



## City of Spokane Park Board Urban Forestry Tree Committee Meeting

4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023  
Hybrid in-person and WebEx virtual meeting  
Katie Kosanke - Urban Forester

### **Committee Members:**

- X Kevin Brownlee – Chair
- X Nick Sumner  
Kevin Cash (Absent)
- X Kris Neely  
Hannah Kitz – alternate – (Absent)

### **Parks Staff:**

Katie Kosanke  
Angel Spell  
Al Vorderbrueggen  
Kris Behr

### **Guests:**

Nancy MacKerrow

## **SUMMARY**

- Katie Kosanke presented the results of the national Inflation Reduction Act grant.
- A recap of the Urban Forestry Citizens Advisory Committee meeting was shared.
- The monthly Urban Forestry report was shared.
- Katie Kosanke presented the August Natural Resources financial report.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023.

# MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by committee chair Kevin Brownlee.

**Public Comment:** None

**Action Items:** None

**Discussion Items:**

1. **Inflation Reduction Act Grant Award (*Information item*)** - Katie Kosanke
  - a. The Forest Service awarded more than \$1 billion nationally in grant monies to increase equitable access to trees and nature. Urban Forestry (UF) presented their “Tree Equity Spokane” program in June. On Sept. 14, the City of Spokane was awarded \$6 million with a zero match to be used within the next 5 years. Additionally, the Spokane County Conservation District was awarded \$6 million, which also benefits UF.
  - b. The grant requires tree planting, maintenance and educational programs be performed in disadvantaged communities, often overburdened by pollution. The funds will provide an opportunity to plant additional trees as well as maintain and/or remove damaged/diseased trees, which tend to be cost-prohibitive in these areas. According to the federal map, the majority of Spokane would be included, except for the upper South Hill and Indian Trail area.
  - c. Although the original proposal was for \$25 million, most awards to cities was comparable to the amount Spokane will receive. Consequently, the project will require alterations and additional funds will be sought. There is an extensive waiting list for individuals who covet this wonderful program. To organize, plan and ensure the monies are spent wisely, the need for a consultant and project employee is being discussed.

**Standing Report Items:**

1. Citizen Advisory Report – Kris Neely

To recap today’s Urban Forestry Citizen Advisory Committee (UFCAC) meeting: there was no public comment; the September minutes were approved; Catherine Olsen resigned and Kaitlin Millender was appointed as a new member; no community assembly report; Katie provided a staff report; there was a discussion regarding the engineering design standards and planting details; Katie provided an update regarding a new downtown educational program sub-committee which is intended to improve the downtown urban tree situation; Justice Brant, from the Lands Council, provided a SpoCanopy update with some additional plantings coming up; Katie presented the results of the recently submitted Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) grant.

2. Urban Forestry Monthly Update – Katie Kosanke

- a. Nancy MacKerrow reported Phase 1 of Susie’s Trail near Finch Arboretum was dedicated last week. Nancy’s son walked both trails in one day (Winthrop and Spokane). This week is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Susie’s Forest and will be commemorated by planting 20 new trees on Park Blvd. near Downriver Golf Course. All are welcome to join.
- b. Katie stated the staff is busy this fall with tree plantings and preparing for the SpoCanopy tree planting October 17-19 where 50 new street trees will be placed in the Emerson-Garfield, Bemis-Nevada Heights, and North Hill neighborhoods. If anyone is interested in helping, sign up at [SpoCanopy Tree Plantings — The Lands Council](#). Some of the plantings will be contracted out, but many will be planted by volunteers.
- c. The Fall Leaf Festival at Finch Arboretum will be October 28<sup>th</sup> with live music, educational booths, the iconic “leaf pile”, and sponsors will be donating kettle corn, coffee and cocoa.

3. **Urban Forestry Financial Report** – Katie Kosanke

Budget-wise, Natural Resources is doing well in all areas. To ensure there is enough savings, some projects are being held back. Except for routine fall tree purchases and contracted plantings, foreseeable major purchases are complete for the year.

**Other Discussion Items:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023.

# Inflation Reduction Act

## Urban and Community Forestry Grant UF Committees October 3, 2023

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# IRA Urban and Community Forestry Grant

## 1+ Billion in Nationwide Investments

- ▶ Applied June 1, 2023
  - ▶ Quick Application Period (announced in late April)
  - ▶ Our Application - Tree Equity Spokane
    - ▶ Proposed to plant trees, provide urgent needed maintenance + educational programs
      - ▶ Street trees, park trees, school property trees
- ▶ Within the boundaries of the City of Spokane and on City properties. All tree planting and maintenance work must be performed in disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution and underinvestment, as identified on a Federal Map (GRANT REQUIREMENT)
- ▶ Letters of support from Mayor/Administration, various City Council members, Park Board, Various Committees, Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz & more

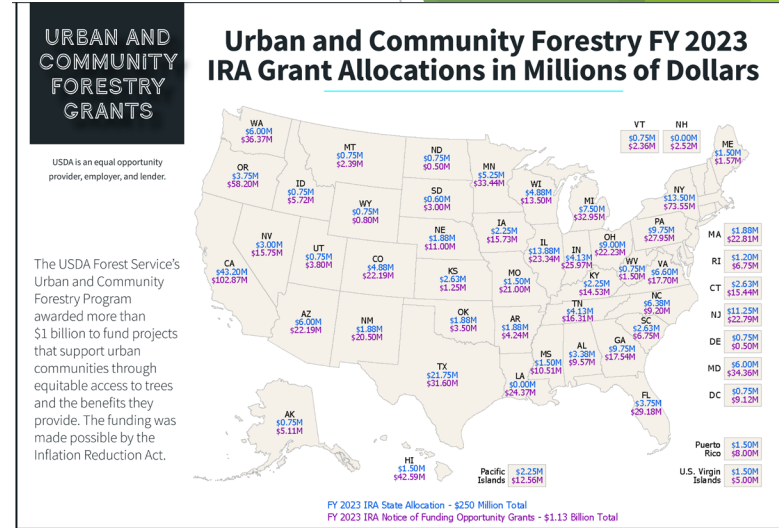


# IRA Urban and Community Forestry Grant

- ▶ Awards Announced September 14, 2023
  - ▶ City of Spokane Application - Tree Equity Spokane
    - ▶ Proposed to plant trees, provide maintenance + educational programs

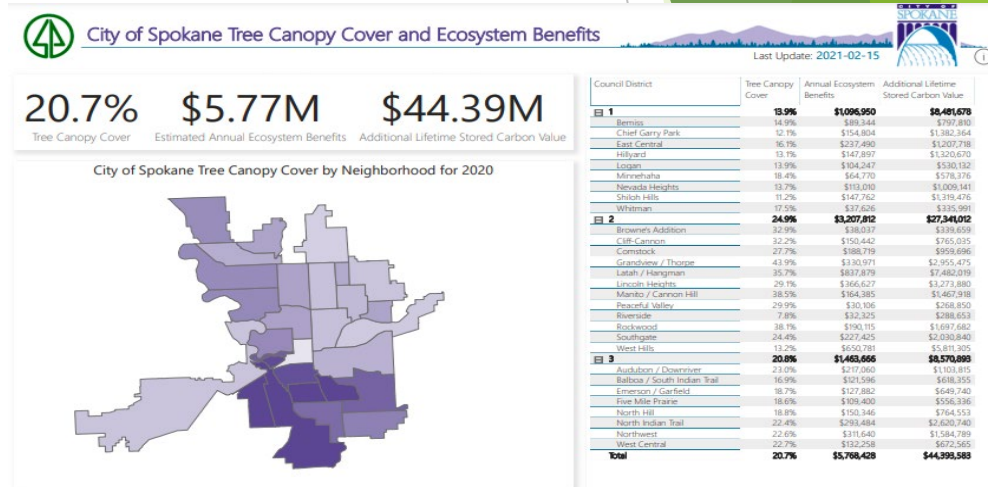
**City of Spokane Award  
\$6,000,000**

- ▶ One of only 15 awards within Washington State
- ▶ Grant Period over 5 years / \$0 Match
- ▶ Spokane County Conservation Dist also awarded 6 Million
  - ▶ Their program will also benefit the City of Spokane for tree planting support, work groups likely will assist with planting and minor maintenance projects.



# Tree Equity Spokane

- ▶ More Details / Grant Paperwork Agreements Soon
- ▶ Expand Current SpoCanopy Planting Efforts
  - ▶ Plant trees in public locations and street trees where abutting property owners want them, and are willing to provide care. Some temp maintenance programs.
  - ▶ Seedling Programs
  - ▶ Work to 30% Canopy by 2030
- ▶ Provide Care for Existing Trees
  - ▶ Address urgent needed maintenance
    - ▶ Invest in existing tree assets so they live longer / provide benefits for longer / safer street side / more resilient in major storms
- ▶ New/Expanded Educational Programs
  - ▶ Tree Care, benefits and more



\*Shading Indicates Degree of Canopy Cover



# Next Steps

- ▶ Rework Grant Documents, establish timelines
- ▶ Determine Staffing and volunteer opportunities
- ▶ Request Funds
- ▶ Get to Work!
  
- ▶ SpoCanopy Planting Scale Up
  - ▶ Meeting with TLC and SCCD
  - ▶ Acquire trees / Multi-year contract for trees
  - ▶ Additional Meeting with Planting Committee / Expo Opportunities
  - ▶ Focus on Education/Outreach / find homes for trees
  - ▶ Built in Educational / Monitoring / Temp Watering
  
- ▶ Consultants and/or Project Employee
  - ▶ Outline planting projects and Create Scopes of Work for Maintenance - park and street tree work.
  - ▶ Establish Contracts with tree services
  - ▶ Communication with Neighborhood Councils, Postcard mailings, etc.



# Thank you!

Katie Kosanke  
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## Natural Resources - August 2023



	Adopted Budget 2023	2023 Adopted Budget Balance	2022 August Actual	2023 August Actual	2022-2023 Monthly Difference	2022 YTD Actual	2023 YTD Actual	2022-2023 YTD Difference	2022 YTD % Of Budget	2023 YTD % Of Budget	YOY % Change
<b>Revenue</b>											
Program Revenue	\$ 91,000	\$ 8,840	\$ 10,739	\$ 20,444	\$ 9,705	\$ 82,971	\$ 82,160	\$ (811)	91.18%	90.29%	-0.89%
Operating Transfers	\$ 66,000	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 66,000	\$ 66,000	\$ -	100.00%	100.00%	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 157,000</b>	<b>\$ 8,840</b>	<b>\$ 10,739</b>	<b>\$ 20,444</b>	<b>\$ 9,705</b>	<b>\$ 148,971</b>	<b>\$ 148,160</b>	<b>\$ (811)</b>	<b>94.89%</b>	<b>94.37%</b>	<b>-0.52%</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>											
Salaries and Wages	\$ 649,181	\$ 238,511	\$ 44,479	\$ 56,007	\$ (11,528)	\$ 379,819	\$ 410,669	\$ (30,850)	66.98%	72.42%	5.44%
Personnel Benefits	\$ 203,753	\$ 62,166	\$ 16,294	\$ 18,422	\$ (2,128)	\$ 132,111	\$ 141,587	\$ (9,476)	65.83%	70.55%	4.72%
Supplies	\$ 35,600	\$ 22,565	\$ 1,113	\$ 844	\$ 269	\$ 18,657	\$ 13,035	\$ 5,622	61.07%	42.67%	-18.40%
Services and Charges	\$ 217,384	\$ 83,465	\$ 21,428	\$ 28,687	\$ (7,259)	\$ 121,031	\$ 133,919	\$ (12,889)	55.83%	61.77%	5.94%
Interfund Payments	\$ 23,000	\$ 6,440		\$ 2,075	\$ (2,075)	\$ 1,022	\$ 16,560	\$ (15,538)	4.03%	65.35%	61.32%
<b>Subtotal Op. Expense</b>	<b>\$ 1,128,918</b>	<b>\$ 413,148</b>	<b>\$ 83,313</b>	<b>\$ 106,035</b>	<b>\$ (22,722)</b>	<b>\$ 652,639</b>	<b>\$ 715,770</b>	<b>\$ (63,131)</b>	<b>62.73%</b>	<b>63.40%</b>	<b>0.67%</b>
Transfers Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 1,128,918</b>	<b>\$ 413,148</b>	<b>\$ 83,313</b>	<b>\$ 106,035</b>	<b>\$ (22,722)</b>	<b>\$ 652,639</b>	<b>\$ 715,770</b>	<b>\$ (63,131)</b>	<b>62.73%</b>	<b>63.40%</b>	<b>0.67%</b>
<b>Net Gain/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (971,918)</b>		<b>\$ (72,574)</b>	<b>\$ (85,591)</b>	<b>\$ (13,016)</b>	<b>\$ (503,668)</b>	<b>\$ (567,610)</b>	<b>\$ (63,942)</b>			