



REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: December 4, 2007

SUBJECT: Tree City USA Recertification

Report in Brief

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution supporting the application for recertifying the City of Woodland as a Tree City USA.

Background

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. Woodland was designated as a Tree City USA for the first time in 2000 and has been recertified every year since.

A community's public image is a very real phenomenon and important in many ways. Being a Tree City USA helps present the kind of image that most citizens want to have for the place they live or conduct business. The Tree City USA signs that are placed at our community entrances tell visitors that here is a community that cares about its environment. It is also an indication to prospective businesses that the quality of life may be better here. It has even been known to be a factor in where meetings or conferences have been held.

Preference is sometimes given to Tree City USA communities over other communities when allocations of grant money are made for trees or forestry programs. The reason is that there are invariably more requests than available funds when grants are available through state or federal agencies. If requests are equally worthy, some officials tend to have more confidence in communities that have demonstrated the foresight of becoming a Tree City USA.

To be eligible for Tree City USA, cities must have:

1. A Tree Board or Department
2. A Community Tree Ordinance
3. A Community Forestry Program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita
4. An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

The City meets the above standards in 2007 by employing staff in the Tree Branch of the Public Works Department and supporting the Parks and Recreation Commission, having a tree ordinance, a tree budget of \$488,027, and celebrating Arbor Day.

Discussion

Support of this recertification would reflect the City’s continuing commitment to our urban forest and the quality of life that these assets provide the community. Recertification also supports Woodland’s heritage as the “City of Trees”.

Fiscal Impact

The resources necessary to support recertification are included in the FY 08 budget.

Public Contact

Posting of the City Council agenda.

Commission Recommendation

Tree City USA recertification is supported yearly by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution supporting the application for recertifying the City of Woodland as a Tree City USA.

Prepared by: Robert G. Sanders
Infrastructure O&M Superintendent

Reviewed by: Dick Donnelly
Deputy Director Public Works

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachments: Resolution
Expenditure Breakdown
Application (Parks & Recreation Commission Information)

CITY OF WOODLAND
TREE CITY USA—APPLICATION FOR RECERTIFICATION 2007

December 4, 2007

BREAKDOWN OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY EXPENDITURES

Tree Planting and Initial Care

Includes cost of tree purchases, labor and equipment for planting, planting materials, stakes, wrapping, mulching, competition control, etc.

\$ 20,689

Community Forest Management

Includes pruning, public education, professional training, memberships, salaries, street and park tree inventory, pest management, fertilization, etc.

345,839

Tree Removals

Includes cost of saws and equipment, supplies and labor.

40,897

Other

Contract pruning and removals

80,602

Total

\$488,027

**Attachment 1
City of Woodland
Tree City USA
Application for Recertification 2007**

Parks and Recreation Commission

Members: Angie Dennie, Tanya McKay, John Murphy, Nate Peterson, Jack Slaven, and Wim Van Muyden

2007 Meeting Dates: January 22, March 19, April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23, August 27, October 1, and November 26.

RESOLUTION ____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION
FOR TREE CITY U.S.A. RECERTIFICATION**

WHEREAS, the National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, recognizes towns and cities across America that meet the standards of the TREE CITY USA program; and

WHEREAS, trees reduce the erosion of topsoil, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, provide habitat for wildlife and beautify our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Woodland Parks and Recreation Commission was established by City Ordinance “to act in an advisory capacity in matters pertaining to the planting and maintenance of trees growing on public property...”; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Woodland has further demonstrated its commitment to the urban forest by allocating significant budgetary and human resources to its care; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Woodland supports Arbor Day activities to promote public awareness of the tremendous value of trees as a renewable resource in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Woodland proudly embraces its reputation as “The City of Trees”; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Woodland was honored with the designation of Tree City U.S.A. for the first time in 2000, and has been recertified every year since.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Woodland fully supports the Parks and Recreation Commission application to recertify the City of Woodland as a “Tree City U.S.A.”.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS Fourth day of December, 2007 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Dave Flory, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan L. Vannucci, CMC, City Clerk