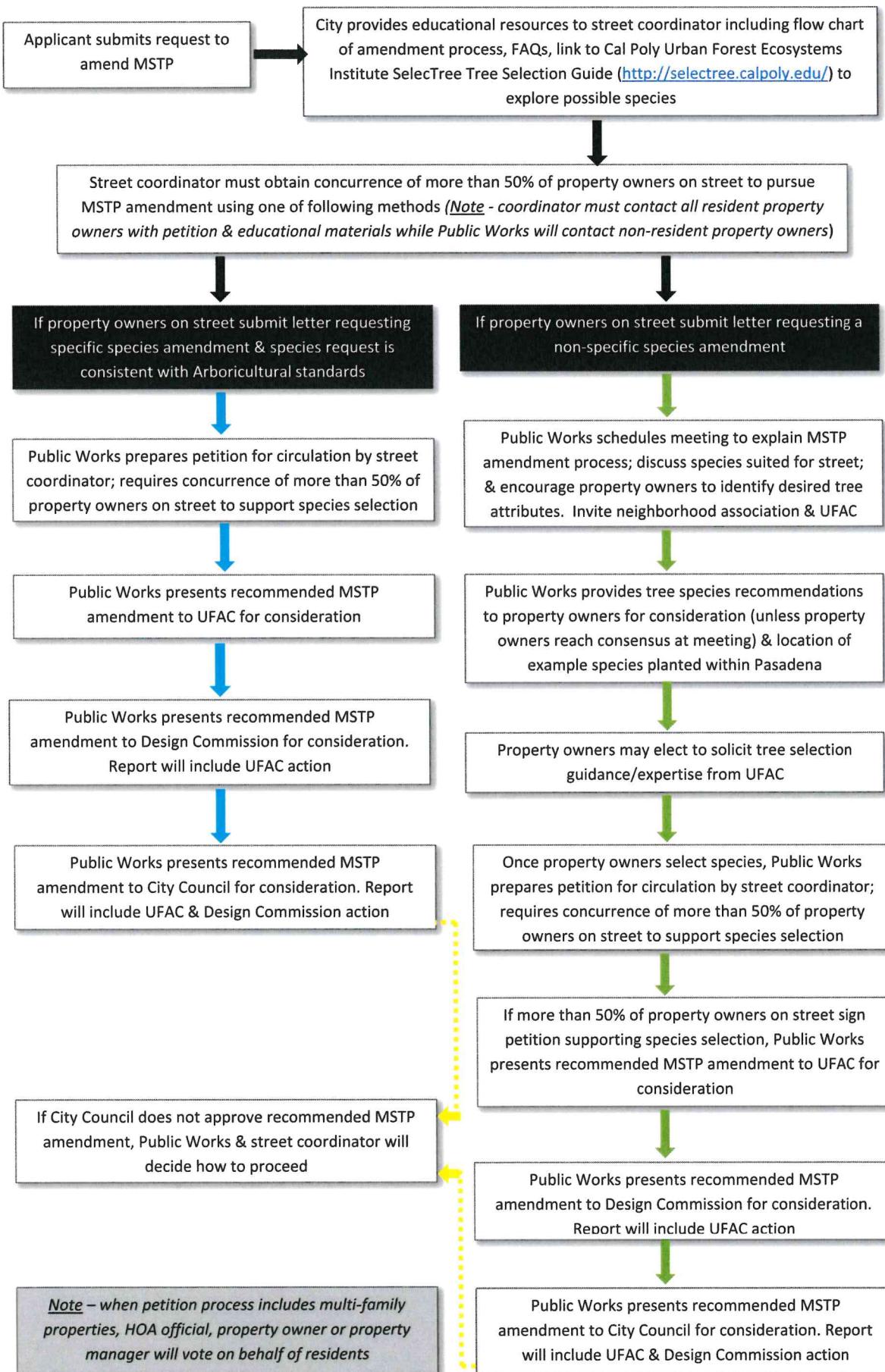


REVISED - Procedure to Process Amendments to Master Street Tree Plan (MSTP)
Department of Public Works



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 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 the Department of Public Works - Urban Forestry at forestry@cityofpasadena.net or 626-744-3846.