

June 22, 2021

BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH, MONMOUTH COUNTY

RESOLUTION 2021-172

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CREATING A BOROUGH-WIDE TREE INVENTORY THAT WILL INCLUDE STORM ASSESSMENT, TREES AT RISK ASSESSMENT, AND INSECT AND DISEASE ASSESSMENT. THIS REPORT OF OUR TREE INVENTORY WILL PROVIDE US WITH A COMPLETE REPORT OF OUR TREES, AN UNDERSTANDING OF OUR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FOREST COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE, THE DEGREE OF TREE DIVERSITY AND THE IMPACT OF RESIDENT RIGHT-OF-WAY TREES AND SIDEWALK DEFLECTION. UNDERSTANDING THESE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES WILL ALLOW THE BOROUGH TO REINFORCE OUR FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND SEEK FUNDING SUPPORT FROM STATE AND COUNTY RESOURCES.

Mayor Fox offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the protection and health of our natural resources are important to all residents of the Borough of Bradley Beach, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey (the “Borough”); and

WHEREAS in 2013 the Borough created a “Maritime Forest” from an existing gravel parking lot in order to use native plants and trees to create a natural area to protect our coastal town from storm surge and rainwater run-off, and to provide sanctuary for wildlife; and

WHEREAS in 2018 the Borough entered into a 10-year pledge with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to not develop this land; and

WHEREAS in 2020 the Borough established a Shade Tree Commission to assist the Borough in managing our tree resources and the Borough does not yet have a Borough-wide tree assessment completed; and

WHEREAS while working with guidelines set forth by the NJ Urban & Community Forestry Program (NJUCF), the Bradley Beach Shade Tree Commission developed a “Community Forest Tree Management Five-Year Plan” which also provides enhanced liability protection for the Borough; and

WHEREAS The Bradley Beach Shade Tree Commission is seeking a Borough resolution to approve the submission of a NJ Urban & Community Forestry Program (NJUCF) Stewardship Grant for a comprehensive tree inventory, formally referred to as a Resiliency Planning Grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey fully endorse the Bradley Beach Shade Tree Commission's efforts to:

- (1) Develop a borough-wide tree inventory, risk tree and storm assessment, and insect and disease assessment. The scope of this assessment will provide the Borough with a complete report of our current tree inventory and an understanding of our urban and community forest composition and structure, the degree of tree diversity and the impact of resident right-of-way trees and sidewalk deflection; and
- (2) Apply for State and County grant funding to support our commitment to our shade trees, including the NJUCF Stewardship Grant, which is designed as a 100% reimbursement grant with a 25% in-kind investment of resource, for which the Shade Tree Commission has included budget funding to cover the cost of the scope which would be completed by the Shade Tree Commission forester and certified tree expert, and which in turn will provide Bradley Beach with an accurate assessment of its tree inventory and its plan to address its findings; and
- (3) Complete the filing of the application by the deadline of July 9, 2021 for the NJUCF Stewardship Grant; and
- (4) Strive to meet all qualifications and requirements set forth by the NJUCF which have included, but may not be limited to:
 - Establish a Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP 2020-2024).
 - Submit an annual Accomplishment Report as it relates to goals and objectives.
 - Ensure and implement Core Training through the NJ Forest Service (maintain a minimum of 2 Core trained individuals between volunteers and municipal employees). Core Training covers (but is not limited to) active education/engagement in basic tree anatomy, biology, planting, maintenance, pest identification and management, community engagement and planning.
 - Ensure and implement annual CEU credit (continuing education credits) – up to 8 credits per year, collectively aggregated amongst 2 or more individuals.
 - Obtain and maintain Tree City USA status through the Arbor Day Foundation.
 - Obtain and maintain Sustainable Jersey status (achieved through the work of the Bradley Beach Environmental Commission).

Seconded by Councilman Weber and adopted upon the following vote:

	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Bonnell	X			
Mr. Gubitosi	X			
Mr. Sexsmith	X			
Mr. Weber	X			
Mayor Fox	X			

CERTIFICATION

I, Erica Kostyz, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Bradley Beach, Monmouth County, New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council at the June 22, 2021 meeting.


Erica Kostyz
Municipal Clerk