

## **PARKWAY TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

The 2021 budget included a program change that shifted parkway tree planting away from a cumbersome trial cost-share program to a more accessible City funded planting program performed by DPW staff. The parkway tree planting program is designed to efficiently, and economically, plant trees in parkway locations that have had impacts from deforestation, primarily due to emerald ash borer (EAB). The intent is for City staff to gather all planting requests and perform a planting project once a year in the late spring/early summer. If funding is still available, staff will perform a second planting project in the fall.

The Department of Public Works will send out letters to residential property owners who had a parkway tree removed in the recent past. Homeowners will be provided with several tree species to choose from and 30 days to respond with their choice and interest in participating in the program. If a resident has a specific species request staff will attempt to accommodate it; however, all species must be on the approved Park Board list for parkway installation.

If we have not filled our allotted tree slots by mid-May, the City will advertise on social media and open participation up to the rest of the community to fill any remaining slots in the current year's program. Per Park Board policy reforestation will take priority over new installations. Any applicants that have not had a tree removed since the 2013 tree inventory will be placed on a waiting list for inclusion in a future program. Residents may still plant a tree at their cost with an approved ROW permit (fee waived for tree planting).