

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 12, 2008

TO Trinity River Committee Members:
David A. Neumann (Chair)
Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Elba Garcia (Vice-Chair) Pauline Medrano
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Caraway Mitchell Rasansky
Carolyn R. Davis Steve Salazar
Linda Koop

SUBJECT Great Trinity Forest Management Plan Stakeholder Meeting

On September 9, 2008, staff from the Trinity River Corridor Project Office held a stakeholder meeting to discuss the draft Great Trinity Forest (GTF) 100-Year Forest Management Plan. The Plan provides detailed instructions for the creation of new habitat, the conservation of existing habitat, and providing recreational opportunities for the City of Dallas. If the City of Dallas successfully implements this plan, we will create over the next 40 years, a diverse, uneven aged, multiuse forest park. Additional benefits from proper management include improved water and air quality for the City.

The public and stakeholder groups were notified of this meeting through various outlets, including the City's website and email notification to prior participants. In addition, several media outlets were contacted about the Plan and the meeting. This meeting concludes the public comment period of the Plan, which officially began on July 7, 2008. Participants included the Chairman of the Urban Forest Advisory Committee, business owners, citizens, and local historians. Prior to the meeting, over 50 copies of the Plan were requested (on DVD) and picked up by interested individuals. The Plan was also available for downloading off of the Trinity River Corridor Project website.

Dr. Gary Kronrad, the lead professor for the Plan, provided a short presentation outlining the major components and offered a question/answer period. The participant feedback involved questions regarding:

- Environmental remediation and mitigation needs: The City is and will continue to work with the US Army Corps of Engineers to meet the requirements of the Dallas Floodway and Dallas Floodway Extension.
- Use of herbicides: All recommended herbicides are approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Increasing recreational opportunities: The Plan addresses recreational needs within the Forest proper. Other studies and design contracts, such as the Lakes Design Contract are addressing additional recreational amenities outside of the Forest.
- Volunteerism opportunities: The City continues to receive requests for volunteer clean-up and trail builds throughout the Forest. They also requested the City consider a "Friends of the Great Trinity Forest" Group.
- Safety of visitors: The Trinity River Corridor Project continues to work with Dallas Police Department and Dallas Fire Rescue to ensure that as the traffic in the Forest.

Overall, the meeting was well received by participants. Specifically, the Chairman of the Urban Forest Advisory Committee, Steve Houser, was complimentary of the Plan, the Trinity River Corridor Project and the City of Dallas for commissioning the Plan, and for the professionalism of the team.

On the October 8, 2008 Dallas City Council Agenda there will be an item requesting adoption of the Great Trinity Forest Management Plan for your consideration.

If you have additional questions, please let me know.



Jill A. Jordan, P.E.
Assistant City Manager



THE TRINITY
DALLAS

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager
Ramon F. Miguez, P.E., Assistant City Manager
A. C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
David O. Brown, Interim Assistant City Manager
David K. Cook, Chief Financial Officer
Deborah A. Watkins, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Judge C. Victor Lander
Helena Stevens-Thompson, Asst. to the City Manager
Frank Libro, Director, Public Information Office