

Memo

To: Hazen Blodgett, Town Manager
From: Ralph S. Messera, Public Works Director
Date: January 9, 2008
Subject: Urban Forest Management Plan

Action Needed:

Submission and brief review to the Board on January 14, for authorization at the January 28 Board Meeting.

Vision Statements Supported:

#1- Small Town Feeling and Identity
#7- Health Town Financial Footing

Background:

The preparation of this plan was required as a part of the Tree Ordinance that was adopted by the Board in December and is part of an overall comprehensive review and update to our regulations regarding tree maintenance.

The others are:

- Zoning Ordinance Modifications- Adopted by Board October, 2007
- Free Standing Tree Ordinance- Adopted by Board December, 2007
- Urban Forest management Plan- Authorization requested Jan. 2008
- Subdivision Ordinance Modifications- Expected to come to Board in February or March 2008

This document is to be the annual working plan for the Public Works Department, Landscape Division as it carries out the requirements of the Tree Ordinance. It is the desire of the department to have the Board fully aware of the procedures and budget plans that we will be using. Page 4 calls for its "authorization" by the Board.

The Tree canopy along the street R/W's, along with public and private property is a substantial investment in the town's infrastructure and this plan provides a systematic approach to its finance, maintenance and improvement.

The preparation of this plan was partially financed through a grant from the NC Department of Forest Resources.

cc: Pat Meehan