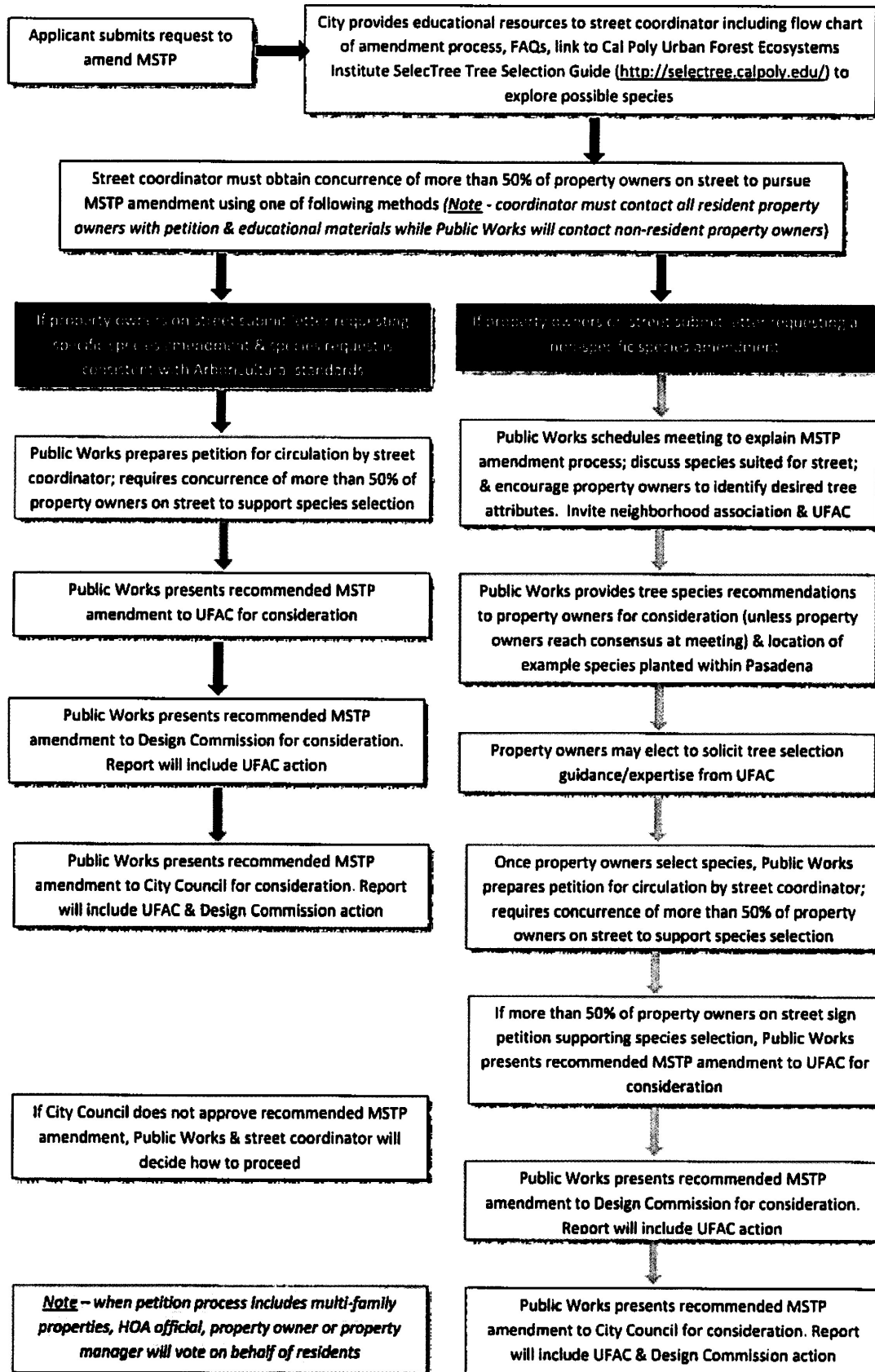


REVISED - Procedure to Process Amendments to Master Street Tree Plan (MSTP)
Department of Public Works

Attachment B - MSTP Amendment Process Flow Chart and FAQ Page



Procedure to Process Amendments to Master Street Tree Plan (MSTP)—Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
Department of Public Works

QUESTION – What are the benefits of an urban forest?

Trees:

- Contribute to community economic well-being by enhancing enhance property values by 7 to 20%
- Provide neighborhoods with sense of identity
- Provide sense of place—90% of Americans consider beauty of trees very important
- Improve water quality by intercepting storm water & reducing runoff/soil erosion
- Promote pedestrian activity
- Provide evaporative cooling effect lowering temperatures typically by 5 to 9 degrees
- May reduce cost of summer cooling by 10 to 50%
- Improve air quality by extracting 25 lbs. of carbon from air per year (mature tree) & capturing airborne particulate pollution, removing dust & chemicals from atmosphere
- Mitigate noise pollution by absorbing traffic & other sounds from urban environment

QUESTION – What is the Master Street Tree Plan (MSTP)?

The MSTP, adopted by City Council in 1991, guides the City in planning for and maintaining a diverse & vital urban forest. The MSTP identifies a designated street tree(s) for each public street on a block-by-block basis ensuring each block has a unified & unique look. The MSTP is both a long-range policy guide & a living document that responds to changing conditions.

QUESTION – What is the goal of the Master Street Tree Plan (MSTP)?

The goals of the MSTP are to:

- Provide a planting/replanting master plan for new development & redevelopment
- Maintain species diversity
- Protect inherent property values of homeowners & businesses while enhancing neighborhood character & aesthetics
- Extend life span of trees by carefully matching species selection & site conditions (growing space considerations, water needs, sidewalks, overhead & underground utilities & offset carbon emissions)

QUESTION – Who decides what trees are planted on each street?

The Urban Forestry Advisory Committee (UFAC), a subcommittee of the Design Commission, reviews, advises & makes recommendations to the City Council regarding the MSTP. Property owners have the ability to seek amendments to the MTSP using the process outlined in the attached flow chart.

QUESTION – Will the City Council's approval of an amendment to the MSTP result in the removal of existing street trees?

A MSTP amendment only affects what tree species the City will be plant in vacant street tree sites. The City will not remove existing street trees. Following the approval of a MSTP amendment, the City will initiate the planting of vacant tree sites.

INFORMATION – For additional information regarding MTSP amendment process:

Please contact Darya Barar, Forestry Program Coordinator by telephone at (626) 744-3846 & e-mail at dbarar@cityofpasadena.net