



North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Sustainable Public Rights-of-Way Subcommittee

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

1:30 PM, UberConference

<https://www.uberconference.com/nctcogenv>

Or call in at 817-953-6828

Co-Chair: Robert Woodbury, City of Cedar Hill

Co-Chair: Misty Christian, Kimley-Horn

1. Welcome and Introductions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. **Meeting Summary.** The February 4th meeting summary is available online for review and provided as a handout at the meeting. Approval will be sought at this meeting.

[The Subcommittee approved the February 4, 2020 meeting summary.](#)

3. **Landscape Planning and Vegetation Maintenance BMPs.** The group will look at resources from across the region related to appropriate tree growth forms for different ROW situations and discuss what should be recommended in the BMP Guidebook. The BMP Guidebook will include pros and cons lists, bullet lists, pictures, and matrices depending on what information is gathered and desired.

- a. Trees – form-based guide for planting in the ROW

- i. Utility tree lists

[The Subcommittee reviewed several tree lists that NCTCOG staff collected. One of the tree lists was from New York City and sorted trees by biotope based on site condition \(Urban-Residential, Urban-Commercial, and Landscape\), overhead clearance, and tree bed width. Another one was from the Native Plant Society of Texas. It showed plants listed by types and had a key to show if it had certain qualities like drought resistance, shade tolerance, etc.](#)

[Then the group reviewed the draft concept for the North Central Texas tree list. NCTCOG created a matrix that could be the format for the tree list in the BMP Guidebook. It lists several attributes of tree characteristics such as height, root depth, drainage tolerance, drought resistance, and shade tolerance. NCTCOG staff suggested sorting the list by location of the tree because at the last meeting the group discussed finding trees that work best in certain situations on the ROW.](#)

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The group liked the format of the matrix and suggested adding other attributes like crown spread, overhang, specific maintenance needs, maximum tree height, life span, evergreen or deciduous, drops fruit/cones/seeds, susceptibility to windfall, and commercial availability. They also discussed how root depth would be hard to document because tree roots go however deep to get needed nutrients. It would be better to suggest how much soil volume the tree should have.

The Subcommittee also discussed trying to find a way to document proper group density for certain trees. Some cities have a problem with trees planted in higher density and having visibility issues once they are grown. Someone also suggested that they find a way to incentivize property owners to do the maintenance for the trees along their property.

ii. Street cross sections

1. 4-lane undivided

The Subcommittee discussed many negative characteristics of trees being placed between the sidewalk and road. Some of these problems included tree overhang, road visibility, and trees getting hit by cars.

2. 4-lane divided

The Subcommittee made the same comments about trees being too close to the road. It was also suggested that trees only be planted in a straight row on the median if the median is under a certain width. If the median is wider than that certain width, then tree plantings should be offset. Trees should not be placed too close to an intersection or driveway to avoid impacts to visibility.

3. 6-lane divided

Pedestrians should be kept as far away from the road as possible. Cities run into the problem of trees behind private fences dropping branches onto the sidewalk over the fence. Whose responsibility is it to maintain? It was also mentioned that trees do not do well along these roads because it's much hotter next to the asphalt.

NCTCOG also showed a graphic from the City of Dallas that showed a street cross section with all the utilities above and below ground. The group thought it was very powerful and would like to develop their own once they have established BMPs.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

4. **Roundtable Discussion.**

There were no comments by Subcommittee members.

5. **Schedule for the Next Meeting.** The next Subcommittee meeting is July 21, 2020 at 1:30pm on UberConference.

6. **Adjournment.**

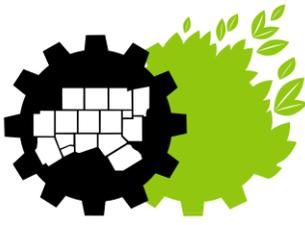


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If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Olivia Kale by phone at (817) 695-9213, or by email at okale@nctcog.org.

DRAFT

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SIGN-IN SHEET

Sustainable Public Rights of Way Subcommittee
 Tuesday, June 16, 2020, 1:30 pm
 UberConference



NAME	ORGANIZATION	SIGNATURE
Jonathan Beckham	City of Lewisville	
Jon Bunner	City of Carrollton	
Misty Christian	Kimley-Horn	Present
Gerald Cosgrove	City of Plano	Present
Cathy Cunningham	Thomson-Reuters	
Dan Franke	City of Frisco	
Kevin Hurley	City of Dallas	
Don Knight	City of Dallas	
David Magana	City of Fort Worth	
Donna Manhart	City of Garland	
Tanner Ozdil	University of Texas Arlington	
Shawn Poe	City of Richardson	Present
Kelly Roark	City of Lewisville	
Eric Wilhite	Pacheco-Koch	
John Thompson	City of Frisco	
Robert Woodbury	City of Cedar Hill	Present
Sean Jacobson		Present
Matt Foster		Present
Bill Smith		Present
Maria Whitworth		Present
Jennifer Hall		Present
Matt Grubisich		Present
Renee Esses		Present
Kourtney Dillavou		Present
Haley Salazar		Present

