

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE  
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 11, 2012 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Participation in the Suburban Tree Consortium and Tree Supply and Planting Services for FY 2013	✓ Resolution Ordinance Motion Discussion Only	Nan Newlon, P.E. Director of Public Works

**SYNOPSIS**

A resolution has been prepared to continue the Village's participation in the Suburban Tree Consortium and to authorize tree supply and planting services in the amount of \$120,000.00 for FY13.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

The goals for 2011 to 2018 include *Steward of Financial and Environmental Sustainability* as well as *Exceptional Municipal Services*.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The FY13 Budget includes \$120,000 in the General Fund for tree planting and associated contractual services.

**UPDATE & RECOMMENDATION**

This item was discussed at the December 4, 2012 Council meeting. In response to resident questions regarding the difference between the annual Tree Consortium resolution and actual tree purchases, staff reviewed the 2012 tree plantings. In 2012, fewer trees needed to be replaced than originally planned. The annual resolution prepared for submission to the tree consortium is an estimate. The actual number of parkway trees planted each year is determined by the number of tree removals that have recently occurred, construction of new subdivisions, requests for additional parkway trees by residents and parkway locations identified for new trees. Every year staff estimates the number of tree plantings and removals for budgeting purposes and then adjusts the number throughout the year.

For 2012 staff estimated the expected tree losses understanding they could be trending higher because of Ash tree loss due to EAB. As a result of chemical treatments or other causes, the number of trees lost in 2012 was not as high as anticipated. In 2012 staff planted 388 parkway trees, which allowed the Village to replace the trees that were lost as well as all resident requests.

New tree plantings scheduled for spring 2013 will replace trees removed in the fall and winter. Staff will continue to monitor the condition of the Village's Ash trees, and anticipates seeing the number of replacement parkway trees increase in the future. A report on the Village's tree replacement can be found in the Urban Forestry manual located here: <http://www.downers.us/res/forestry/urban-forestry-and-municipal-landscape-manual>. Chapter 4 shows the history of tree planting from 1989 to 2011.

Staff recommends approval on the December 11, 2012 Active Agenda.

**BACKGROUND**

The Village obtains tree supply and planting services through the Suburban Tree Consortium (STC), which currently has 38 municipal members. Downers Grove has been active in this group since 1987. The STC provides members with a consistent supply of quality trees of the species and varieties requested

for the municipal parkways in an efficient and cost effective manner by maintaining contracts with several northern Illinois nurseries. Collectively, STC members annually purchase over 5,500 trees.

A total of 375 new and replacement parkway trees are planned to be planted this coming spring and fall at an estimated cost of \$120,000. The majority of these will replace parkway trees that were lost due to storms, disease, decline or death. This includes plantings to replace ash trees which were removed due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Currently, 51 plantings scheduled for spring will replace ash trees. For all plantings, the Forestry staff works with residents to identify locations for new trees and honors resident requests for specific tree species when practical.

The Village has systematically been expanding and maintaining the urban forest since the 1970's and has been a member of Tree City USA for the past 28 years. Our history of parkway tree planting for the past five years is summarized as follows:

2008 – 239 trees	\$63,944.10
2009 – 394 trees	\$102,030.99
2010 – 264 trees	\$66,914.00
2011 – 347 trees	\$106,339.20
2012 – 388 trees	\$128,568.75
2013 – 375 trees	\$120,000.00 (planned)

The STC requires that municipalities present a resolution annually. Included in the resolution to continue with the STC is a list of trees that Forestry staff has advance-ordered for Downers Grove. The order includes trees that are more difficult to obtain, as well as those species that are typically requested by residents. The advance-ordering process has allowed staff to secure and obtain interesting trees such as miyabe maple and various new hybrid elms that are more resistant to Dutch elm disease. The advance order is a conservative quantity to ensure flexibility and the ability to add trees with each planting season subject to need.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Resolution

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**  
**COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY**

**INITIATED:** Village Manager **DATE:** December 11, 2012  
(Name)

**RECOMMENDATION FROM:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FILE REF:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Board or Department)

**NATURE OF ACTION:**

**STEPS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT ACTION:**

- Ordinance
- Resolution
- Motion
- Other

Motion to Adopt "A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING INTENT TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE SUBURBAN TREE CONSORTIUM AND TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN PURCHASES FOR FY 2013", as presented.

**SUMMARY OF ITEM:**

Adoption of this motion shall express intent to continue Participation in the suburban tree consortium and to authorize certain purchases for FY 2013.

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**RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN:**

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**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING INTENT TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE SUBURBAN TREE CONSORTIUM AND TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN PURCHASES FOR FY 2013**

WHEREAS, the Village of Downers Grove has heretofore joined the cooperative known as the Suburban Tree Consortium and has, on August 17, 2004, previously adopted Resolution No. 04-51 entitled "A Resolution Expressing Intent to Continue to Participate in the Suburban Tree Consortium", and

WHEREAS, the Village Council has determined that it is necessary and desirable to authorize purchases from the tree consortium for FY 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Downers Grove, in DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Village does hereby express its intent to remain a member of the Suburban Tree Consortium and to procure parkway trees through the Consortium, subject to sufficient annual budgeting therefore for the five-year period. A summary of the anticipated 5-year order is attached.

SECTION 2. The Village Manager is authorized to cause the purchase of trees and other vegetation in an amount of \$120,000.00 in addition to net proceeds of the money collected as fines for damaged trees as recommended by the Village Forester for FY 2013.

SECTION 3. All ordinances and resolutions, or parts of ordinances and resolutions, in conflict with this resolution are hereby rescinded.

SECTION 4. The Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Suburban Tree Consortium Secretariat at the West Central Municipal Conference Office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Passed:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Village Clerk

Suburban Tree Consortium 5 year orders

**For Downers Grove only**

Spring 2013	10 2" Sugar Maple, 5 2" Ginkgo, 10 Swamp White Oak, 5 2" Bur Oak, 5 2" Red Oak , 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 2 2" Catalpa, 5 2" Hackberry, 10 2" Pear, 5 2" Chinkapin Oak, 5 2" Tree Lilac, 3 2" Triumph Elm
Fall 2013	10 2" Sugar Maple, 5 2" Kentucky Coffeetree, 5 2" Ginkgo, 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 5 2" Hackberry
Spring 2014	10 2" Sugar Maple, 5 2" Ginkgo, 10 Swamp White Oak, 5 2" Bur Oak, 5 2" Red Oak , 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 2 2" Catalpa, 5 2" Hackberry, 10 2" Pear, 5 2" Chinkapin Oak, 5 2" Tree Lilac, 3 2" Triumph Elm
Fall 2014	10 2" Sugar Maple, 5 2" Kentucky Coffeetree, 5 2" Ginkgo, 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 5 2" Hackberry
Spring 2015	10 2" Sugar Maple, 5 2" Ginkgo, 10 Swamp White Oak, 5 2" Bur Oak, 5 2" Red Oak , 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 2 2" Catalpa, 5 2" Hackberry, 10 2" Pear, 5 2" Chinkapin Oak, 5 2" Tree Lilac, 3 2" Triumph Elm
Fall 2015	10 2" Sugar Maple, 10 2" Honeylocust, 10 2" Kentucky Coffeetree, 10 2" Littleleaf Linden, 5 2" Ginkgo, 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 10 2" Freeman Maple, 5 2" Hackberry
Spring 2016	10 2" Sugar Maple, 2 2" River Birch, 5 2" Ginkgo, 5 2" Red Crabapples, 10 Swamp White Oak, 5 2" Tuliptree, 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 10 2" Freeman Maple, 2 2" Catalpa, 5 2" Hackberry, 15 2" Pear, 5 2" Chinkapin Oak, 5 2" Tree Lilac, 3 2" Triumph Elm
Fall 2016	10 2" Sugar Maple, 10 2" Honeylocust, 10 2" Kentucky Coffeetree, 10 2" Littleleaf Linden, 5 2" Ginkgo, 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 10 2" Freeman Maple, 5 2" Hackberry
Spring 2017	10 2" Sugar Maple, 2 2" River Birch, 5 2" Ginkgo, 5 2" Red Crabapples, 10 Swamp White Oak, 5 2" Tuliptree, 5 2" Miyabe Maple, 10 2" Freeman Maple, 2 2" Catalpa, 5 2" Hackberry, 15 2" Pear, 5 2" Chinkapin Oak, 5 2" Tree Lilac, 3 2" Triumph Elm

**All 38 STC members collectively purchase over 5,500 trees annually**

Arlington Heights, Aurora, Batavia, Berwyn, Brookfield, Burr Ridge, Clarendon Hills, Deerfield, Des Plaines, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Evanston, Geneva, Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, Glenview, Hickory Hills, Hinsdale, Kenilworth, LaGrange, LaGrange Park, Lincolnwood, Lisle, Lombard, Maywood, Mundelein, New Lenox, Northbrook, Northlake, Oak Lawn, Oak Park, Park Ridge, Plainfield, Riverside, Sugar Grove, Western Springs, Westmont, Wheeling