



Mr. Randy McCaslin  
City of High Point  
PO Box 230  
High Point, NC 27261-0230

Re: Request for support for Tree Replacement Project along Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.

Keep High Point Beautiful, under the support of the City of High Point's Public Services Department, would like to replace 40 trees along Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. that have died or are currently dying. We propose doing this in partnership with the City's Parks & Recreation Department, the City's Urban Forestry Committee and any willing citizens, companies or organizations that would like to help provide resources to replace the trees.

Andy Piper with the City of High Point's Planning and Development Department serves as a member of the KHPB Board. He also leads the City's Urban Forestry Committee. Rebecca Coplin works under the Public Services Department for the City of High Point and leads the Keep High Point Beautiful program. Over the course of the past few years, KHPB has been interested in and applied for several grants that are specifically written to provide funding for tree plantings. Andy Piper has identified several areas of the city in which trees need to be replaced and/or planted. One of these areas is along the MLK Jr. Drive corridor into our city's downtown area. While we will always attempt to obtain grant funds for projects that better our city's environment, we have noted that especially during this time of global pandemic, the grant funds that we usually apply for are not as abundant in amount or availability.

At a recent KHPB Board Meeting, one of our board members (Flo Gullickson), shared the idea that maybe it's time to try an approach in which we ask others to contribute financially to a project like this. Upon this recommendation, Andy Piper and Rebecca Coplin began to discuss what this could look like. This led to the discussion that resulted in the focus upon the need for replacement trees along the Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. area.

To date, 40 trees need replacement in this area. The estimated cost is as follows:

40 Cherry Trees at \$150.00 per tree:	\$6,000.00
Planting Materials:	\$1,000.00
Total:	\$7,000.00

The labor will be performed by the City's Parks and Recreation Department at no additional cost. This has been agreed upon by Jeff Bodenheimer, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor with the City's Parks & Recreation Department and member of the City's Urban Forestry Committee. Planting will be done in groupings of approximately 5-15 trees as funds become available, preferably during the planting season that typically runs from October through March.



We propose to raise the needed funds by asking for donations from members of the High Point community. In order to make sure this is possible with regards to how the funds would be received, Rebecca reached out to the City's Finance Department. Heather Forrest researched and discussed this with Director of Finance, Bobby Fitzjohn and they found that it would be possible to set up to receive funds and spend them for this project using the Solid Waste Funds account. The funds would be raised and spent this fiscal year 2020/2021.

KHPB has formed a committee led by Andy Piper to manage the project with Rebecca Coplin assisting in all areas as needed. Promotion of this opportunity would follow the normal channels of guidance by the City's PIO Department and utilizing the resources and connections of the KHPB board members.

The NC Department of Transportation will also be included in this process to assure that we have their permission and support.

Thank you for your consideration of this idea!

Robby Stone  
City of High Point  
Assistant Public Services Director