

Dear Dean Committee Members,

I hope everyone had a happy new year and nice holiday. As we begin a new year of work on the Dean Committee, I have suggested to Tiffany that we spend some time discussing our goals for the upcoming year. At our next meeting, I suggest that we each take a few minutes and communicate your personal thoughts on city tree planting and tree care. You may call this exercise a visioning session, round robin or brainstorming.

To provide some structure to this exercise, I would ask each of us to consider some questions to help us identify our individual thoughts and Dean Committee priorities. Please share with committee members and staff your answers to the following questions.

What are your priorities for budget spending during our next fiscal year? Tell us where we should be planting more trees (for example parks, Main Street/Dean Promenade, neighborhoods etc.) Tell us your priorities and objectives which you feel furthers the goals of the Elizabeth Dean Trust. The priorities may also include planting in low income/underprivileged areas, or areas having a low percentage of tree canopy cover. You can also indicate which geographic areas of the city are in need of special attention or tree care.

City staff now has mapping tools available which can identify key areas of the city in need of attention. However, we should help staff identify the criteria and factors used to help establish these maps or priority areas. You can either present your priorities verbally during our meeting or send an email to Tiffany regarding your thoughts.

We look forward to hearing from you at our next meeting Tuesday, January 11. Thanks for your time and attention in this matter.

Don Wortman