

# SPROW

## Sustainable Public Rights Of Way Subcommittee

July 21, 2020



# Welcome & Introductions



# Overview

- NCTCOG's mission is to assist members in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and recognizing regional opportunities for improving the quality of life in North Central Texas.
- The Public Works initiative is led by the Public Works Council (PWC) which strives to solve common issues amongst public works programs across the region and provide resources/training for the region.
- The Sustainable Public Rights-of-Way (SPROW) Subcommittee is under the PWC to provide support and technical advice on sustainable public works infrastructure.
- SPROW created a Roadmap that linked communities to resources on different ROW options, however it didn't say what was the best option or how it was used in the region.
- SPROW decided to create a Best Management Practices (BMP) Guidebook specifically for the North Central Texas region. They sent out a survey to see what topics should be done first, landscape planning and vegetation maintenance was selected.

# Approve Summary from June 16, 2020 meeting

- ▶ NCTCOG staff showed the subcommittee several examples of tree lists from New York City to the Native Plant Society of Texas.
- ▶ The Subcommittee reviewed the Draft Concept of the Form Based Tree List that NCTCOG staff put together. This is a matrix that lists trees and their attributes. The group liked the matrix and added several more attributes to describe the trees.
- ▶ The Subcommittee reviewed street cross sections from the City of Dallas' Street Manual. The group agreed that trees should not be placed along the right of way and described several other best management practices.

# BMP Guidebook: Landscape Planning and Vegetation Maintenance

# Concept for North Texas Form Based Tree Matrix

**DRAFT**

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Average Tree Height | Recommended Soil Volume | Tolerates Poor Drainage | Drought Resistant | Shade Tolerant | Crown Spread |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
|             |                 |                     |                         |                         |                   |                |              |
|             |                 |                     |                         |                         |                   |                |              |
|             |                 |                     |                         |                         |                   |                |              |

| Overhang | Max Tree Height | Life Span | Evergreen or Deciduous | If/When Drops Fruit/Leaves /Cones | Susceptibility to Windfall | Commercial Availability | Maintenance Needs |
|----------|-----------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
|          |                 |           |                        |                                   |                            |                         |                   |
|          |                 |           |                        |                                   |                            |                         |                   |
|          |                 |           |                        |                                   |                            |                         |                   |

# Concept for North Texas Form Based Tree Matrix

- Create a subgroup to fill in the matrix
- Goal to complete filling in the matrix by the end of September to bring to the Subcommittee at the October meeting

# BMPs Discussion

- Start documenting BMPs that the group agrees on
- Start with topics that were discussed at the last meeting



# BMPs Discussed at the June Meeting

- ▶ Trees should be planted a minimum of 4' away from the curb.
- ▶ If a median is under X feet wide, trees should be planted in a straight line down the middle of the median. If a median is greater than X feet wide, trees should be planted offset down the median.
- ▶ Plant trees in median if median is a minimum of 8' wide.
- ▶ Build medians higher to help with drainage.
- ▶ Root barriers can be used as long as the soil volume is kept up.

# BMPs Discussed at the June Meeting

- ▶ Trees should be planted at a 5-10' minimum away from water pipes.
- ▶ Trees should not be planted near driveways or intersections.
- ▶ Trees should not be planted in high density so that they don't cause visibility issues as mature trees.
- ▶ Encourage residents to take care of landscape easements



# New BMPs to Discuss

## ► Irrigation

- Pedestrian vs. non-pedestrian areas
- 2-lane vs. 6-lane divided
- In the median

## ► Maintenance

- Pedestrian vs. non-pedestrian areas
- 2-lane vs. 6-lane divided
- In the median

# Public Works Roundup Speakers for SPROW Track

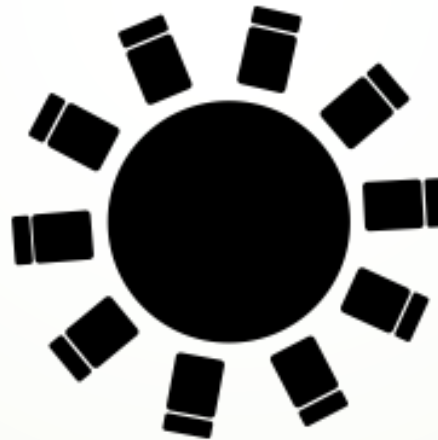
- Landscape Planning and Vegetation Maintenance
- Utilities (Coexisting Types, Franchises, Documentation, Coordinated Needs, etc.)
- Complete Streets Planning
- Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development
- ROW Planning, Administration, and Policy (Fees, Ordinances, Incentives, and Coordination)

If you are interested, please send an abstract to Olivia Kale at [okale@nctcog.org](mailto:okale@nctcog.org)

# Next Steps

- Determine action items for Subcommittee members and NCTCOG staff.

# Member Roundtable



# Next Meeting

- ▶ August 18, 2020 1:30-3:30pm
  - ▶ UberConference or Teams?

# Contact

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# Connect



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