RESOLUTION NO.

ENCOURAGING THE MAYOR TO ALLOCATE FUNDS TO THE FY 2023/2024 BUDGET TO BETTER MANAGE AND CARE FOR TREES ON CITY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Representatives recognizes that trees are a valuable natural resource and a major capital asset that provide aesthetic, economic, ecological, environmental, and health benefits to the municipality and its residents;

WHEREAS, the treatment of trees on public property can have significant impacts not only on those properties, but also on neighboring properties, the streetscape, and the entire municipality;

WHEREAS, the loss of existing trees upon land owned by the City may result in increased municipal costs to control drainage, increased soil erosion and sedimentation, decreased fertility of the soil, decreased local groundwater recharge, decreased air quality, increased dust, loss of wildlife habitat, and change in the City's visual character;

WHEREAS, these impacts may adversely impact the overall quality of life in the City, create urban heat islands, with the resulting deterioration of conditions affecting the health, safety, and general wellbeing of the inhabitants within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Representatives recognizes that for these reasons the need to properly manage and care for the trees in the City's urban setting is essential now and for the City's future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE 31ST BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT:

It respectfully recommends and encourages the Mayor to allocate funds to the FY 2023/2024 budget to conduct a geographic information systems (GIS) tree inventory to locate and identify the existing trees on City property; to purchase at least one water tank truck; to purchase and plant new trees in the City's downtown area in cooperation with the Downtown Special Services District; and to hire at least one additional parks maintenance person; all so that the City may better manage and care for this valuable resource and asset.