



CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS

133 Keyes Road
Concord, Massachusetts 01742

Press Release
May 25, 2017

Richard K. Reine, Director
rreine@concordma.gov
978-318-3201

CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS PUBLIC SHADE TREE INVENTORY AND MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECT SCHEDULED TO BEGIN

CONCORD, MA – After over a year of planning and preparation, the town-wide public shade tree inventory and management plan project is scheduled to begin on May 30, 2017. Arborists from the Davey Resource Group, a Division of The Davey Tree Expert Company, will be out conducting an inventory and assessment of all trees, stumps, and available planting sites along 107 miles of public streets, in parks, cemeteries, and other selected public facilities in the Town of Concord. The GIS-based inventory will be conducted by certified arborists using pre-programmed computers that collect tree data such as species, size, condition, maintenance needs, various site attributes, as well as a representative photo for each tree. “The data collected through the inventory will provide the community with a comprehensive report on the state of its urban tree canopy and will be used to establish a proactive tree management program for the community’s tree canopy,” said Richard Reine, Public Works Director. The tree management program will also incorporate advanced software that will allow Concord Public Works to monitor all tree related activities and will be a powerful planning tool. This software will be utilized to prioritize, schedule, and effectively budget all urban forestry management efforts as well as provide relevant and accurate information about the urban forest. CPW’s Highway and Grounds Superintendent, Dan Rowley, stated “CPW is excited to implement the management plan and software into the operations of the Grounds Division of Concord Public Works and is confident it will significantly increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Town’s management of its urban forest.” Also recognizing the significance of this project, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation has awarded a \$30,000 challenge grant to the Town of Concord to aid in funding the project.

The inventory of each tree will be comprehensive and will include a Level 2 Qualitative Risk Assessment which will be completed following ANSI A300 standards and any observations of possible insect or disease infestations will be recorded using the i-Tree Pest Detection protocol from the USDA Forest Service. It is expected that it will take 6-8 weeks for the team of arborists from the Davey Resource Group to conduct the tree inventory and approximately 4 weeks to compile the data and develop the management plan. While arborists from the Davey Resource Group will be conducting the tree inventory primarily from the Town’s right-of-way, they may need to briefly step outside of the right-of-way to view the entire tree and canopy. All of the arborists will be easily identified by the Davey Resource Group’s logo on their fluorescent safety vests.