

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE APPROVING THE COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, San José’s community forest, the collection of trees and other vegetation found within San José’s diverse urban, suburban and rural neighborhood landscape, is a vital component of the assets and infrastructure of the City of San José (“City”), supporting the function of the City and providing many environmental services to the City and its residents, which are correlated with mental and physical health and economic benefits; and

WHEREAS, while trees in a natural forest setting have the necessary resources to grow and regenerate without supplemental intervention from people, a human-created community forest is frequently planted in a setting that is distinguished by paved surfaces and compromised soils that does not support the natural growth and regeneration of trees, and San José’s community forest will require human intervention to maintain its health and safety in the built environment; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the City entered into an agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (“CAL FIRE”) for a California Climate Investments grant from the CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry Program to complete a Community Forest Management Plan (“CFMP”); and

WHEREAS, in 2019, following a Request for Proposals process, the City entered into an agreement to develop the CFMP with Dudek, a California-based consulting agency that has a diverse urban forestry practice with experience in a variety of urban and wildland forestry specialties; and

WHEREAS, the CFMP development process included the completion of an independent strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (“SWOT”) analysis of all aspects of the City’s current tree programs, departmental policies and procedures, and ordinances to identify opportunities for improvement; and

WHEREAS, the CFMP makes recommendations that would protect, enhance and grow the community forest, including recommendations on staffing and program funding, and includes updates for effective tree maintenance procedures and a Strategic Work Plan which provides preliminary goals and objectives that align with the eight key findings from the SWOT analysis, as well as an updated Tree Policy & Best Management Practices Manual; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to approve the CFMP in order to fulfill the objectives of the CAL FIRE grant, enable staff to begin implementation of the Strategic Work Plan, focusing staff and community efforts on strategies that would improve current management of the existing community forest and ultimately protect, enhance and grow San José’s tree canopy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

The Community Forest Management Plan is hereby approved.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

SAM LICCARDO
Mayor

ATTEST:

TONI J. TABER, CMC
City Clerk