

1. Agenda Packet

Documents: [OPN_20150223.PK.PDF](#)

2. Agenda

Documents: [OPN_20150223.AG.PDF](#)



Tree Advisory Committee
Monday, February 23, 2015
Meeting Agenda
At City Hall
7:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Section 19.82 of the Wisconsin Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Tree Advisory Committee of the City of Fitchburg, Dane County Wisconsin, will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2015 in the Meeting Room at the Fitchburg City Hall, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711 to consider the following:

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2015
- Public Appearances - Non Agenda Items
- Communication
- Review and Approve Agenda
- Discussion: Arbor Day/Migratory Bird Day Celebration
- Discussion: Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey Results Analysis
- Discussion: Date for Public Informational Meeting
- Discussion: Revision of Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan
- Future Agenda Items
- Adjournment

NOTE: It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other government bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Fitchburg City Hall, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711. 608-270-4200.



Tree Advisory Committee
Monday, January 12, 2015
Minutes -- Draft
At City Hall
7:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Section 19.82 of the Wisconsin Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Tree Advisory Committee of the City of Fitchburg, Dane County Wisconsin, will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 12, 2015 in the Meeting Room at the Fitchburg City Hall, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711 to consider the following:

- Call to Order
Called to order at 7:11 PM. In attendance: Rod Bina, Terrell Brock, Chairperson, Diane Dillet, Melinda Douglass, Jeremy Hecht, Ed Bartell, City Forester, Laura Lorentz, LTE Parks and Forestry Assistant.
- Approval of Minutes – November 17, 2014
Douglass moved to approve, Dillet second, minutes approved.
- Public Appearances - Non Agenda Items
None.
- Communication
Bartell discussed:
 - Splash Pad tree-spade planting is completed with six medium-sized trees planted using a \$7800 donation.
 - Awarded a 2015 DNR Urban Forestry Matching Grant.
 - Future EAB plan discussed among City Staff. This was then discussed with the Park Commission. Questions were raised about the effects of the EAB treatment pesticides on woodpeckers.
 - A Tree City Growth Award application was submitted but is unlikely to be awarded. One requirement of the Growth Award is to spend more money on urban forestry each year - the City did not spend more this year than last year.
 - Restoration plans for the Tower Hill Greenway are under development. The next steps in the process are to complete the planting plan and set lath at the possible planting sites for trees and shrubs.
 - The following management areas are to be pruned this winter: McGaw Park pine trees, Seminole Hills Estates, Lacy Heights, Orchard Pointe, Clayton, Rimrock, and the Highlands of Seminole.
 - The Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey will be posted on January 12th, closed on February 6th and analysis completed by February 19th.
 - The 2015 Spring Planting Plan and RFP to be completed by mid-January. Bartell estimates about 100 trees to be planted this spring with an additional 50 to 60 trees planted in the Tower Hill Greenway.
 - EAB treatment plan for the last one-third of the public trees in Fitchburg to be completed by mid-March.
- Review and Approve Agenda
 - Bartell asked to table this discussion until next meeting. Douglass moved to approve, Bina second, motion approved.
 - Douglass moved to approve the agenda as changed, Hecht second, agenda approved.
- Discussion: Arbor Day/Migratory Bird Day Celebration
The 2015 Arbor Day/Migratory Bird Day Celebration was discussed with an agenda to be set by mid-March:
 - Tree planting with the mayor - reach out to boy scouts and/or girls scouts to participate.
 - We will invite the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI) to return again this year.

- Bina is writing and coordinating a short skit based on various tree species with students from Eagle School. There has been talk of performing the play at the Arbor Day/Bird Day celebration. Bina will know by Spring if this is going to take place.
 - i. 25 characters in the play, all portrayed by Eagle School students.
 - ii. Could perform on the stage at Kid's Crossing or in the park shelter.
 - iii. The play should be performed before REGI.
 - iv. Could advertise through the Rec Serv list and other appropriate email lists.
- Discussion: Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey

The Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey was reviewed and the implementation plan discussed. The following changes were suggested to the survey:

 - Include information on where to return completed paper-copy surveys
 - Q5 - add 'grass' to 'Reed canary'
 - Q8 - add 'Not applicable' response option
 - Q12 - remove
 - Q19 - take care of some typos in this question
 - Q21 - replace 'park' with 'urban forest and park'. Add 'Coordination and training will be provided as necessary'.
 - In the future, consider hiring a professional translator to do the English to Spanish translation. It may be worthwhile to ask someone at a local middle school to assist.

The following recommendations were made to the implementation plan:

 - Utilize water utility email list to advertise survey.
 - Place a sign at the Tax Collection window.
 - Use a formal 'Sender' email address such as 'The City of Fitchburg' to send out the survey as opposed to a personal email address.
 - The subject line of the email should read something along the lines of 'Short Tree Survey'.
 - At the bottom of the survey, ask recipients to share this email and information with other residents of Fitchburg.
- Discussion: Date for Public Informational Meeting

The following are tentative dates for the Public Information Meeting - March 24th, or 26th. This will occur after the March TAC meeting, scheduled for March 16th.
- Discussion: Revision of Five Year Urban Forest Management Plan
 - Table by motion until next meeting..
- Future Agenda Items
- Adjournment

Douglass moved to adjourn, Bina second, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM. The next meeting will be Monday, February 23, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

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Forestry Report – February 23, 2015

Project

Completion or Due Date

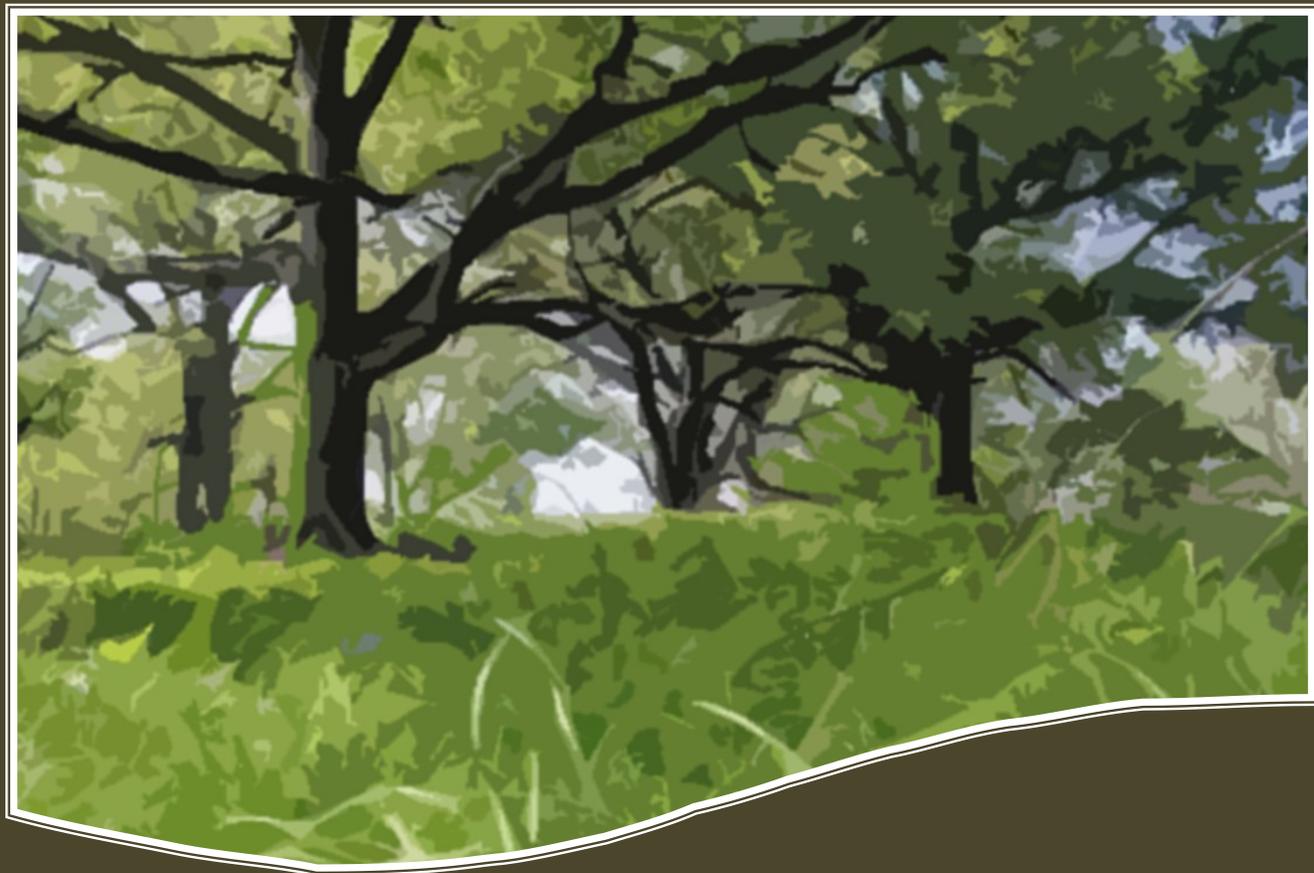
1. Awarded 2015 DNR Urban Forestry Matching Grant.	11.20.14
a. Project total: \$21,575.00	
b. City Portion: \$10,787.50	
2. 2014 Urban Forestry Grant Extended.	12.31.15
3. Attend UW Extension EAB and winter Damage Courses	1.15.15
4. Attend WAA Conference in La Crosse	1.25-27.15
5. Open RFP bids for Spring 2015 Tree Planting Plan.	2.12.15
6. Attend SCRUFFS meeting.	2.17.15
7. Attend Dane County Tree Board Meeting.	2.17.15
8. Completed analysis of Urban Forestry Strategic Management Plan survey	2.17.15
a. Share with TAC	2.23.15
9. Tree Advisory Committee meeting.	2.23.15
10. Forestry Operations Meeting	2.24.15
11. Meet with Brian Wahl to discuss 2015 DNR Urban Forestry Grant	3.15.14
12. EAB Plan for	
a. last third for public ash trees treatments for spring 2015.	3.15.15
b. removals	2.24.15
13. Tower Hill Greenway – Tentative Restoration Plan.	3.20.14
a. Plan budget approved	11.30.14
b. Met with adjacent residents	12.11.14
c. Complete planting plan	1.15.15
d. Set lath for siting trees	3.30.15
e. Meet with residents on site	4.15.15
14. Public works and parks maintenance staff pruning	4.3.15
a. McGaw Park Pine Trees	
b. Seminole Hills Estates	
c. Lacy Heights	
d. Orchard Pointe	
e. Clayton	
f. Rimrock	
g. Highlands of Seminole	
h. Swan Creek	
15. Meet with Harlan Hills Prairie Volunteers	
a. Consult with Field and Stream Restorations – Steve Banovetz for spring treatments	3.16.15
b. Seeding/planting	5.1.15

16. Urban Forestry Strategic Management Plan Open House	3.26.15
17. Committee of the Whole TAC update	4.22.15
18. Committee of the Whole EAB and UFSMP Presentation	7.22.15
19. Common Council UFSPM Approval	
20. Wood Utilization Research.	Ongoing
21. Remove declining or hazard trees.	Ongoing
a. Remove all flagging or declining ash trees	Ongoing
22. Revise 5 -Year Urban Forest (Strategic) Management Plan with TAC.	Ongoing
23. Continue City Tree Inventory.	Ongoing
a. Completed ROW in Tower Hill, Wildwood South, Country Vineyard, Country Heights, Greenfield/Gold Addition, Briarwood, Tarpleywick, Dommers View, Byrnewood..	
b. Currently working on ROWs in Wildwood then lacy Heights.	
c. LTE working to revise Oak Mapping Project	
i. locate specimen oaks >200 years old & enter data into GIS.	Ongoing
24. Miscellaneous Projects.	
a. Participate in Neighborhood Development Plans as necessary.	Monthly
Responded to more than 75 calls, visits, and e-mails from residents, contractors, etc.	July-Aug

FITCHBURG ARBOR DAY - BIRD DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND, 2015 • 8:30AM TO 12:30PM

MCKEE FARMS PARK • COME RAIN OR SHINE



8:30 TO 10:00 AM

Birding in the Park -

David Drake, UW Extension

9:30 AM

Tree planting with the Mayor

10:15 AM

Bird & Tree City Recognition

10:30 AM

Tree Skit - Eagle Elementary

11:00 AM

Meet the Raptors - REGI

12:00 PM

Tree walk and pruning instruction

Building bird feeders and other kids activities

For more information contact Ed Bartell, Urban Forester & Naturalist, at
Ed.bartell@fitchburgwi.gov or (608) 270-4289

FITCHBURG ARBOR DAY - BIRD DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND, 2015 • 8:30AM TO 12:30PM

MCKEE FARMS PARK • COME RAIN OR SHINE

Tentative Agenda



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February 23, 2015

Members of the Tree Advisory Committee:

During January and February of 2015 the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department of Fitchburg, with assistance from the Tree Advisory Committee, released the city-wide 2015 Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey. The purpose of this survey was to gather public input to aid in the revision of the Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan - a document that guides long-term management of Fitchburg's urban forest and shapes future tree policies.

The survey was open to the public for 25 days, from January 13th through February 6th. To facilitate access to the survey, it was available in multiple languages (English and Spanish) and formats (online as well as paper-copy). Advertisement for the survey included a short article in the 2014 December edition of the Fitchburg Star, notices on the homepage of the City website and the Parks Department website, emails sent to various groups including neighborhood associations, the Fitchburg RecServ list, the Common Council and the Parks Commission. Recipients of this email were encouraged to share this information with other city residents.

There were 534 survey responses, 507 online and 27 on paper. Of those 534 responses, two were completed in Spanish. This number of total responses represents nearly 2% of the Fitchburg's population. For a survey open to all residents, we were very pleased with this level of response.

This packet contains survey results expressed in tables and/or charts along with comments from survey participants associated with specific questions. We value your thoughts and opinions and want to hear your interpretation of the survey results and how you believe they will assist in revising the Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan. As the results are presented to you, we ask that you take notes in the packet for subsequent submittal to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.

Thank you for your time and efforts in developing and implementing this survey. The City of Fitchburg and the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department truly appreciates all of your service on the Tree Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

Fitchburg Parks, Recreation and Forestry

2015 FITCHBURG URBAN FOREST SURVEY RESULTS

Tree Advisory
Committee
February 23rd,
2015

SURVEY RESPONSE

- 534 responses in total
 - 507 online
 - 2 surveys completed in Spanish
 - 27 hardcopy

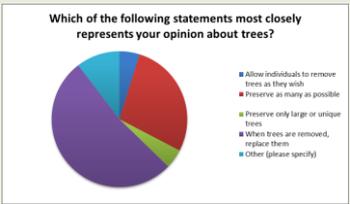
PLEASE RATE THE IMPORTANCE TO YOU OF THE FOLLOWING
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS
PROVIDED BY OUR PUBLIC TREES:

Answer Options	1 - Definitely Not Important	2	3 - Neutral	4	5 - Very Important	Response Count
Increase property values by improving the curb	9	4	27	152	249	441
Reduce cooling and heating costs	5	15	47	134	241	442
Trees in business and commercial districts attract	6	22	91	166	155	440
Visual beauty	1	5	9	122	301	438
Visual buffer between pedestrians and streets	12	22	97	141	166	438
Provide sense of place to neighborhood and	6	16	62	148	208	440
Calm and reduce traffic speed	20	34	149	106	130	439
Reduce crime levels	37	52	154	87	111	441
Reduce stress and improve mood	7	19	66	150	197	429
Provide nesting habitat and food sources for	7	10	28	117	279	441
Reduce noise pollution	9	12	47	149	223	440
Reduce levels of particulate matter and other air	5	14	57	110	254	440
Reduce global warming gases, like carbon dioxide	15	8	39	106	274	442
Reduce soil erosion caused by stormwater	4	9	29	123	277	442
Floors filter out pollutants and protect groundwater	4	10	41	125	257	437
Cooling effect on heat from asphalt and buildings	3	8	52	143	235	441
<i>answered question</i>						443
<i>skipped question</i>						01

Q1

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS MOST CLOSELY REPRESENTS YOUR OPINION ABOUT TREES?
refer to handout for comments

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Allow individuals to remove trees as they wish	4.8%	20
Preserve as many as possible	27.8%	115
Preserve only large or unique trees	4.6%	19
When trees are removed, replace them	52.2%	216
Other (please specify)	10.6%	43
answered question		413
skipped question		121



Q7

WOULD YOU PLANT TREES ON YOUR PROPERTY IF OFFERED A MONETARY INCENTIVE?

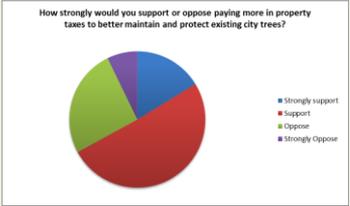
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	61.9%	253
No	4.9%	20
Need more information	24.7%	101
Not applicable	8.6%	35
answered question		408
skipped question		125



Q8

HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE PAYING MORE IN PROPERTY TAXES TO BETTER MAINTAIN AND PROTECT EXISTING CITY TREES?

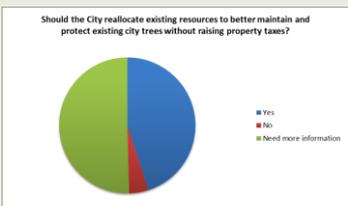
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	15.2%	66
Support	50.7%	205
Oppose	25.7%	104
Strongly Oppose	7.2%	29
answered question		404
skipped question		180



Q9

SHOULD THE CITY REALLOCATE EXISTING RESOURCES TO BETTER MAINTAIN AND PROTECT EXISTING CITY TREES WITHOUT RAISING PROPERTY TAXES?

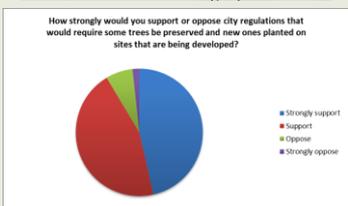
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	45.0%	184
No	4.6%	19
Need more information	50.4%	206
answered question		409
skipped question		125



Q10

HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE CITY REGULATIONS THAT WOULD REQUIRE SOME TREES BE PRESERVED AND NEW ONES PLANTED ON SITES THAT ARE BEING DEVELOPED?

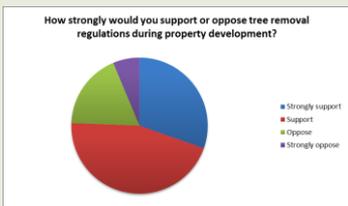
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	46.4%	187
Support	44.9%	181
Oppose	6.9%	28
Strongly oppose	1.7%	7
answered question		403
skipped question		181



Q11

HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE TREE REMOVAL REGULATIONS DURING PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT?

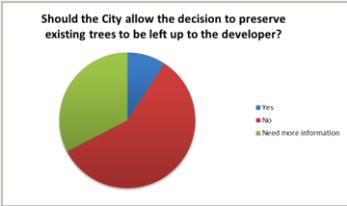
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	39.4%	121
Support	45.2%	140
Oppose	18.1%	57
Strongly oppose	6.3%	20
answered question		308
skipped question		156



Q12

SHOULD THE CITY ALLOW THE DECISION TO PRESERVE EXISTING TREES TO BE LEFT UP TO THE DEVELOPER?

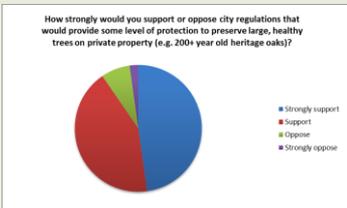
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	9.2%	37
No	58.2%	234
Need more information	32.6%	131
answered question		402
skipped question		132



Q13

HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE CITY REGULATIONS THAT WOULD PROVIDE SOME LEVEL OF PROTECTION TO PRESERVE LARGE, HEALTHY TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY (E.G. 200+ YEAR OLD HERITAGE OAKS)?

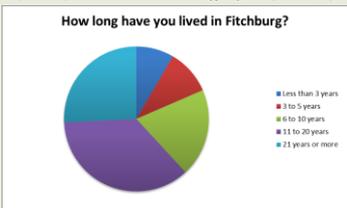
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	47.8%	193
Support	42.6%	172
Oppose	7.6%	30
Strongly oppose	2.2%	9
answered question		404
skipped question		190



Q14

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN FITCHBURG?

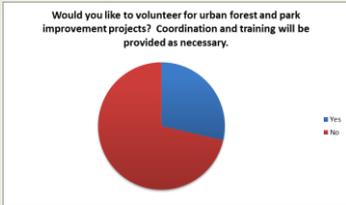
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 3 years	8.4%	34
3 to 5 years	10.1%	41
6 to 10 years	19.7%	80
11 to 20 years	38.1%	147
21 years or more	25.8%	105
answered question		407
skipped question		127



Q15

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR URBAN FOREST AND PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS? COORDINATION AND TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED AS NECESSARY.

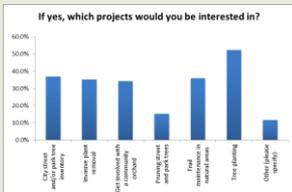
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	28.6%	106
No	71.4%	265
answered question		371
skipped question		183



Q19

IF YES, WHICH PROJECTS WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN?
refer to handout for comments

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
City street and/or park tree inventory	36.0%	41
Invasive plant removal	35.1%	39
Get involved with a community orchard	34.2%	38
Pruning street and park trees	35.3%	17
Trail maintenance in natural areas	38.0%	40
Tree planting	52.3%	58
Other (please specify)	11.7%	13
answered question		111
skipped question		423



Q19

QUESTION 4: HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE OF NATIVE TREES AND UNDERSTROY PLANTS ON PUBLIC LANDS?

“Only considered if on case-by-case, park-by-park basis with local resident users having the main predominant decisions”

QUESTION 5: DO YOU FEEL THAT INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES ARE A PROBLEM IN FITCHBURG PARKS? IF YES, WHICH DO YOU FEEL ARE A PROBLEM?

“Poison ivy”

“Poison ivy”

“Black locust”

“Dames rocket, hedge parsley and crown vetch”

QUESTION 7: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTS YOUR OPINION ABOUT TREES?

“Educate people; then fine them for leaving buckthorn & other invasives or conversely provide incentives for removing invasives”

“Preserve as many as possible and when trees are removed, replace them”

“Preserve as many as possible because trees are difficult & costly to get started, and they take a long time to grow to maturity. When trees are removed, replace them by planting 2X or 3X more”

“Preserve as many as possible. Avoid planting trees where they conflict with overhead utilities or street lighting”

“Preserve as many as possible and when trees are removed, replace them”

“Assist individuals with mainraining private trees as requested, but allowing owners to govern their own properties”

“Trees on individuals property are theirs to remove as they wish. Trees on public property are to be removed at the discretion of the City of Fitchburg Forester”

“More diversity would be nice, especially native trees that provide bird habitat. Maples and ash are boring. How about Bradford pear, Kentucky coffee, larch”

“All of the above except allowing individuals to remove trees”

"Preserve as many as possible and replace them when removed. Both"

"Remove sick trees. Replace with a diversity of trees."

"An effort should be made to plant and preserve as many trees as possible"

"Preserve when appropriate"

"MGE is a butcher - gives too many mature trees a "reverse tomahawks" - they no longer look like trees"

"Trees are important to both the city and city residents and visitors. You have asked about streets, parks, yards but not all the bike paths. Plantings on bike paths in city should be planned."

"Private property trees are at the whim of the land owner and it should stay that way, though I would love it if land owners would replace trees they own. Public trees should be replaced unless trees in that location are causing damage to necessary infrastructure."

"It is nice to preserve trees and I support preserving them, but I do think some latitude on a case by case basis is necessary to ensure orderly, sustainable planning around our trees and parks. For example, clusters of trees may need to be broken up to open up an area visibly, but at the same time, new trees could be planted in a more aesthetic orientation."

"When large trees are removed, haul the lumber away."

"Allow removal of invasive species trees and diseased trees; require permit to remove otherwise unless replaced."

"Consider rain gardens to replace trees"

"Replace but private property owners have the right to do what they want with their trees."

"when trees are removed, they should be replaced, except when they were originally planted in a really stupid spot...like a willow tree planted right next to the house."

"Allow trees to be removed when necessary to protect personal property or to maintain the long term health of the forest unit."

"Allow individuals, on their own property, except terraces, to remove trees as they wish."

"Preserve as many non-invasive trees as possible and replace non-invasive trees when removed."

"If the city can remove a 500 year old tree on Lacy road, when Research Park was built, how can you stop anyone else from cutting their own trees down?"

"Encourage individuals to preserve good hardwood trees. In rural area, replace those under power lines (hacked by utilities) as they become unsafe with lower growing hybrids."

"Preserve as many noninvasive trees. comment: would really love to see soccer field Marked for use at Chicory Meadow. I am two houses away and feel this is a real loss of great soccer space."

"Preserve as many healthy trees as possible"

"Remove problem/diseased trees and replace when location allows. Add to improve public areas with more diverse species, focusing on natives and non-invasive species."

"Remove invasive/non-native trees like box elder and black locust and replant with natives."

"Let private property do what they want. If a tree is on city property, replace."

"I closely align with preserving as many trees as possible but especially when it helps provide privacy from noisy busy roads (like fish hatchery)."

"Individual should be allowed to remove/plant trees as they wish on their own property. For parks, if large or unique trees are removed, they should be replaced."

"Question too generic. Individuals should be free to remove any "junk" tree but strongly encouraged to preserve the "good" ones. Problem is most folks can't identify."

"Keep adding a few trees each year. Use neighborhood associations to help"

"question unclear. Is this private or public property?"

"No removal without approval. If approved, replacement should be mandatory. If replacement is not possible in the same area as the removed tree, than in a nearby area."

"I think homeowners must be allowed to remove trees that are presenting a safety hazard. In those cases, I would not support requiring them to replace the tree. That would just add extra expense to an already expensive proposition."

"When you say to allow people to remove them as they wish. Do you mean on their own property or on public land?"

"Individual land owners should have the right to remove and/or replace trees as they need or want. It is good to preserve trees that are on public land as long as they are not a safety risk and they are adequate for the aesthetics and design of the location. Some trees need replacement when removed others do not."

"Encourage planting and a native variety of trees in parks, commercial and residential areas"

"We moved to our home in Jamestown partially because of the massive trees up and down the street. Jogging or walking down the street in the morning, in the Spring and Summer, the birds sing like we were in a jungle. My feelings about trees: I love them."

QUESTION 18: I WOULD LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT/ATTEND TRAININGS ON:

"Preserving 200 year old oaks"

"I live with a tree expert . . . A.L. Ltd. Landscaping"

"Fruit/nut tree care"

"Green infrastructure"

"Composting"

"Community rates on city contracts for tree/stump removal"

"Non invasive wild flowers in parks"

"City cuts old trees down, because they know best?"

"I am a master gardener"

"native grasses and plants / prairie restoration"

"tree removal of cottonwoods"

"I have owned property in Fitchburg since Dec 1998"

"I am a UWEX Master Gardener & already have training"

"Whatever I can do to help trees, and maintain the rustic feel of our neighborhood and city"

QUESTION 19: WOULD YOU LIKE TO COLUNTEER FOR URBAN FOREST AND PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS? COORDINATION AND TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED AS NECESSARY. **IF YES, WHICH PROJECTS WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN?**

“Composting”

“Not at this time, maybe later”

“Unable to do manual labor”

“Learning how to use OpenTreeMap to map the trees in my yard”

“Use OpenTreeMap to get more involved with the Urban Forest and Mapping it”

“I cannot at this time but would like to in the next few years!”

“No time at the moment. Maybe in a year or two.”

“praire restoration/upgrading”

“Age & health are prohibitive of participating”

“Already do major rehab --> invasive plant removal”

“Use Arbor Day to work thru neighborhood Associatios”

“I have to think further and would consider if this happens”

“educational outreach”

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

“My opinion: need better planning and co-ordination to avoid planting trees that grow into overhead utility lines or interfere with lighting of roads and intersections. It is a waste of tax payer money to plant such trees and then pay over and over to have half of the tree pruned away every few years!”

“Fitchburg should provide supporting efforts, by City Staff with City equipment, to complement the lead work of organized neighborhood volunteer groups. Organized groups of local residents should be fully able to choose local projects, and work on them, as time & effort by volunteers are available, and then City staff use heavy duty City equipment to add to the hand labor of volunteers, for what volunteers cannot do and for cleanup (i.e. chipping & removal) after a project. City Staff should take direction from organized resident groups. A cooperative collaboration project is when the City Staff provide the heavy equipment work, while volunteers provide the more detailed work, and the hands-on labor, and get to decide on their own local projects.”

“Please pass on: there should be fines \$60+ for dog at large [unleashed] in park and \$100 fine for not picking up feces.”

“I would like to have someone in charge of the parks dept. that has expertise with horticulture, which includes trees. Anybody can take care of grass & athletic fields. It doesn't require lots of training, etc. unless you're working with golf courses. I have witnessed first hand improper plantings and worse yet little to no maintenance after planting. It's a waste of taxpayer money. Example - weeping (wide spreading crabapples) in a much narrower medium strip. They died from neglect and improper pruning til only one grafted root remains (west side of McGaw). New trees not watered not staked properly or at all and some of the worst pruning of woody plants I have ever seen!”

“Less building more parks, natural areas & farms.”

2015 FITCHBURG URBAN FOREST SURVEY RESULTS

Tree Advisory
Committee
February 23rd,
2015

SURVEY RESPONSE

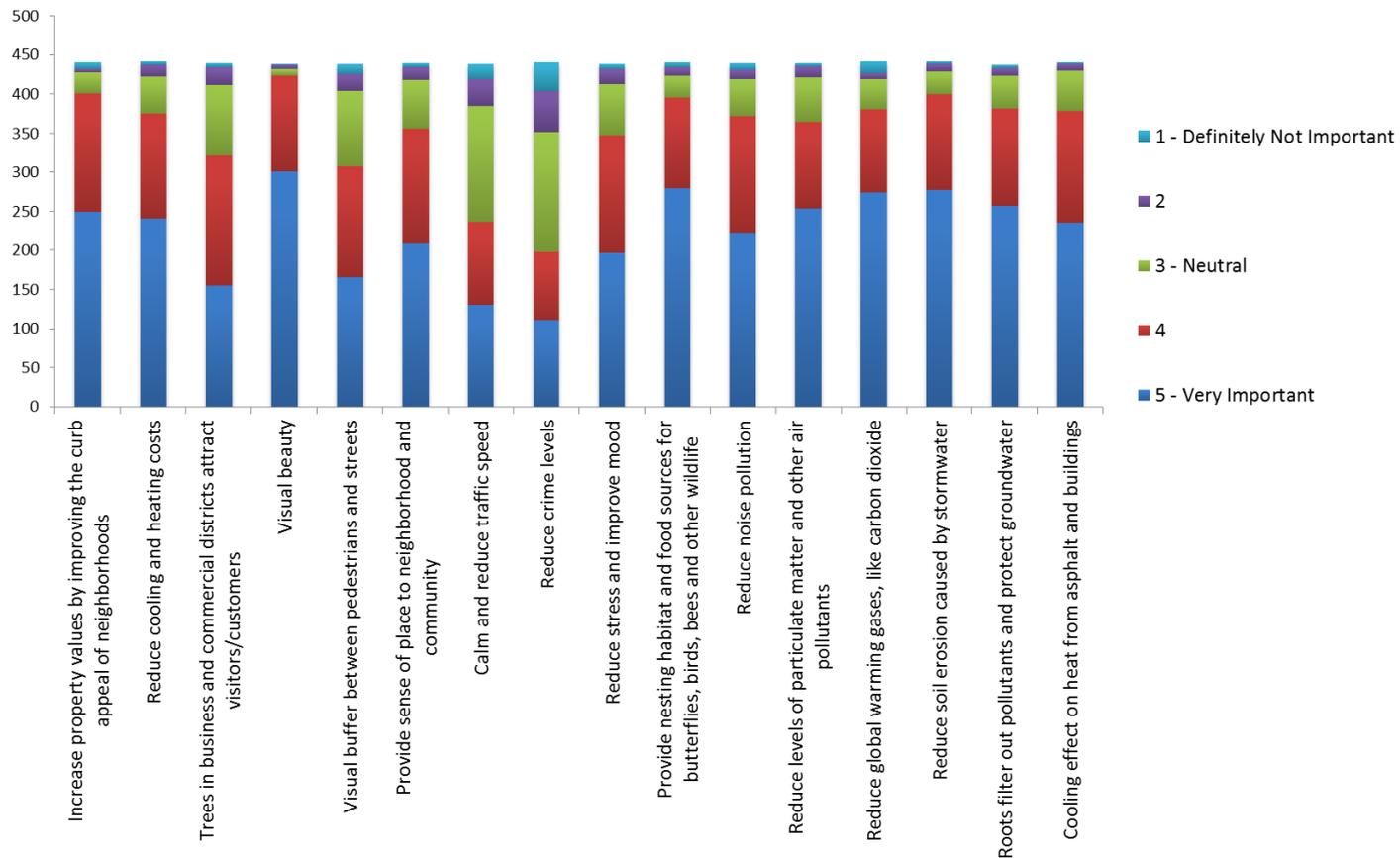
- **534 responses in total**
 - **507 online**
 - **2 surveys completed in Spanish**
 - **27 hardcopy**

PLEASE RATE THE IMPORTANCE TO YOU OF THE FOLLOWING ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS PROVIDED BY OUR PUBLIC TREES:

Answer Options	1 - Definitely Not Important	2	3 - Neutral	4	5 - Very Important	Response Count
Increase property values by improving the curb	9	4	27	152	249	441
Reduce cooling and heating costs	5	15	47	134	241	442
Trees in business and commercial districts attract	6	22	91	166	155	440
Visual beauty	1	5	9	122	301	438
Visual buffer between pedestrians and streets	12	22	97	141	166	438
Provide sense of place to neighborhood and	6	16	62	148	208	440
Calm and reduce traffic speed	20	34	149	106	130	439
Reduce crime levels	37	52	154	87	111	441
Reduce stress and improve mood	7	19	66	150	197	439
Provide nesting habitat and food sources for	7	10	28	117	279	441
Reduce noise pollution	9	12	47	149	223	440
Reduce levels of particulate matter and other air	5	14	57	110	254	440
Reduce global warming gases, like carbon dioxide	15	8	39	106	274	442
Reduce soil erosion caused by stormwater	4	9	29	123	277	442
Roots filter out pollutants and protect groundwater	4	10	41	125	257	437
Cooling effect on heat from asphalt and buildings	3	8	52	143	235	441
<i>answered question</i>						443
<i>skipped question</i>						91

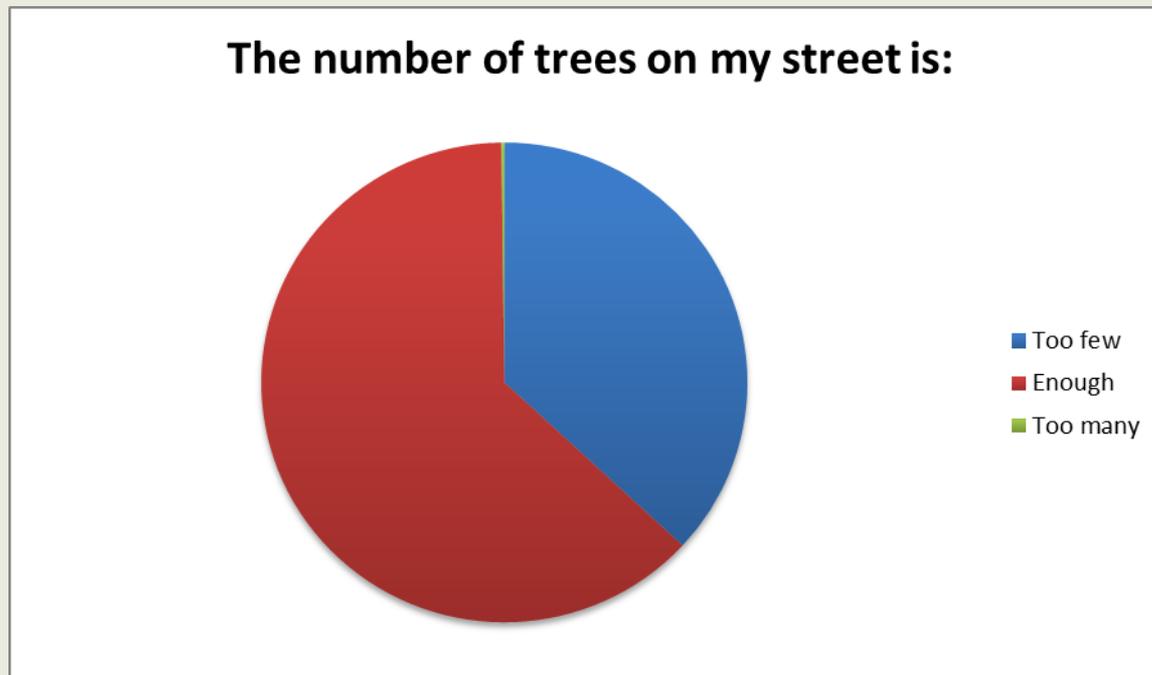
PLEASE RATE THE IMPORTANCE TO YOU OF THE FOLLOWING ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS PROVIDED BY OUR PUBLIC TREES:

Please rate the importance to you of the following economic, social and environmental benefits provided by our public trees:

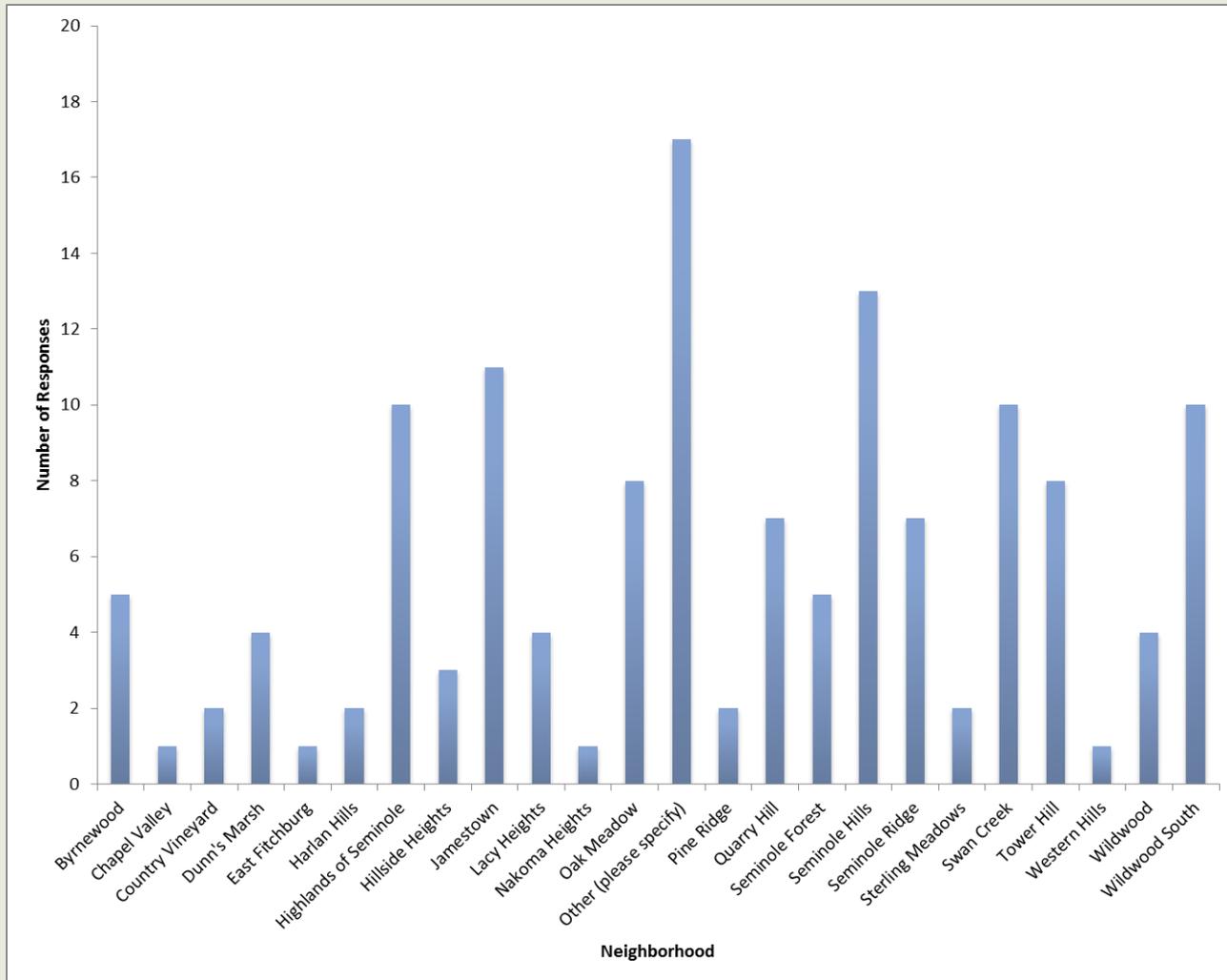


THE NUMBER OF TREES ON MY STREET IS:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Too few	36.9%	159
Enough	62.9%	271
Too many	0.2%	1
<i>answered question</i>		431
<i>skipped question</i>		103



THE NUMBER OF TREES ON MY STREET IS 'TOO FEW':

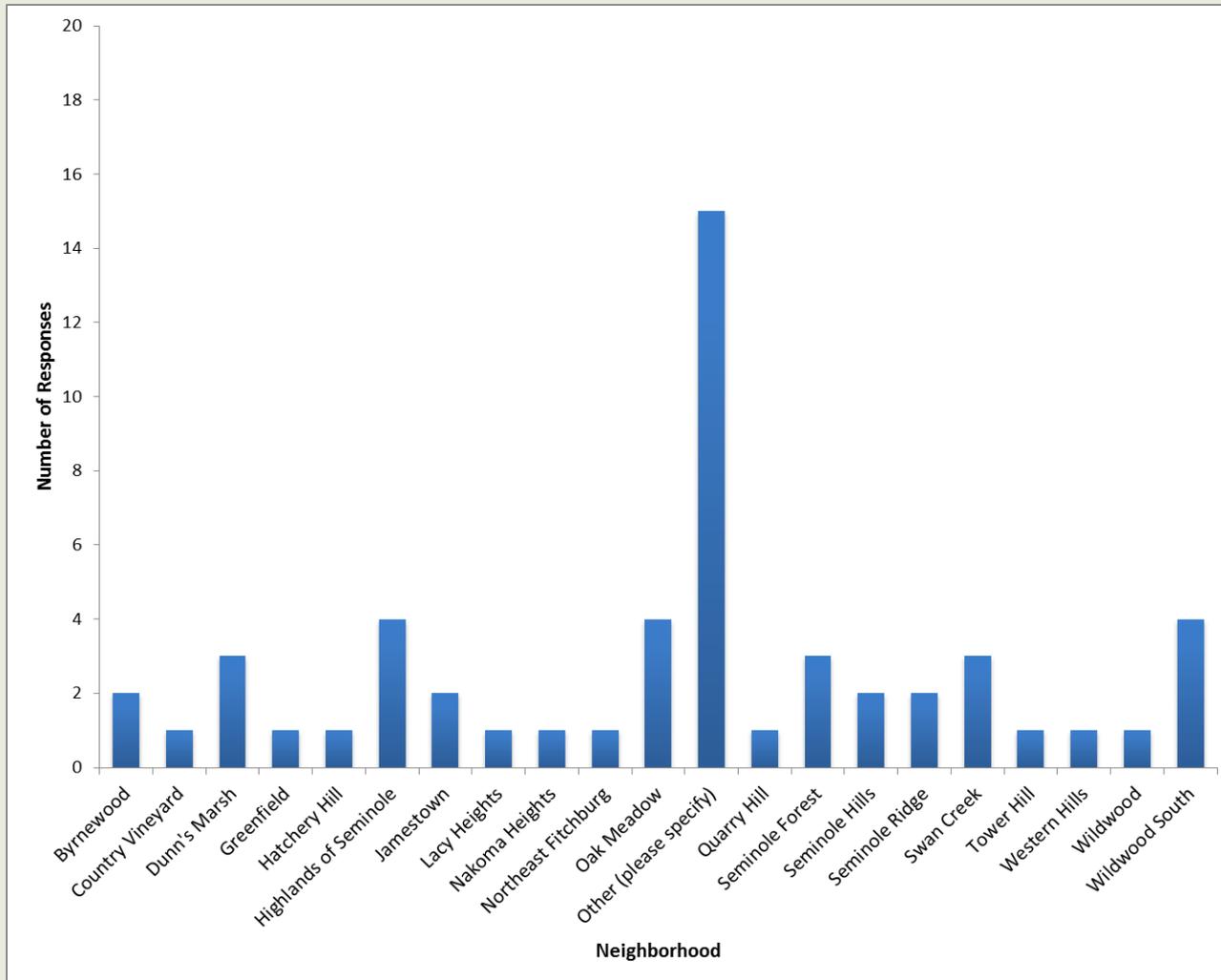


THE TREES ON MY STREET ARE:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Not cared for	15.1%	65
Adequately cared for	67.7%	291
Well cared for	17.2%	74
<i>answered question</i>		430
<i>skipped question</i>		104



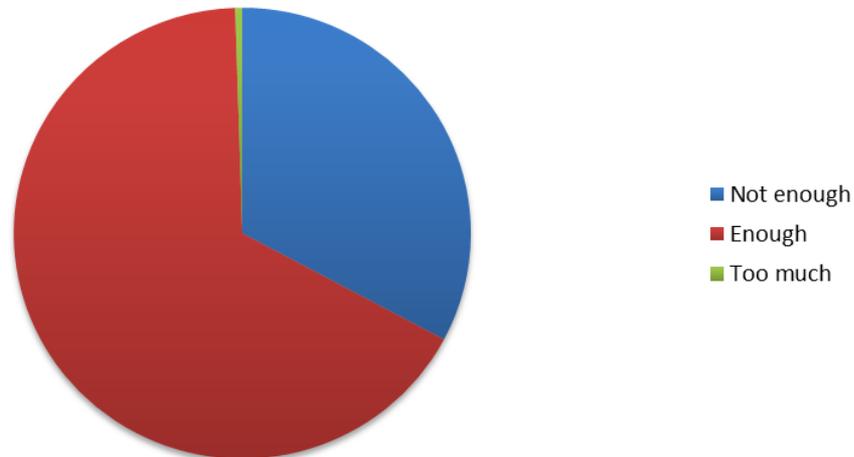
THE TREES ON MY STREET ARE 'NOT CARED FOR':



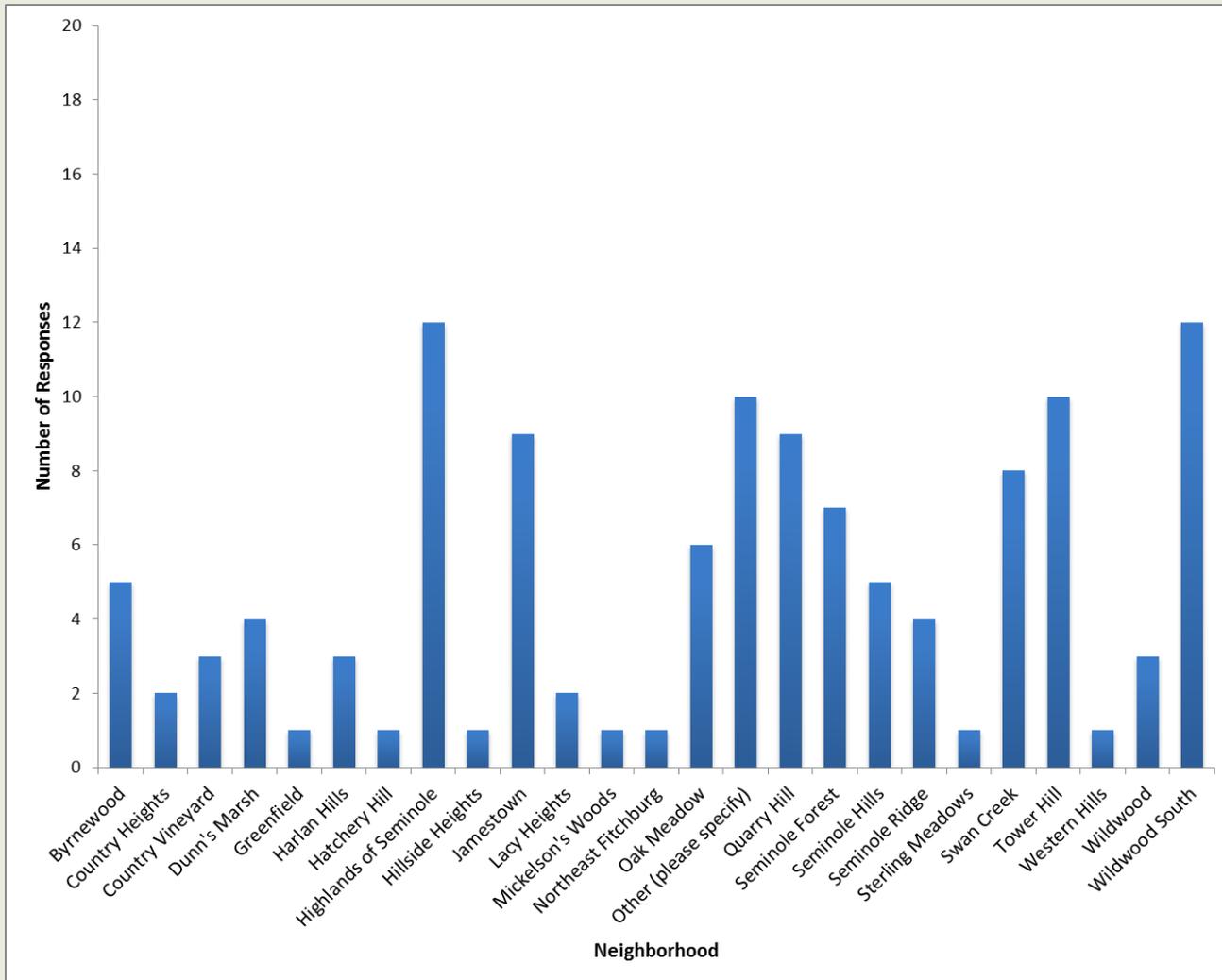
THE VISUAL DIVERSITY OF TREES ON MY STREET IS:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Not enough	32.8%	141
Enough	66.7%	287
Too much	0.5%	2
<i>answered question</i>		430
<i>skipped question</i>		104

The visual diversity of trees on my street is:



THE VISUAL DIVERSITY OF TREES ON MY STREET IS 'NOT ENOUGH':



PARK NAME:

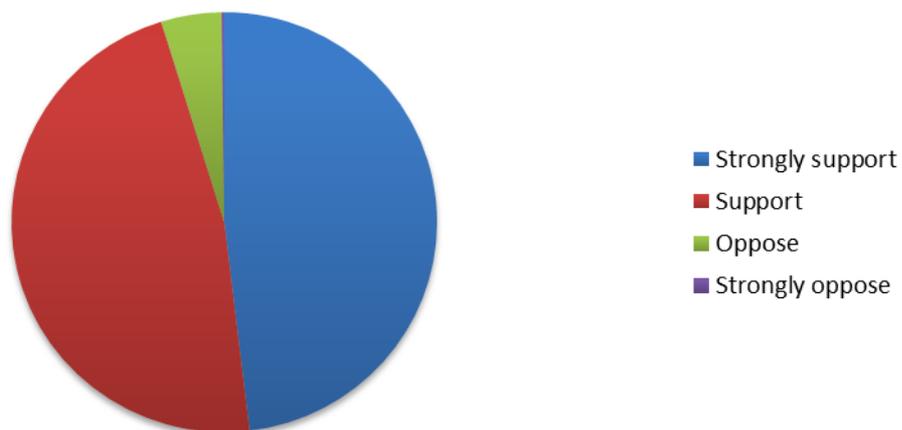
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Arrowhead	0.0%	0
Belmar Hills	0.6%	2
Briarwood	0.3%	1
Byrne	6.3%	21
Chicory Meadow	8.0%	27
Clayton	0.0%	0
Commerce Park Hillside	0.0%	0
Country Vineyard	0.9%	3
Curry Court	0.0%	0
Dawley Conservancy	0.0%	0
Dunn's Marsh	0.6%	2
Fitchburg Center	0.3%	1
Fitchburg Springs	0.6%	2
Gorman Wayside	0.0%	0
Greenfield	3.0%	10
Gunflint Trail	0.0%	0
Harlan Hills	1.5%	5
Hatchery Hill	0.0%	0
Hawk Ridge	1.8%	6
Hillside Heights	1.5%	5
Huegel-Jamestown	7.7%	26
McGaw	5.7%	19
McKee Farms	16.1%	54
Nannyberry	3.3%	11
Nevin Village Green	0.6%	2
Nobel Woods	0.3%	1
Oak Meadow	3.9%	13
Orchard Pointe Natural Area	0.0%	0
Perry J. Schappe	0.0%	0
Pine Ridge	0.9%	3
Quarry Hill	5.7%	19
Quarry Ridge	0.3%	1
Rimrock	0.0%	0
Rosecommon	3.6%	12
S. Johnson	0.0%	0
Seminole Glen	6.8%	23
Stoner Prairie	2.7%	9
Tower Hill	2.4%	8
Western Hills	1.2%	4
Wildwood	2.1%	7
Wildwood South	3.6%	12
Other (please specify)	8.0%	27
	answered question	336
	skipped question	198

HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE OF NATIVE TREES AND UNDERSTORY PLANTS ON PUBLIC LANDS?

refer to handout for comments

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	48.1%	199
Support	47.1%	195
Oppose	4.6%	19
Strongly oppose	0.2%	1
<i>answered question</i>		414
<i>skipped question</i>		120

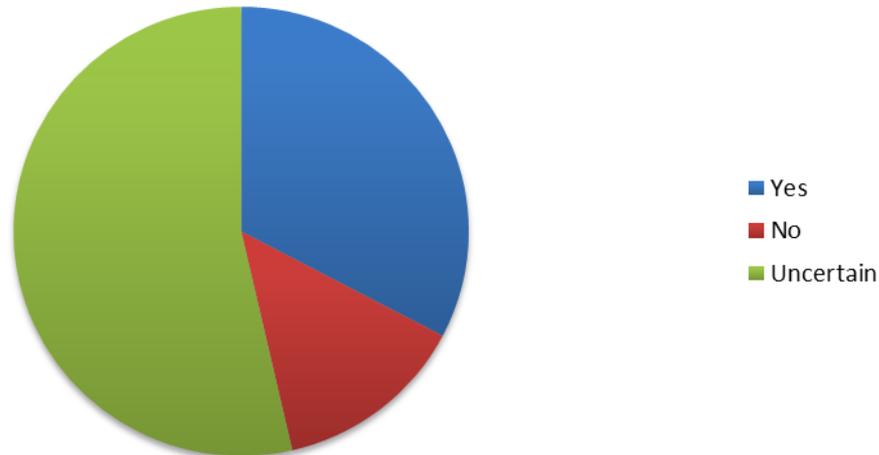
How strongly would you support or oppose restoration and maintenance of native trees and understory plants on public lands?



DO YOU FEEL THAT INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES ARE A PROBLEM IN FITCHBURG PARKS?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	32.7%	136
No	13.7%	57
Uncertain	53.6%	223
<i>answered question</i>		416
<i>skipped question</i>		118

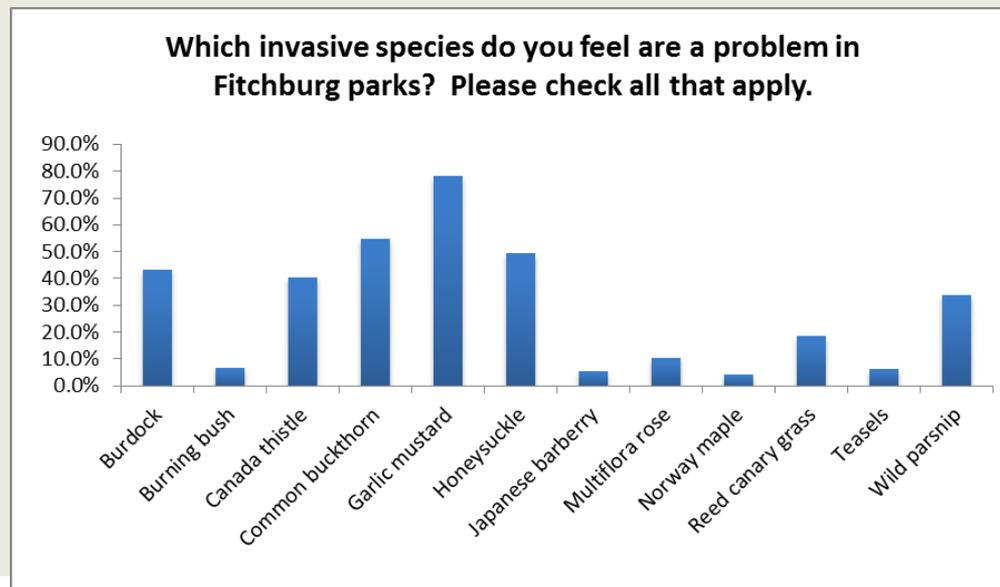
Do you feel that invasive plant species are a problem in Fitchburg parks?



WHICH INVASIVE SPECIES DO YOU FEEL ARE A PROBLEM IN FITCHBURG PARKS?

refer to handout for comments

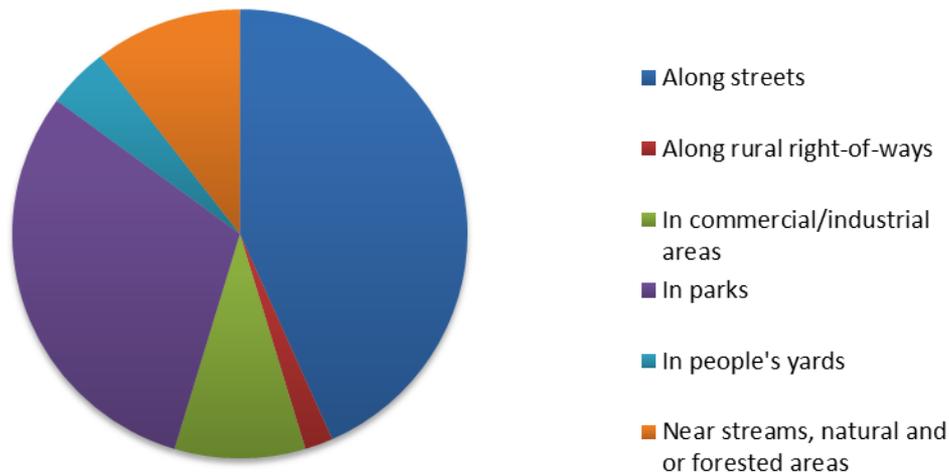
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Burdock	43.4%	72
Burning bush	6.6%	11
Canada thistle	40.4%	67
Common buckthorn	54.8%	91
Garlic mustard	78.3%	130
Honeysuckle	49.4%	82
Japanese barberry	5.4%	9
Multiflora rose	10.2%	17
Norway maple	4.2%	7
Reed canary grass	18.7%	31
Teasels	6.0%	10
Wild parsnip	33.7%	56
<i>answered question</i>		166
<i>skipped question</i>		368



WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE YOUR FIRST CHOICE OF WHERE THE CITY SHOULD PLANT TREES?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Along streets	43.4%	178
Along rural right-of-ways	2.0%	8
In commercial/industrial areas	9.3%	38
In parks	30.5%	125
In people's yards	4.4%	18
Near streams, natural and or forested areas	10.5%	43
<i>answered question</i>		410
<i>skipped question</i>		124

Which of the following would be your first choice of where the city should plant trees?

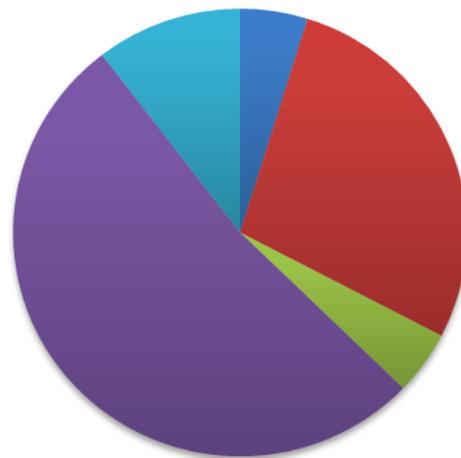


WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS MOST CLOSELY REPRESENTS YOUR OPINION ABOUT TREES?

** refer to handout for comments **

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Allow individuals to remove trees as they wish	4.8%	20
Preserve as many as possible	27.8%	115
Preserve only large or unique trees	4.6%	19
When trees are removed, replace them	52.3%	216
Other (please specify)	10.4%	43
<i>answered question</i>		413
<i>skipped question</i>		121

Which of the following statements most closely represents your opinion about trees?

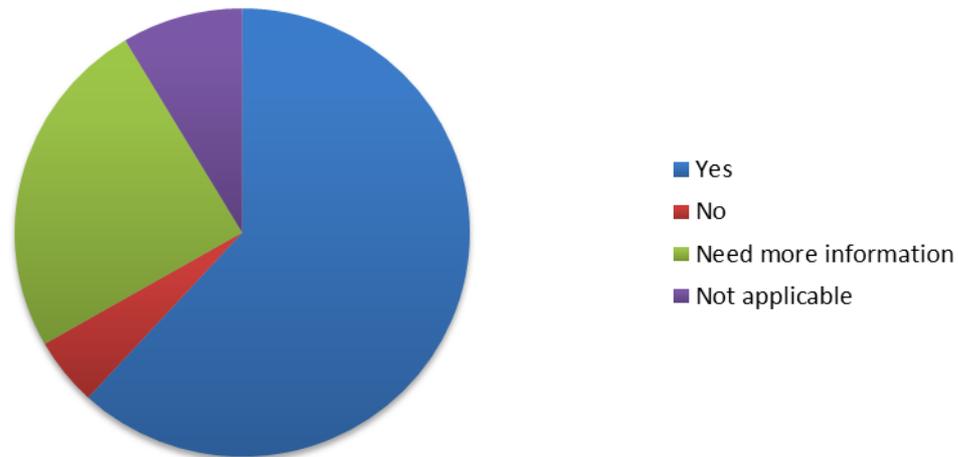


- Allow individuals to remove trees as they wish
- Preserve as many as possible
- Preserve only large or unique trees
- When trees are removed, replace them
- Other (please specify)

WOULD YOU PLANT TREES ON YOUR PROPERTY IF OFFERED A MONETARY INCENTIVE?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	61.9%	253
No	4.9%	20
Need more information	24.7%	101
Not applicable	8.6%	35
<i>answered question</i>		409
<i>skipped question</i>		125

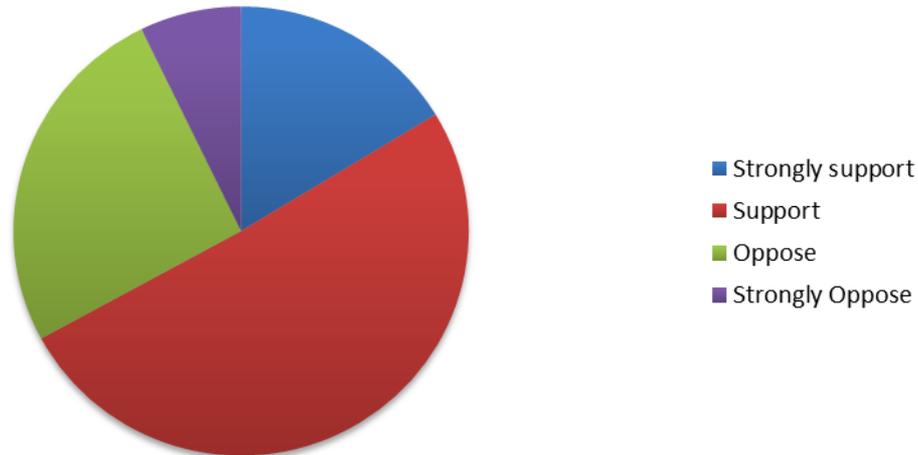
Would you plant trees on your property if offered a monetary incentive?



HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE PAYING MORE IN PROPERTY TAXES TO BETTER MAINTAIN AND PROTECT EXISTING CITY TREES?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	16.3%	66
Support	50.7%	205
Oppose	25.7%	104
Strongly Oppose	7.2%	29
<i>answered question</i>		404
<i>skipped question</i>		130

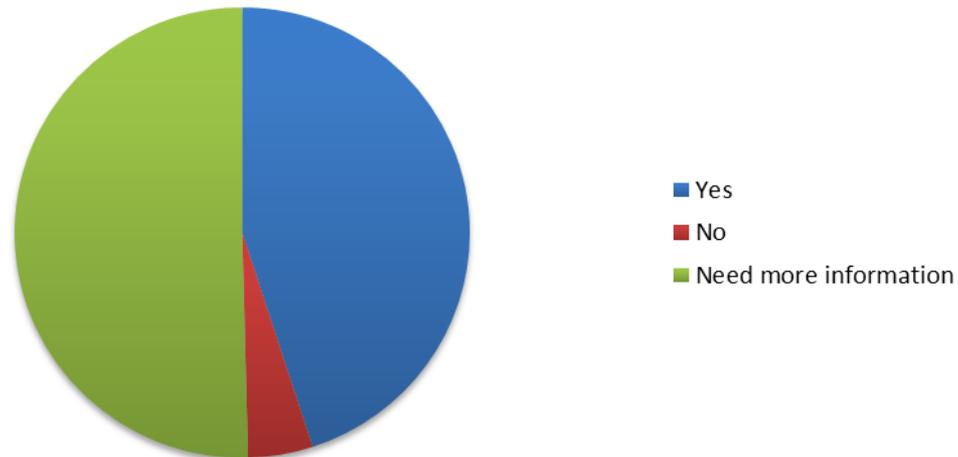
How strongly would you support or oppose paying more in property taxes to better maintain and protect existing city trees?



SHOULD THE CITY REALLOCATE EXISTING RESOURCES TO BETTER MAINTAIN AND PROTECT EXISTING CITY TREES WITHOUT RAISING PROPERTY TAXES?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	45.0%	184
No	4.6%	19
Need more information	50.4%	206
<i>answered question</i>		409
<i>skipped question</i>		125

Should the City reallocate existing resources to better maintain and protect existing city trees without raising property taxes?



HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE CITY REGULATIONS THAT WOULD REQUIRE SOME TREES BE PRESERVED AND NEW ONES PLANTED ON SITES THAT ARE BEING DEVELOPED?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	46.4%	187
Support	44.9%	181
Oppose	6.9%	28
Strongly oppose	1.7%	7
<i>answered question</i>		403
<i>skipped question</i>		131

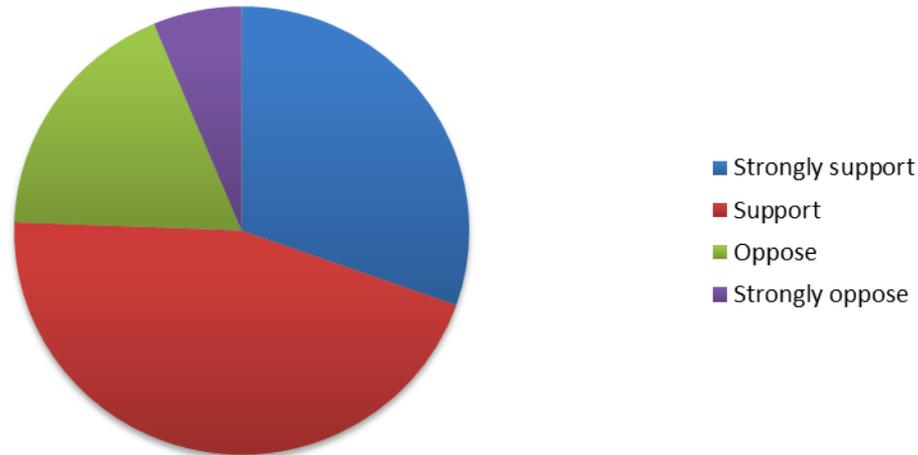
How strongly would you support or oppose city regulations that would require some trees be preserved and new ones planted on sites that are being developed?



HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE TREE REMOVAL REGULATIONS DURING PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	30.4%	121
Support	45.2%	180
Oppose	18.1%	72
Strongly oppose	6.3%	25
<i>answered question</i>		398
<i>skipped question</i>		136

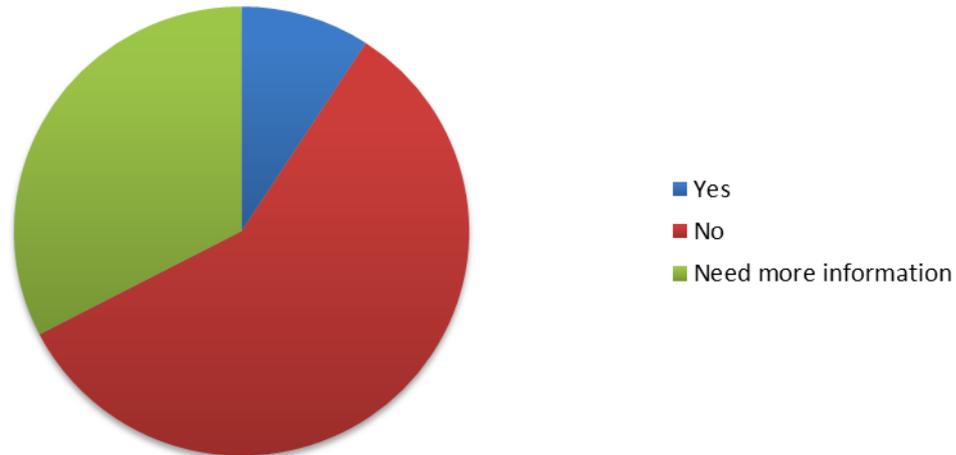
How strongly would you support or oppose tree removal regulations during property development?



SHOULD THE CITY ALLOW THE DECISION TO PRESERVE EXISTING TREES TO BE LEFT UP TO THE DEVELOPER?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	9.2%	37
No	58.2%	234
Need more information	32.6%	131
<i>answered question</i>		402
<i>skipped question</i>		132

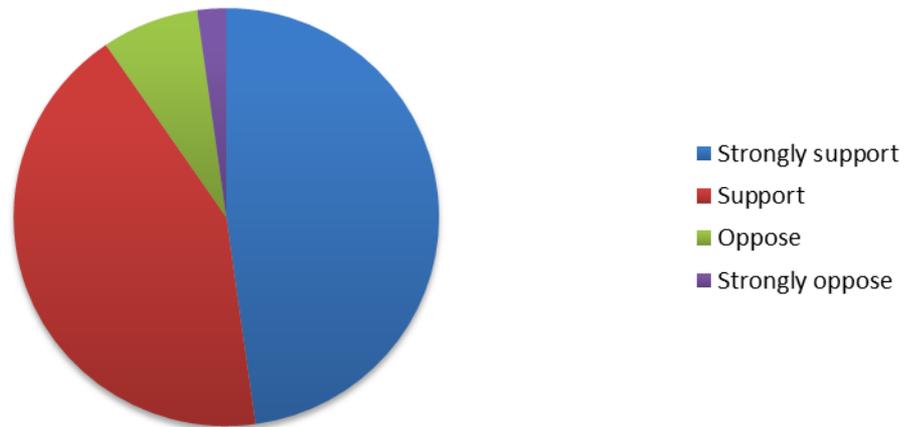
Should the City allow the decision to preserve existing trees to be left up to the developer?



HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE CITY REGULATIONS THAT WOULD PROVIDE SOME LEVEL OF PROTECTION TO PRESERVE LARGE, HEALTHY TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY (E.G. 200+ YEAR OLD HERITAGE OAKS)?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly support	47.8%	193
Support	42.6%	172
Oppose	7.4%	30
Strongly oppose	2.2%	9
<i>answered question</i>		404
<i>skipped question</i>		130

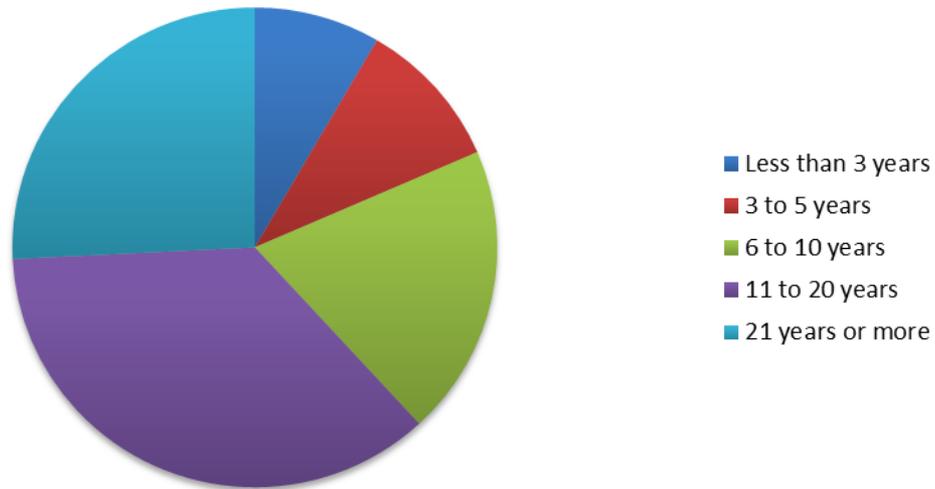
How strongly would you support or oppose city regulations that would provide some level of protection to preserve large, healthy trees on private property (e.g. 200+ year old heritage oaks)?



HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN FITCHBURG?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 3 years	8.4%	34
3 to 5 years	10.1%	41
6 to 10 years	19.7%	80
11 to 20 years	36.1%	147
21 years or more	25.8%	105
<i>answered question</i>		407
<i>skipped question</i>		127

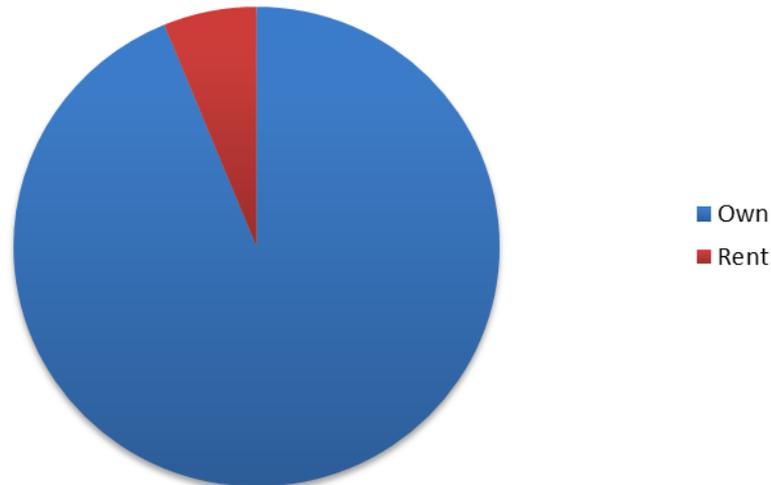
How long have you lived in Fitchburg?



DO YOU RENT OR OWN THE PLACE WHERE YOU LIVE?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Own	93.8%	378
Rent	6.2%	25
<i>answered question</i>		403
<i>skipped question</i>		131

Do you rent or own the place where you live?



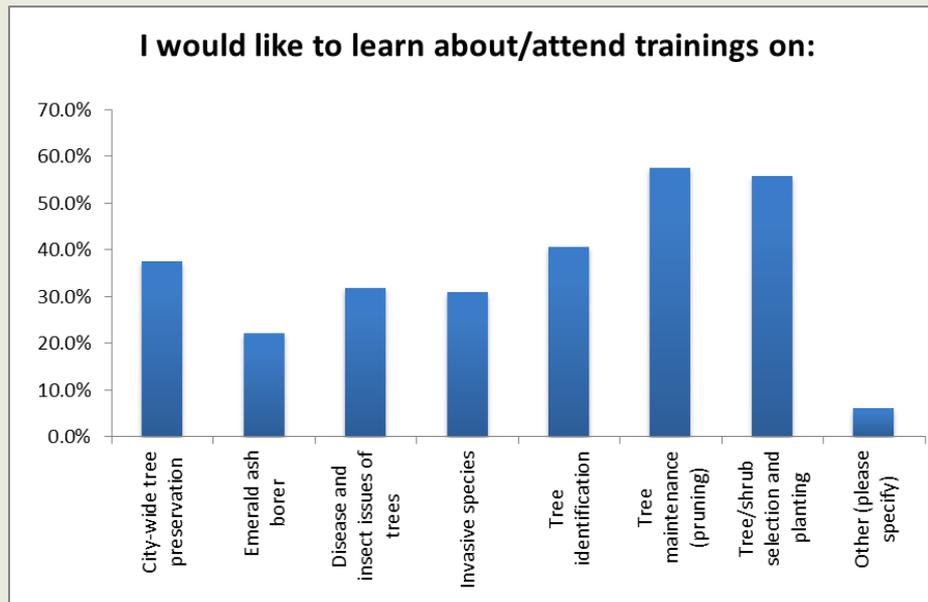
WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE IN?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Braeger Court	0.0%	0
Briarwood	0.5%	2
Byrnewood	4.5%	17
Chapel Valley	1.0%	4
Country Heights	1.0%	4
Country Vineyard	1.0%	4
Dunn's Marsh	1.6%	6
East Fitchburg	1.6%	6
Forsythe Downs	0.0%	0
Greenfield	3.4%	13
Harlan Hills	3.4%	13
Hatchery Hill	0.3%	1
Highlands of Seminole	9.4%	36
Hillside Heights	2.1%	8
Jamestown	7.3%	28
Lacy Heights	2.4%	9
Leopold	0.0%	0
Maple Lawn heights	0.0%	0
Mickelson's Woods	0.3%	1
Morning Sun	0.0%	0
Nakoma Heights	0.3%	1
Nesbitt Heights	0.0%	0
Northeast Fitchburg	0.8%	3
Oak Meadow	3.9%	15
Pine Ridge	0.5%	2
Quarry Hill	3.4%	13
Seminole Forest	8.1%	31
Seminole Hills	4.7%	18
Seminole Ridge	3.4%	13
Sterling Meadows	0.5%	2
Swan Creek	7.3%	28
Timber Lake Knolls	0.0%	0
Tower Hill	4.7%	18
Western Hills	0.5%	2
Wildwood	3.4%	13
Wildwood South	7.3%	28
Willow Run	0.0%	0
Other (please specify)	11.0%	42
answered question		381
skipped question		153

I WOULD LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT/ATTEND TRAININGS ON:

refer to handout for comments

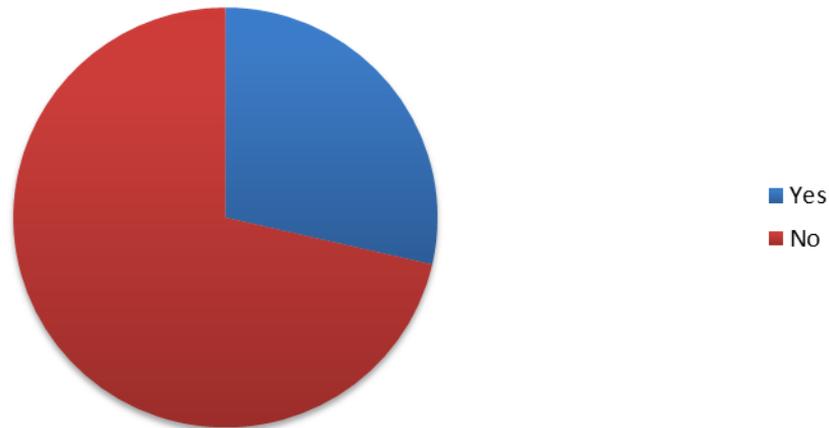
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
City-wide tree preservation	37.6%	86
Emerald ash borer	22.3%	51
Disease and insect issues of trees	31.9%	73
Invasive species	31.0%	71
Tree identification	40.6%	93
Tree maintenance (pruning)	57.6%	132
Tree/shrub selection and planting	55.9%	128
Other (please specify)	6.1%	14
answered question		229
skipped question		305



WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR URBAN FOREST AND PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS? COORDINATION AND TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED AS NECESSARY.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	28.6%	106
No	71.4%	265
<i>answered question</i>		371
<i>skipped question</i>		163

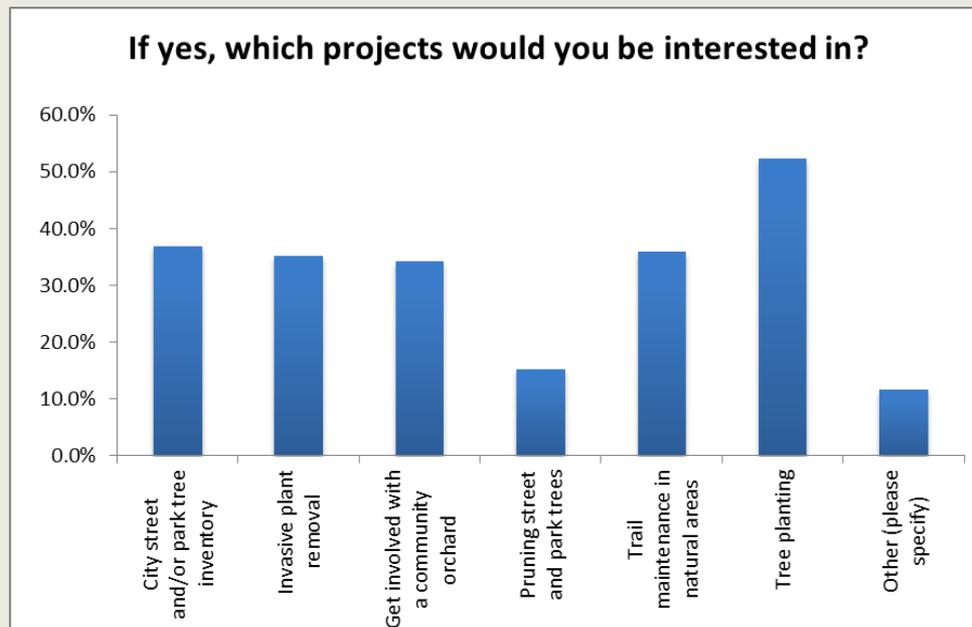
Would you like to volunteer for urban forest and park improvement projects? Coordination and training will be provided as necessary.



IF YES, WHICH PROJECTS WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN?

refer to handout for comments

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
City street and/or park tree inventory	36.9%	41
Invasive plant removal	35.1%	39
Get involved with a community orchard	34.2%	38
Pruning street and park trees	15.3%	17
Trail maintenance in natural areas	36.0%	40
Tree planting	52.3%	58
Other (please specify)	11.7%	13
answered question		111
skipped question		423



**Fitchburg
Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan
HAVES and WANTS**

A. Governance

HAVES -- The Present	WANTS -- Future Needs	GETTING THERE -- Action
1. Tree and Shrub ordinance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs an update • Better control of invasives • Parking lot design: heat island mitigation • Fenceline management by developer or neighborhood association • Tree Preservation • Tree Restriction Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore & research ordinance options • Propose new ordinance language thru TAC • Present to public for input • Revise and propose to Common Council for approval.
2. Planning Ordinances including Smart Code		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action necessary
3. Urban Forest Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update and revise • Include strategic component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete revision process to include public input and TAC oversight
4. Rural Residential Development Forest Management Guidelines		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action necessary
5. Tree Protection and Pruning Guidelines for Construction Around Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include sidewalk and roadway improvements • Formalize and Ratify? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidelines for public works and contractors for caring for trees during construction.
6. Park and Open Space Proposal		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action necessary
7. Heritage Trees Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalize and Ratify? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go public with an approved HTP that involves private trees.
8. Emerald Ash Borer Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update and Ratify 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update with current policy and approve
9. Tree Advisory Committee		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action necessary
10. Commemorative Tree Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalize and Ratify? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formally offer a CTP to the public • Explore other programs • Develop policy-w/ application &

		processing fee
11. List of recommended trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the use of storm water utility credit to encourage tree planting • Energy savings incentives • Create a list of restricted trees - policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore & research utility credits. • Investigate involvement of local electric and gas utilities. • Develop a policy to restrict the sales and planting of specific species (Delaware, OH)

B. Personnel & Maintenance

1. Professional arborist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convert to permanent full-time position. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose change to 2015 budget
2. Maintenance staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay differential based on skill/training level, e.g. certified arborists etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore & research staffing and job descriptions of other communities • Propose changes to 2016 budget
3. Regular training programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide ongoing training programs and certification training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose change to 2016 budget
4. Regular maintenance cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign dedicated arborists in order to maintain regular pruning cycles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire/train parks and public works staff to focus on arboricultural issues.
5. Work order system for acute maintenance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action necessary

C. Budgets and Equipment

1. Budgets for tree planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose changes as necessary. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ash tree replacements • Explore other funding sources.
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2. Budget for maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose changes as necessary. • Explore other funding sources.
3. Budget for forest restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose changes as necessary. • Explore other funding sources.
4. Maintenance Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose changes as necessary.

D. Tree Data

1. Tree inventory Streets, ROWs and Parks in USA and Rural developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the inventory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire LTE Parks and Forestry Asst Fall of 2014 to manage inventory.
2. Urban tree canopy assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish canopy goals • Make projections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research optimum canopy goals. • Work with DNR and other orgs to establish the goals.

E. Community Outreach

1. News articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved public awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire LTE Parks and Forestry Asst to research and write timely articles.
2. Public workshops and meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More public education and involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate and schedule regular workshops
3. Volunteer events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop partnerships • Appoint a Program Coordinator • Create a well-organized and consistent volunteer program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire LTE Parks & Forestry Asst to help develop and maintain relationship with stakeholders and donors. • Enlist potential volunteer coordinators. • Appoint a volunteer coordinator. • Train and work with volunteer coordinator to develop and manage volunteer program.
4. Arbor Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore seedling distribution. • Sell seedlings at the Fitchburg Farmer's Market to fund tree planting. • Provide public education opportunities at the Fitchburg Framer's Market. • Creative dramatics with a Arbor Day Theme.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explore Eagle School ● Biking tour for Heritage Trees.
5. Individual visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Policy for private consultations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a policy to establish guidelines for and control the time spent on private consultations.
6. Public involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exploration of a Commemorative Tree Program ● Hold regularly scheduled public awareness and education events and meetings ● Obtain public buy-in on final UFSMP plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Involve public in the development of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the UFSMP. ○ CTP ● Develop program offering and schedule for public awareness offerings.



Tree Advisory Committee
Monday, February 23, 2015
Meeting Agenda
At City Hall
7:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Section 19.82 of the Wisconsin Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Tree Advisory Committee of the City of Fitchburg, Dane County Wisconsin, will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2015 in the Meeting Room at the Fitchburg City Hall, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711 to consider the following:

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2015
- Public Appearances - Non Agenda Items
- Communication
- Review and Approve Agenda
- Discussion: Arbor Day/Migratory Bird Day Celebration
- Discussion: Fitchburg Urban Forest Survey Results Analysis
- Discussion: Date for Public Informational Meeting
- Discussion: Revision of Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan
- Future Agenda Items
- Adjournment

NOTE: It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other government bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice. Please note that, upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service, contact Fitchburg City Hall, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711. 608-270-4200.