

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE SYSTEM

Mayor's Order 2015-260
December 22, 2015

SUBJECT: District of Columbia Urban Forestry Advisory Committee

ORIGINATING AGENCY: Office of the Mayor

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the District of Columbia by section 422(6) and (11) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act of 1973, approved December 24, 1973, 87 Stat. 790, Pub. L. 93-198, D.C. Official Code § 1-204.22(6) and (11) (2014 Repl.), it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

I. ESTABLISHMENT

There is established in the executive branch of the government of the District of Columbia, a District of Columbia Urban Forestry Advisory Committee (“Advisory Committee”).

II. PURPOSE

The Advisory Committee is established to facilitate coordination and communication and to present research and best practices to assist the District in meeting its goal to cover forty percent (40%) of the District with a healthy tree canopy by 2032 and to help meet its other environmental goals through the growth and maintenance of the tree canopy. The Advisory Committee shall coordinate and promote advocacy and education efforts to engage residents, businesses, and governmental entities across the District.

III. FUNCTIONS

The Advisory Committee shall:

- A. Serve as a forum for coordination of tree-related activities between non-profit and private sector entities and District agencies. This work will include identifying opportunities, challenges, obstacles and innovative solutions for improving coordination across the District, sharing best practices and data.
- B. Educate District residents on the benefits of trees beyond tree canopy, to include the impact on reducing stormwater runoff, environmental justice,

public health and safety, climate change, urban heat island mitigation, and habitat restoration.

- C. Develop strategies to improve and ensure consistent messaging around tree planting and canopy coverage goals in the District.
- D. Strengthen tree-related programs in the District by:
 - 1. Researching potential local and regional policies; and
 - 2. Identifying sources of funding, training opportunities, and technical resources.
- E. Facilitate dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders.
- F. Research and promote best practices and innovative strategies that can assist the District in:
 - 1. Meeting its goal to cover forty percent (40%) of the District with healthy tree canopy by 2032; and
 - 2. Meeting other environmental goals through the growth and maintenance of the tree canopy, including: reducing stormwater runoff; improving air quality; mitigating urban heat island effect; enhancing the habitat; cleaning the Anacostia River and watershed; securing environmental justice and equity for underserved communities; and creating a more diverse ecosystem where wildlife can thrive.
- G. Prepare and submit an annual report to the Mayor containing an overview of the Advisory Committee's deliberations and any findings and recommendations so the District can remain on track to meet its goal to cover forty percent (40%) of the District with a healthy tree canopy by 2032.

IV. COMPOSITION

The Advisory Committee shall be composed of the following twelve (12) members:

- A. The following five (5) District government members:

1. The Director of the District Department of Transportation (“**DDOT**”), or the Director’s designee;
 2. The Director of the Department of Energy and Environment (“**DOEE**”), or the Director’s designee;
 3. The Director of the District Department of Parks and Recreation, or the Director’s designee;
 4. The Director of the Department of General Services, or the Director’s designee; and
 5. The General Manager of DC Water, or the General Manager’s designee.
- B. The following one (1) Utility member:
1. One (1) representative of the Potomac Electric Power Company (“**Pepco**”).
- C. The following two (2) federal government members, provided that they consent to serve:
1. One (1) representative of the National Park Service (“**NPS**”); and
 2. One (1) representative of the General Services Administration (“**GSA**”).
- D. The following two (2) technical members:
1. Two (2) persons affiliated with District-based non-profits that focus on trees, urban forestry, environmental policy, watershed protection, or sustainability.
- E. The following two (2) community members:
1. Two (2) District residents knowledgeable in the fields of business, urban forestry, public policy, environmental protection, health, public administration; or environmental justice and equity.

V. TERMS

- A. The District government, technical, and community members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Mayor. The utility member of the Advisory Committee representing Pepco shall be appointed by the Mayor upon the recommendation of the Region President of Pepco. The federal government member representing NPS shall be appointed by the Mayor upon the consent and recommendation of the National Capital Region Director of NPS, and the federal government member representing GSA shall be appointed by the Mayor upon the consent and recommendation of the Regional Administration of the National Capital Region of GSA.
- B. District government members of the Advisory Committee shall serve during their incumbency in the position from which they were appointed and at the pleasure of the Mayor.
- C. Technical and community members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed to three (3) year terms. No technical or community member of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed to the Advisory Committee for more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- D. The Utility member of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed to a three (3) year term.
- E. The Federal government members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed to three (3) year terms.
- F. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner and by the same entity as the original appointment to the position that became vacant. The term of a community member or a technical member appointed to fill a vacancy shall be for the remainder of the unexpired portion of the term.

VI. ORGANIZATION

- A. The Advisory Committee shall be co-chaired by the Director of DDOT and the Director of DOEE, or the Directors' designees.
- B. The Co-Chairs shall convene the first meeting of the Advisory Committee within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Mayor's Order.

- C. The Advisory Committee may establish subcommittees as necessary. The subcommittees may include one (1) or more voting members who are not members of the Advisory Committee, provided that the majority of the members of each subcommittee are members of the Advisory Committee and each subcommittee is chaired by an Advisory Committee member.
- D. The Advisory Committee shall make its decisions according to Roberts Rules of Order.
- E. A majority of the Advisory Committee members shall constitute a quorum of the Advisory Committee.

VII. ADMINISTRATION

- A. The Advisory Committee shall communicate its activities to the public, using the technologies available to DDOT and DOEE.
- B. DDOT and DOEE shall provide staff support to the Advisory Committee by coordinating and scheduling all activities necessary for the Advisory Committee to function effectively.

VIII. MEETINGS

- A. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once quarterly.
- B. Public notice of each meeting of the Advisory Committee shall be provided at least ten (10) days before each meeting.
- C. Notwithstanding subsection B. of this section, the Co-Chairs of the Advisory Committee may call an emergency meeting without ten (10) day advance notice to address an urgent matter, provided notice is made available to the public when the members of the Advisory Committee are notified of the meeting.

IX. **EFFECTIVE DATE** This Order shall become effective immediately.


MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

ATTEST: 
LAUREN C. VAUGHAN
SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA