



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING DATE: May 1, 2023
PREPARED BY: Jesse Corrow
AGENDA ITEM: Emerald ash borer tree replacement program

PREVIOUS ACTIONS:
None

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to adopt a tree replacement program for residents that have had a boulevard tree removed as part of the Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan.

COMMENTS:

In 2016, the city adopted the Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan that established guidelines to minimize the effects of EAB by treating or removing infested trees from public locations throughout the city. It is estimated that approximately 250 trees have been removed from along residential streets since 2018, when the removal of infested trees first began.

Staff is recommending a companion program to the EAB Management Plan that will provide a tree voucher to residents who have lost a boulevard tree in recent years. Adjacent property owners who receive a tree voucher will have the opportunity to choose a tree of their choice from the Maple Grove Fall Tree Sale. Trees received through this program would be planted and maintained by the property owner and will be permitted to be placed anywhere on the owner's property. It is anticipated that program can be funded with money already set aside for the EAB Management Plan.

The Arbor Committee, who organizes the fall tree sale, has reviewed this proposal at their meeting on April 13, 2023, and fully supports the tree replacement program.

ATTACHMENTS:
None