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Tree Canopy Action Plan
Porter, Timothy [tporter@ci.charlotte.nc.us]

Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 10:45 AM
To: Steve Johnston

Mr. Johnston,

Good morning. I'm reaching out to submit an announcement to the Forum related to the City of Charlotte's Tree Canopy Action Plan. The City is currently seeking public input on how the community values trees and what types of programs and policies residents may want to have in the future related to trees. Programs and policies may range from development regulations to community programs to better support tree maintenance needs. I'm happy to discuss in more detail and/or provide more information about the project. We've created a public survey for residents to fill out and provide feedback. We'll have more events over the next month to provide more information too. I'm available to speak virtually if there's interest or availability. There are videos on the survey website to help provide more information on the project and some of the core tree canopy issues impacting Charlotte. Please let me know if you have any questions. The link to the public survey is below along with the initial press release for the project.

https://publicinput.com/trees

Kind Regards,

Tim Porter
Chief Urban Forester

Planning, Design & Development Department
City of Charlotte
600 E. Fourth Street, 8th Floor, Charlotte, NC 28202
D: 704.622.4829
tporter@charlottenc.gov

We want to hear from you!
publicinput.com/trees
Visit trees.charlottenc.gov to learn more about the Tree Canopy Action Plan.

City of Charlotte launches tree canopy policy survey
Feedback will inform recommendations and policies to be incorporated in the Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan

CHARLOTTE, N.C. *(Sept. 8, 2020) — The City of Charlotte has launched an online survey to gather feedback on Charlotte's tree canopy policies. The survey is available at www.publicinput.com/trees. It will remain open through Monday, Oct. 12.*

Trees enhance property values, improve air and water quality, reduce the effects of pollutants, provide shade and beautify communities. Although Charlotte's current amount of tree canopy coverage is robust at about 45%, there has been a decline in coverage in recent years. A 2019 study by the University of Vermont and TreesCharlotte found that Charlotte lost 4% of its tree canopy from 2012 to 2018, particularly in residential areas. As Charlotte manages its tree canopy and balances other needs that arise with growth and development, it's important to revisit and update the city's policies on trees.

"The survey results will help us understand residents' preferences and priorities when it comes to caring for the

tree canopy," said Alyson Craig, deputy planning director for the City of Charlotte. "Charlotteans take great pride in the tree canopy and we want to ensure it is a resource that serves our entire community."

Responses will inform the Tree Canopy Action Plan, a companion document to the Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The Tree Canopy Action Plan will update city policies that preserve and grow the tree canopy. It is rooted in community priorities expressed through the 2040 Comprehensive Plan process, including health, safety, equity and affordability. A final report with new and updated tree canopy policies will be released in late fall 2020.

Additionally, the action plan will be a guide for the upcoming Unified Development Ordinance, an effort that will streamline all city codes into one document for easier compliance.

For more information on the Tree Canopy Action Plan, visit trees.charlottenc.gov and follow @CLTplanning on Facebook and Instagram.