



DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY – Number 16

February 4, 2011

Review of Urban Forest Management Plan 2010

Below is a link to a copy of the proposed Urban Forest Management Plan 2010. Preparation of this plan has been endorsed by City Council in December, 2009. The purpose of the plan is to provide responsible management and stewardship of our valuable urban forest resources, and enhance the quality of life and environment for the citizens of Chesapeake.

[Urban Forest Management Plan - 2010](#)

The plan does not require any ordinance changes or new operating procedures. It provides guidance for responsible urban forest management, and also establishes a recommended average tree canopy goal for the entire City. Ordinance changes, if proposed, will go through the normal City of Chesapeake notification and review process. The 40% recommended average tree canopy goal is proposed by the USDA US Forest Service sponsored studies by American Forests, as a goal for cities east of the Mississippi River. Chesapeake's current tree canopy is 36%. Typically, the average canopy is a combination of farmlands with 0%, to conservation areas with 100%, and all the different districts in between, with typical business districts at 10%.

Please submit your comments to Urban Forester Mik Letyan, by February 17, 2011, at mlestyan@cityofchesapeake.net. Verbal comments are welcome during the scheduled Stakeholders meeting on February 10 at 2 p.m. and a 2nd meeting on February 17th at 2 pm in the Central Library Meeting Room 1. Please RSVP to mlestyan@cityofchesapeake.net if you plan to attend either meeting, since seating is limited.

We look forward to receiving your input.