CITY OF STOUGHTON
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
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Public Works Committee Members,

In 2017, the City began removing, what was then thought to be 726 ash trees that were infested with emerald ash borer. The City, at that time, was treating 110 trees. The City approved an original capital budget of $562,182 to remove the dead or dying ash trees and replace them with newly planted trees over a three-year period ending in 2019. Over time, city staff discovered there were about 185 ash trees, mostly in parks and along trails that were unaccounted for on the outset of the program.

Due to favorable contract pricing and some in house removals, the City was able to remove a total of 911 ash trees and plant 784 new trees within the urban forest for a total cost of $462,994, which is well below the original budget of $562,182. The City also planted 639 trees through tree infill operating funds and new developer plantings funds. Over the course of the program, the city removed 911 ash trees and planted 1,423 trees of various species.

The current state of our urban forest is healthy as we have a wide variety of tree species that have been planted within our urban forest to help guard against another super bug that may impact a certain species of tree. Our current trimming practices will help to garner positive growth in our newly planted trees and help to shape our more mature trees to allow for adequate height above our roadways, sidewalks and trails. These practices will also help to reduce our liabilities due to tree damage and promote a healthy urban forest for years to come.

Emerald Ash Borer Program

	2017	2018	2019	2020	Totals
Ash Trees Removed	393	258	11	249	911
Trees Treated	110	100	90	87	NA
Trees Planted	225	229	134	196	784
*Tees Planted -Other	279	131	125	104	639
Total Trees Planted	**504**	**360**	**259**	**300**	**1423**

*Includes infill and Developer Plantings

Respectfully,

Brett Hebert
Director of Public Works