



WINDERMERE TREE BOARD

Chair: Frank Krens

Vice Chair: Vicki Hearst

Secretary: Bonnie Di Cocco

Treasurer: Pamela Schrimsher

Joan Foglia

Olga Aleksandrova

Elena LaRochelle

Agenda

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Council Liaison: Brandi Haines

May 10, 2024

9:00 AM

**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM
614 MAIN STREET, BUILDING 100
WINDERMERE, FL 34786**

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS

PLEASE NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH F.S. 286.26: Person with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any such proceedings should contact the Office of the Clerk at least 48 hours beforehand at (407) 876-2563.

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2005-12 adopted on December 13, 2005, the following Civility Code shall govern all proceedings before the Town of Windermere Windermere Tree Board:

1. All electronic devices, including cell phones and pagers, shall be either turned off or otherwise silenced.
2. Prolonged conversation shall be conducted outside Council meeting hall.
3. Whistling, heckling, gesturing, loud conversations, or other disruptive behavior is prohibited.
4. Only those individuals who have signed the speaker list and/or/who have been recognized by the Mayor (or Chair) may address comments to the Council.
5. Comments at public hearings shall be limited to the subject being considered by the Council
6. Comments at Open Forums shall be directed to Town issues.
7. All public comments shall avoid personal attacks and abusive language
8. No person attending a Windermere Tree Board meeting is to harass, annoy, or otherwise disturb any other person in the room.

Any member of the public whose behavior is disruptive and violates the Town of Windermere Civility Code is subject to removal from the Windermere Tree Board meeting by an officer and such other actions as may be appropriate. PLEASE NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH F.S. 286.0105: Any person who desires to appeal any decision at this meeting will need a record of this proceeding. For this, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of such proceeding is made which includes the

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. WORKSHOP

**a. Strategic Planning Session #2 - Tree Board – Facilitator, Thomas Kohler,
GAI Consultants**

3. ADJOURN

TOWN OF WINDERMERE – TREE BOARD WORKSHOP

March 2024 | Facilitated by GAI Consultants

Our Vision

To safeguard and enhance the urban canopy, ensuring its vitality and resilience for generations to come. We aspire to be a respected and influential advocate, championing the cause of trees, green spaces, and sustainable urban ecosystems. Through collaboration, education, and strategic action, we envision a future where our community thrives amidst a flourishing and diverse tree canopy.

Our Mission

The Tree Board is dedicated to nurturing and enhancing the urban canopy within our municipal boundaries. We achieve this through a multifaceted approach:

- 1 Education of Constituents:** We empower our community by providing knowledge and awareness about the importance of trees. Through workshops, outreach programs, and educational campaigns, we foster a deeper understanding of the role trees play in our environment.
- 2 Preservation and Protection:** We are staunch advocates for the preservation and protection of our urban canopy. By enforcing tree ordinances, promoting sustainable practices, and addressing safety concerns, we ensure the longevity of our green assets.
- 3 Proliferation of Urban Canopy:** Our commitment extends beyond maintenance. We actively engage in tree plantings, reforestation efforts, and the expansion of green spaces. This not only enhances property values but also contributes to carbon sequestration and effective stormwater management.
- 4 Beautification and Aesthetics:** We collaborate to leverage resources for parks, recreational areas, and the public realm to enhance community aesthetics. By strategically planting and maintaining trees, we create inviting and visually appealing landscapes for residents and visitors alike.

City of Windermere, FL

Goals & Objectives



GOAL 1 DEVELOP ADDITIONAL EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Objective

Broaden the types of forums for education and information dissemination.

Strategies

- Community Workshops: Organize regular workshops and seminars on tree care, planting techniques, and the benefits of urban trees. Invite local experts and arborists to share their knowledge.
- Community Events: Build on Arbor Day event to include participation in other community-wide festivals and public activities as part of advocacy program for Tree Board initiatives.
- School Programs: Collaborate with schools to integrate tree education into the curriculum. Create engaging materials for students, such as tree identification guides and interactive activities.
- Online Resources: Develop a comprehensive website or online portal with resources like tree care guides, videos, and FAQs. Ensure it's accessible to all community members.
- Tree Walks: Conduct guided tree walks in parks and neighborhoods. Educate participants about different tree species, their ecological roles, and historical significance.
- Partnerships: Partner with environmental organizations, garden clubs, and other community groups. Leverage their expertise and networks to expand educational outreach.

Remember, an informed community is more likely to appreciate and actively participate in tree-related initiatives!



GOAL 2 MAINTAIN "TREE CITY" DESIGNATION

Objective

Continuously meet the criteria for the "Tree City" designation.

Strategies

- Regularly assess compliance with the requirements set by the Arbor Day Foundation.
- Collaborate with local government and community stakeholders to ensure ongoing adherence to tree-related standards.
- Celebrate Arbor Day annually with tree-planting events and educational programs.



GOAL 3 AWARENESS OF IMPLEMENTATION INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEDULE & LOCATION

Objective

Ensure that community members are informed about tree-related projects and infrastructure improvements.

Strategies

- Develop location maps for construction sites for website.



GOAL 4 MITIGATION PLAN FOR 500 BLOCK RESOLUTION (SHORT- TERM)

Objective

Resolve any outstanding issues related to the mitigation plan for the 500 Block.

Strategies

- Engage with stakeholders, and developer, to address concerns.
- Review the existing mitigation plan, identify gaps, and propose solutions.
- Collaborate with staff to ensure compliance with mitigation requirements.



**GOAL 5
DESIGNATION PROCESS FOR
“HERITAGE & MEMORIAL TREES”**

Objective

Establish a thoughtful process for designating trees as “Heritage caliber” or in memory of individuals or significant events.

Strategies

- Develop clear guidelines for selecting heritage and memorial trees, considering factors like species, location, and significance.
- Involve community input to honor local history and culture.
- Create a formal application process for requesting memorial tree designations.



**GOAL 6
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
MONITORING FOR WARD TRAIL
PROJECTS (SHORT-TERM)**

Objective

Ensure that landscape designs for Ward Trail projects align with agreed-upon preservation and location guidelines.

Strategies

- Regularly assess landscape plans against the established criteria.
- Collaborate closely with Kimley Horn, the landscape architecture consultant, to verify compliance.
- Address any deviations promptly to maintain the desired quality.



**GOAL 7
UPDATE REGULATORY CODES
FOR MITIGATION**

Objective

Enhance existing codes related to mitigation, fines, replacement criteria, and the overall process.

Strategies

- Conduct a comprehensive review of current codes.
- Propose amendments to strengthen enforcement, streamline processes, and improve clarity.
- Seek input from legal experts, environmental specialists, and community members.



**GOAL 8
DEVELOP SITE PLAN FOR FUTURE
PLANTING OPPORTUNITIES**

Objective

Identify and plan for future tree planting opportunities within the public realm.

Strategies

- Survey public spaces, parks, and streets to assess potential planting sites.
- Prioritize areas with low tree coverage or high visibility.
- Collaborate with landscape architects and urban planners to create a detailed site plan.

Next Steps/Priorities

1. Develop a budget supporting initiatives for current and fiscal year (“FY”) 2024–2025 | (2 months) *Tonya/Board Committee*
2. Board education opportunities: seminars, conferences, etc. | (4 weeks) *Tonya*
3. Plant unadopted trees | (6 weeks) *Vicki*
4. Resolve 500 Block mitigation plan | (6 weeks) *Vicki/Elena/Tonya*
5. Grove enhancement program | (3 months) *Frank/Board Committee*
6. Regulatory code updates | (6 months) *Brad/Tonya*
7. Develop educational calendar of events and needed resource support | (6 months) *Frank/Board Committee*
8. Develop a “Florida Friendly” tree planting list for recommendation for inclusion in regulatory updates | (12 months) *Board Committee/Staff*

Prepared By:

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