

REGULAR MEETING

ROOSEVELT BOROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 16, 2022, 7:00 PM, Roosevelt Borough Hall

OPENING MEETING: (Time)_____

ROLL CALL: Ashburner, Felong, Hamilton, Hartley, Murray, Tickin, Tulloss, Silverman (Alt. 1),
Teich (Alt 2)

ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING STATEMENT: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, by notices published in the Times of Trenton and in the Asbury Park Press on February 11, 2022 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office.

ROOSEVELT BOROUGH is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ROOSEVELT BOROUGH's Zoom Meeting ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 2/16/22
Time: February 16, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/3251865085?pwd=L1RWNIhPYTZZdUZ5R3piTONZWHhuUT09>

Meeting ID: 325 186 5085

Password: 968068

One tap mobile

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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acOmFxQWMB>

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ELECTION OF SECRETARY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CORRESPONDENCE

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative
Forest Management
Invasive Plant Species
Stream Monitoring
Sustainable Jersey

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ABILITY OF MUNICIPALITIES TO ADOPT REGULATIONS TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE FROM THREATS OF FLOODING

WHEREAS, in recent years, residents have experienced more frequent and severe storms, which have caused increased flooding and flood damage in municipalities;

WHEREAS, the increase of flooding events and flood damage threatens the public health, safety, and welfare, imposes economic damages to residents, and taxes municipal services that are

forced to respond to increased flooding;

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:8-1.5(a), municipalities are permitted to impose additional or more stringent stormwater management requirements than the model ordinance

promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (“NJDEP”);

WHEREAS, each municipality has unique situations that may require additional or more stringent regulations in order to be in full compliance with the controlling state and federal statutes, regulations, and permits, and in order to protect their residents from threats of flooding and flooding related damage;

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs is considering proposed regulations that would limit a municipality’s ability to protect its residents from the threat of flooding and flood related damage;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Roosevelt Environmental Commission that it supports regulations that provide flexibility to municipalities to adopt additional and/or more stringent

stormwater regulations, in order to allow municipalities to protect their residents from threats of flooding and flood damage;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Environmental Commission opposes the continuation of any Residential Site Improvement Standard regulations that would limit a municipality’s ability

to establish more protective flood prevention and stormwater management regulations than the model ordinances promulgated by the NJDEP; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Environmental Commission requests the Governor and the state legislature take action to ensure that the Residential Site Improvement Standards do not limit a municipality's ability to protect its residents from the threat of flooding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Environmental Commission requests the NJDEP to take appropriate legal action to ensure that a municipality's ability to protect its residents from flooding is not in any way impeded or restricted.

Roosevelt Environmental Commission

by: _____

2. Agreement between the Borough of Roosevelt, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, ("Borough") and professional forester Ronald Farr ("Forester"):

Whereas, it is necessary for the protection and safety of residents and others in the Borough that trees that either are, or are likely to become, hazardous that are located in streets, as well as in other locations intended for use by the public, be identified and necessary corrective action be taken promptly; and

Whereas, the forest land owned by the Borough is an important factor in maintaining the high quality of life enjoyed by residents of the Borough, and the preservation of that land in its forested state is therefore a matter of great importance to the Borough; and

Whereas, a survey by a professional forester to identify species of trees present in the forest and the quality and health of those trees and to recommend measures that can be taken to improve the forest would further the goal of preserving the forest for the benefit of current and future residents of the Borough; it is therefore agreed as follows:

1. Forester shall prepare, and present to the Borough, through its Environmental Commission, for approval, a tree inventory, which shall include and list all trees within the right-of-way of streets, on the grounds of the Roosevelt Public School. (if authorized by the Roosevelt Board of Education), in the parks located at the FDR Memorial, the Pine-Tamara and Homestead-North Valley triangles and at the intersection of Spruce Lane and Clarksburg Road, and in the municipal cemetery.

2. Forester shall conduct a Level 2 Basic Tree Risk Assessment (as defined by the International Society of Arboriculture's (ISA) Best Management Practices for Tree Risk Assessment and/or ANSI A300 Tree Risk Assessment Standard) of all trees within the right-of-way of streets. Forester shall assess trees from the ground level up, with each tree being examined and GPS coordinates noted. Members of the Environmental Commission and a film team from the Roosevelt Creative Team may accompany the forester during the tree inspection process.

2. The tree inventory shall include the following information:

i. Street address and CPS Location (X and Y GPS coordinates) of trees, stumps and recommended planting sites;

ii. Species (botanical and common names);

iii. Diameter at breast height'

- iv. Age class (new planting, young, semi-mature, mature, over-mature);
 - v. Whether trunk is multi-stem or not (trunk split less than one foot above ground level);
 - vi. Tree health condition (good, fair, poor or dead);
 - vii. Any tree defects, including, without limitation, stress, structural problems, dead parts, broken branches, cracks, decayed wood, pests, diseases and root problems;
 - viii. Rating of risk of tree or limb failure impacting persons or property;
 - ix. Likelihood of tree or limb failure causing serious or costly damage to persons or property;
 - x. Recommended risk mitigation actions;
 - xi. Assessment of any disruption of sidewalks by trees, or vice-versa, and any threats posed by trees to overhead utility lines, with recommendations for resolution;
 - xii. Recommendations for ongoing maintenance and for potential sites for tree planting, with recommendations as to species;
 - xiii. Photos that will assist in understanding tree conditions and/or recommendations shall be uploaded by forester.
 - xiv. All information recorded shall include the date and the name of the person recording it.
3. Forester shall also prepare, and present to the Borough, through its Environmental Commission, for approval, a survey of forested land owned by the Borough that will provide information as to the types and frequency of species of trees found in different sections of the forest
4. Tree identification for both street, park and cemetery trees and for forest trees shall be done after trees have leafed out for the season. Hazardous tree identification shall be done before trees have leafed out for the season
5. The scope of work for the forest tree inventory shall be as follows:
- i. There shall be a Plot Design Overview, using variable sized plots with a wedge prism of an approximately 40 foot radius. The plant makeup of the understory and the species of trees shall be recorded between plots.
 - ii. Forester shall use variable radius point sampling plots with center-nested, fixed radius sub-plots for collecting advanced regeneration and ground cover data. The forester shall provide all information in digital format
 - iii. There shall be one plot for each ten acres, and at least two plots per stand.
6. Forester shall upload all data and recommendations into a software system database (itree eco) that can be easily accessed and updated by Borough employees or members of the Environmental Commission. The Forest Plot Survey shall be in the form of an Excel sheet.
7. All information and recommendations shall be the property of the Borough.
8. Forester shall prepare a final report that shall include an Executive Summary, a Tree Management Report, and the Inventory data collected, which shall be an appendix to the report.

i. The Executive Summary shall summarize the process and the key findings of the Urban Forestry Inventory;

ii. The Tree Management Report shall provide a narrative and graphics to show inventory findings, including, without limitation, species diversity, condition ratings, age distribution, risk ratings, and target rating, as well as tree management recommendations, including prioritization of tree maintenance;

iii. The Urban Tree Inventory spreadsheets shall be attached to the report as an appendix.

9 Upon completion of the project, the Forester shall deliver the following to the Borough and its Environmental Commission using Itree Eco, which will make the software available to the Borough and its Environmental Commission:..

i Two hard color copies and one electronic .pdf of the Final Report;

ii. One electronic copy of the Urban Tree Inventory in GIS shapefiles

10. The project shall be completed with four months of the date of this contract.

11. Forester shall present a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as an insured that shall be maintained throughout the term of this agreement. Forester shall be insured for at least one million dollars each for Commercial General Liability, Motor Vehicle Liability, and Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability;

12. In consideration for satisfactory performance as set forth above, Borough agrees to pay Forester a total of \$_____, to be paid upon written acceptance by the Borough of the work set forth above..

Borough of Roosevelt

Ronald Farr

by: _____

Peggy Malkin, Mayor

Attested

by: _____

Kathleen Hart, Clerk:

3. Roosevelt Woodland Trail Maintenance Plan Created December 2021

Sam Ashburner and Ellen Silverman

● The main objective for this document is to provide a clear maintenance plan for the Roosevelt Woodland trail. While hiking trails will always be uneven, damp and/or rutted, we want to ensure hikers have a safe experience.

● The Roosevelt Woodland trail, travels through Borough of Roosevelt green acres, and Assunpink Wildlife Refuge. The Borough of Roosevelt's Environmental Commission and Green Team members are charged with maintenance of this trail.

Problems on the trail should be reported to the Environmental Commission, please contact the Borough Hall to report any problems. The trail is maintained by volunteers, the Roosevelt Green Team.

● Trail maintenance

- Tree branches that pose a hazard (tripping, hitting head, being poked etc.) to any hiker should be removed. Hikers should be able to walk two across (side by side or two passing one another) without incident.

- Since the Woodland trail is an established trail, the trail will be monitored regularly and maintenance will be scheduled as needed.

- This maintenance applies to the width of the trail (minimum 3ft) as well as height (minimum 8ft).

- Exposed tree roots that pose a danger should be removed or covered with wood chips.

- Trees that fall across the trail should be removed by volunteers that are trained to use hand saws and have safety training with chainsaw. Please notify the Roosevelt Environmental Commission and/or Roosevelt Public Works Dept. for guidance.

- Weakened trees that pose a threat to hikers should also be reported accordingly.

● Puncheon maintenance

- A number of the wettest areas on the Woodland Trail have had puncheons added to maintain the trail's integrity.

- These puncheons were built and added in multiple stages so design varies slightly but the purpose is the same. The design of these puncheons is from the United States Forest Service T & D Publications, Wetland Trail Design and Construction: 2007 Edition. <https://www.fs.fed.us/t-d/pubs/htmlpubs/htm07232804/page07.htm>

- All puncheons were built using pressure treated lumber and all future maintenance will use the same materials.

- Maintenance for these puncheons should be done year-round. Common issues that should be fixed ASAP are:

- Broken boards

- Broken supports

- Uneven boards

- Exposed hardware

○ The puncheons used on the Woodland Trail are key to the whole trail's integrity and should be cared for accordingly. The trail will be monitored and assess for changes in the trail which would indicate need for additional puncheons to maintain the trail.

Invasive Plant

Invasive plants will be monitored on the Borough of Roosevelt's green acres and on the Boroughs right of ways.

Current Borough's Invasive plants program is run by volunteers (Roosevelt Green Team) is consist of physical control of cutting and pulling of plants.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT: (TIME)_____