

# Summary of Biodiversity and Urban Forest Plan Updates

## Implementation and Accountability

- Added a designated staff lead to oversee the cross-departmental Implementation Team and coordinate plan execution, monitoring, and reporting efforts across departments.
- Expanded annual reporting beyond the Parks and Recreation Commission to include City Council and the public, with additional community-facing updates and engagement opportunities.
- Strengthened adaptive management language so implementation can remain flexible and responsive to funding opportunities, scientific knowledge, community priorities, and lessons learned over time.

## Integration into City Projects, Policies, and Funding

- Clarified that the Plan is intended to serve as a foundational City policy document that helps guide City decision-making, capital project delivery, and budget development across departments.
- Added language supporting the integration of Plan concepts, guidelines, and associated Guides into future objective standards, roadway design approaches, green infrastructure strategies, and other implementation tools.
- Recognized opportunities to incorporate greening, urban forest, and green infrastructure improvements into future Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects and broader infrastructure investments.

## Native Planting, Urban Forest Resilience, and Habitat Protection

- Expanded language related to native and regionally appropriate planting, including refinement of the definition of “near-native” species to provide greater clarity regarding ecological compatibility and regional applicability, as well as climate resilience, biodiversity-supportive landscaping, habitat protection, long-term urban forest resilience, and sustainable native plant sourcing practices.
- Added language supporting the protection and retention of existing mature trees, habitat features, and ecological resources where feasible, alongside expansion and enhancement efforts.
- Clarified that implementation should balance native planting goals with site conditions, biodiversity objectives, climate resilience, maintenance considerations, and long-term species diversity.

## Partnerships, Stewardship, and Community Science

- Added language supporting volunteer coordination, stewardship opportunities, partnerships, and community-based implementation efforts as part of adaptive management and long-term implementation.
- Included language recognizing opportunities to use community science data and partnerships to support biodiversity monitoring and public engagement where appropriate.
- Incorporated feedback received from community partners and stakeholder organizations, including GreenSpacesMV, Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning, Bird Alliance, and other community members.