/20	Active
Gordon Smith	2/28/20	Active
Tyson Greer	2/28/20	Active
Carl Cook	2/28/22	Active

* Chair

**Vice-Chair

Highlights and Summary

- Reviewed and analyzed ELM Consulting's 2016 Lake Forest Park tree canopy study.
- Developed street tree planting events
- Organized an Arbor Day event
- Developed public outreach content

Chronological Summary

Date	Event/Topic	Description
January 3, 2018	Street tree planting planning	Board members discussed planting street trees in neighborhoods and city parks, and options for using vouchers.
	Tree Removal Permit Review	Assistant Planner Lauren Hoerr

		distributed tree removal permit data for the year of 2017 for the board to review.
February 7, 2018	Mayor Discussion	Mayor Johnson attended the meeting to give the board his take on their priorities, and take questions.
	ELM Consultants Tree Canopy Study Update	ELM employees attended to give an update to the board regarding their methodology, how LIDAR was being used, and received feedback and requests from board members.
	Crane Property Testimony	The board heard 9 public testimonies in opposition to the tree removal at the Crane property.
March 7, 2018	Ashley Adams Introduction	Newly hired City Arborist, Ashley Adams, attended to meet the board members and take questions/comments
	Arbor Day Planning - Tyson Greer & Tom Hanson	Tyson Greer gave an update about coordinating with local schools for the Arbor Day poetry contest. Tom Hanson arranged to have DNR representative attend a City Council meeting to commend the 15th anniversary of LFP as a Tree City USA.
	Election of officers	Elected David Kleweno as Chair, and Courtney Siebken as Vice Chair.
	Green Fair	Board members hosted a table at the Green Fair, handing out plants and tree advice pamphlets to attendees.
April 4, 2018	Newsletter Outreach	Gordon Smith drafted a short article for the LFP summer newsletter, regarding tree regulations and hazard trees.
	Arbor Day event 4/28/18	Tree Board members arranged a poetry display at Animal Acres Park, and hosted a face painting booth and plant giveaway.
May 2, 2018	Sewer insert outreach	Board members began discussing the possibility of creating an educational insert to be sent to residents with sewer bills. Outcome: A sewer insert was drafted, distribution pending.
	Real estate agent outreach	Board members discussed ideas for disseminating information about tree

		regulations to real estate agents, as a way to educate potential residents.
June 13, 2018	ELM Consultants Tree Canopy Study final presentation	ELM delivered a presentation about the final tree canopy study findings.
	Internship Proposal	Tyson Greer proposed the use of a Streamkeepers grant to hire an intern to the City of LFP Planning Department to help compile and analyze tree permit data. Outcome: Justin Felder was hired on a six month contract.
	Tree Permit Data Review	Lauren Hoerr, Assistant Planner, provided YTD tree removal permit data to the board, and agreed to begin providing this monthly. Note: Summary provided at end of report
July 11, 2018	Ashley Adams Update	City Arborist, Ashley Adams, attended to give an update about her job, tree removal data, and request for input from board members on some projects.
	Street Tree Planting SPU Reservoir	Julia Bent began coordinating with Pubic Works to plant tree planting near the SPU reservoir.
August 22, 2018	Tree Canopy Study	Board members discussed the canopy study results. Outcome: Board proposed that the city consider the study complete, pending some missing deliverables.
	LFP Farmer’s Market Outreach	David Kleweno reported that the Tree Board will be able to secure a booth for the 2019 farmer’s market season.
September 5, 2018	Tree Canopy Study ground truthing	Board members decided to personally check ~30 parcels in LFP to determine if ELM’s results regarding canopy increase/decrease seem reasonable, and to assess English Ivy threat.
	Groves/Stands	Tom Hohn provided research about the importance of trees being considered as part of a stand or grove. Outcome: It was decided that, since stands/groves are mentioned in the tree regulations, the board should recommend having stands and/or groves included in the definitions.

October 3, 2018	Short Plats: Tree Tract and Canopy Coverage Goals	Lauren Hoerr, Assistant Planner, gave a presentation on current code canopy coverage goals in relationship to the creation of tree tracts during short platting for the board to review and provide input on.
	Ivy Removal	The board discussed the ivy problem in the city, and decided to prioritize the areas surrounding the city's creeks. Outcome: Julia Bent and Ashley Adams scouted McAleer Creek and chose an area of particular concern to focus on ivy removal.
November 7, 2018	Tree Data Intern Report	Justin Felder, LFP Planning Department's intern, gave a presentation on the tree removal permit information he had been analyzing from 2016, answered questions, and received feedback from the board.
	Ground Truthing	Julia Bent, Tom Hanson, and Gordon Smith, reviewed 29 parcels from the ELM canopy study to judge whether or not they believed the canopy had increased or decreased, according to the study's results. Outcome: The group decided that the ELM findings regarding canopy increase/decrease were acceptable.
	Canopy Study Continuation	It was discussed that some canopy study items were still outstanding. Outcome: A sub-committee was formed to decide which outstanding topics need to be hired out to a consultant.
December 12, 2018	Tree Canopy Study Proposal	A sub-committee identified 7 outstanding items that they would like to have a consultant complete in regard to the ELM canopy study. Outcome: It was decided a proposal should be drafted to hire Chris Overdorf, previously of ELM, to complete the work.
	Ivy Removal Update	Julia Bent spoke to Earthcorps and King Conservation District Outcome: Tentative agreement to collaborate on removing ivy from a section of McAleer Creek spanning 16 properties.

2018 Tree Permit Monthly Summary						
Month	Number of Landmark Trees	Number of Significant Trees	Number of Invasive Trees	Total Number of Trees	Number of Permits	Replacement Canopy Required
January	7	13	0	20	10	5,490
February	1	17	0	18	12	4,042
March	14	28	0	42	19	16,427
April	7	29	1	37	16	9,318
May	6	25	0	31	12	4,825
June	10	28	0	38	21	7,935
July	8	19	1	28	18	7,327
August	7	24	13	44	13	4,323
September	4	23	0	27	12	3,701
October (*)	3	31	6	40	19	3,353
November	1	6	1	8	8	2,280
December	6	9	1	16	12	6,093
2018 TOTAL	74	252	23	349	172	75,114

*Did not include short plat proposal to remove 54 trees