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RESOLUTION NO. 2013- 921

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE CITY OF TAMPA URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN AS THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF TAMPA'S URBAN FOREST; ESTABLISHING ADAPTABLE, QUANTIFIABLE, AND SCIENCE-BASED STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING AND EXPANDING THE URBAN FOREST; RESCINDING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in 2010, under an agreement authorized by City Council through Resolution 2010-392, the City engaged experts from University of South Florida and University of Florida IFAS, to provide complementary professional-technical assistance to City natural resources staff in completing the plan and to develop and manage the public engagement effort; and

WHEREAS, to insure a balance of continued stakeholder input throughout the planning process, the City initiated the formation of a steering committee comprised of members from a variety of government, business, and neighborhood interests; and

WHEREAS, to insure consistency and efficiency in interdepartmental coordination, as well as design and review of future capital improvement projects, the City initiated the formation of an Internal Technical Advisory Committee comprised of department directors and their appointed designees; and

WHEREAS, an extensive public outreach effort involving the development and use of a web-based and social media campaign, several stakeholder meetings, focus groups, and use of an online survey, thereby providing multiple opportunities for the public to provide feedback and input into the formulation of the plan; and

WHEREAS, to insure continued progress and implementation of the Urban Forest Management Plan, the Plan calls for the ongoing continuation of the Internal Technical Advisory Committee and the creation of an Advisory Committee on Natural Resources, which will be comprised of members from a variety of government, business, and neighborhood interests; and

WHEREAS, on a semi-annual basis, the internal technical advisory committee will be responsible for reviewing the implementation of each 5-year list of preferred alternatives for action derived from the Plan, and reporting those findings to the Advisory Committee on Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, on an annual basis, both committees will hold a joint session to discuss accomplishments and recommended strategies for accomplishing the scheduled objectives from the Plan, and publish a report of those findings for distribution to the City Council, Administration, and the general public; and

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WHEREAS, the Urban Forest Management Plan was presented in an open, public information workshop on September 18, 2013, at the Barksdale Senior Community Center in West Tampa; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Forest Management Plan was presented to City Council in a public workshop on November 14, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA:**

Section 1. That the City Council of the City of Tampa hereby acknowledges the Urban Forest Management Plan as the strategic plan, with a 20-year planning horizon, defining criteria, performance measures, and alternatives for action; and, by following an adaptable, quantifiable, and science-based approach, the City of Tampa will address the challenges to growing and maintaining a healthy urban forest, in an efficient and sustainable manner.

Section 2. That the proper officers of the City of Tampa are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper in order to carry out and make effective the provisions of this resolution.

Section 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAMPA,
FLORIDA, ON NOV 21 2013.**

ATTEST:



**SHIRLEY FOXX-KNOWLES
CITY CLERK**



**CHARLIE MIRANDA
CHAIRMAN, CITY COUNCIL**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



**MARTIN SHELBY
CITY COUNCIL ATTORNEY**