

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Laurie Capitelli
Subject: Establishing the City of Berkeley as Tree City USA

RECOMMENDATION

Request that the Parks and Recreation Commission review the criteria and process for becoming a Tree City USA through the national Arbor Day Foundation, and return to the Berkeley City Council by their first meeting in January with a recommendation and resolution in time for California State Arbor Day, March 7 through 14.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff time to work with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

BACKGROUND

The Tree City USA® program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in thousands of towns and cities in the United States.

The many benefits of being a Tree City include creating a framework for action, education, a positive public image, and enhanced grant opportunities while affirming our commitment to a green landscape with the urban setting.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Laurie Capitelli, District 5 981-7150

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/apply.cfm>

