

# Chicago Urban Forestry Advisory Board

## **Executive Board**

### **Jess Vogt**

Acting President/Board  
Member

### **Joe McCarthy**

Acting Vice President/Streets &  
San. Forestry

### **Rolando Favela**

Secretary/Chair, Education  
Working Group/Board Member

### **Daniella Pereira**

Chair, Policy Working  
Group/Board Member

### **VACANT**

Board Member

### **Cindy Schwab**

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Commissioner – Environment

### **Ciere Boatright**

Commissioner – Planning &  
Development

### **Tom Carney**

Commissioner – Transportation

### **Randy Conner Jr.**

Commissioner – Water  
Management

### **Carlos Ramirez-Rosa**

General Supt/CEO – Chicago  
Park Dist.

### **Maria E. Hadden**

Aldersperson – Environment  
Comte.

## **Agenda**

**Meeting June 5, 2025, 9:30-11 am**

**City Hall, Room 1103**

1. **Call to Order** – Jess Vogt (Acting President)
2. **Roll Call** – Joe McCarthy (Acting Vice President)
3. **Public Comments** – 3 min. limit per person; Please notify the President or Vice President of your full name if you wish to speak
4. **Approval of Previous Minutes** – Feb 2025; May 2025 (minutes only accessible to Board Members prior to approval)
5. **Consent Agenda: Metrics Table** – All items on the Consent Agenda are approved by a single vote with no discussion. See last page of Agenda for Metrics Table.
6. **Standing Updates**
  - 6.1. **Update on Public Tree Inventories**
    - 6.1.1. City Parkway Tree Inventory status – Joe McCarthy/Forestry
    - 6.1.2. Parks District Tree Inventory status – Cathy Breitenbach/Parks
  - 6.2. **Other UF mgmt./activities updates** – Forestry, CDOT, Parks
  - 6.3. **Our Roots Update** – Jared Patton/DOE  
⇒ Next Chicago Community Tree Equity Working Group monthly virtual meeting: Tues, June 10, 9-10 am – email Jared Patton for an invite to this Teams meeting: [Jared.Patton@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Jared.Patton@cityofchicago.org)
7. **Working Groups:**
  - 7.1. **Education Working Group** – Rolando Favela
  - 7.2. **Policy Working Group: “Heritage Tree Program” Discussion** – Daniella Pereira
    - 7.2.1. **Vote 1:** What should be the ultimate purpose of the “Heritage Tree Program”?
      - A) *Feel-Good Approach:* To designate certain older public trees as significant with having “heritage” status but no protections
      - B) *Minimal Coverage Approach:* To protect particularly large significant public trees (of particular species and/or size only)
      - C) *Full Coverage Approach:* Protecting all valuable City public trees for the inheritance of future generations
    - 7.2.2. **Vote 2:** (Only occurs if B or C is the result of Vote 1) Should the Policy Working Group first pursue which of the following?

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A) *Criteria-First Approach*: What the criteria should be for  
protection (that is, which trees to include in program)

B) *Protections-First Approach*: What kinds of protections these  
trees would/would not have (and how this would be  
implemented through the new program)

## 8. Old Business

8.1. 2026 Budget Year requests for BoF from UFAB/Enforcement  
position

8.2. UFAB By-laws update – Jess Vogt

## 9. New Business

9.1. 311 workflow: Changing 311 options to include “Tree inspection” request  
and remove option for “Tree removal”

9.2. *Other new things this month*

## 10. Remaining 2025 Full Board meetings: Thursdays, Oct 2 and Dec 4, 9:30-11 am, City Hall 1103

10.1. Call for add. agenda items for New Business at October mtg.?

⇒ Location/operations of Bureau of Forestry long term

⇒ Workflow demo – what’s used outside City of Chicago – Jim Semelka,  
Cindy Schwab

## 11. Summer 2025 Working Group meetings:

Policy Working Group: Thursdays, July 2, August 14, September 4 – 1-3pm at CDOT 2  
N LaSalle 8<sup>th</sup> floor

Education Working Group: Tuesdays, July 8, August 12, September 9 – 6-7 pm, virtual  
meeting: links to join to be available on City website

## Consent Agenda: Metrics Table

Metrics over time available here:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sEKPdNrYR2NWISP3B149pRqf7yqplv2mtCkFeXO\\_Qbo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sEKPdNrYR2NWISP3B149pRqf7yqplv2mtCkFeXO_Qbo/edit?usp=sharing)

METRIC <i>In current calendar year, year-to-date listed unless otherwise indicated</i>	Dept.	2025-June
<b>PRUNING</b>		
Area Grid Pruning		
Trees trimmed	BOF	39,442
Grid sections of 800* total pruned	BOF	54

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Grid sections of 800* total pruned <i>since start of Area trimming program in April 2023</i>	BOF	175
Trees pruned by Chicago Parks District	Parks	4419
<b>TREE PLANTING (April-Dec)</b>		
Trees planted by Bureau of Forestry, <i>as of 5/30/25</i> 2025 goal: 4,000 trees	BOF	777
Trees planted by Department of Transportation, <i>excluding capital projects, as of 5/14/25</i> 2025 goal: 4,000 trees	CDOT	2195
Trees planted by Department of Transportation through capital improvement projects 2025 goals: 1,000-2,000 trees	CDOT	0**
Trees planted by the Chicago Parks District	Parks	appr. 300
<b>TREE REMOVALS</b>		
Trees removed by Bureau of Forestry	BOF	1391
Trees removed by Chicago Parks District	Parks	1062
<b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT/TRAININGS</b>		
Hours of trainings attended by BOF staff	BOF	--
Hours of trainings attended by CDOT forestry staff, <i>as of 5/14/25</i>	CDOT	27 hours
Number of BOF staff attending trainings	BOF	--
Number of CDOT staff attending trainings, <i>as of 5/14/25</i>	CDOT	2
Number of BOF ISA Certified Arborists	BOF	36
Number of BOF SAF Certified Foresters	BOF	1
Number of SAF Certified Urban and Community Foresters	BOF	1
Number of CDOT Certified Arborists, <i>as of 5/15/25</i>	CDOT	2
Number of CDOT SAF Certified Foresters, <i>as of 5/14/25</i>	BOF	0
Number of CDOT Certified Urban and Community Foresters, <i>as of 5/14/25</i>	BOF	0
Members of the general public (non-City staff) in attendance at previous UFAB meeting	UFAB	~7
<b>PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT</b>		
UFAB members in attendance at UFAB Education WG meetings	UFAB Edu WG	1
UFAB members (excluding delegates) in attendance at UFAB Policy WG meetings	UFAB Policy WG	1 to 3
Participants in attendance at most recent Tree Equity Working Group meeting ( <i>May 2025</i> )	TEWG (DOE)	35
Contacts on the invite list for Tree Equity Working Group meetings	TEWG (DOE)	186
<b>UFAB BOARD MEMBERS &amp; CITY STAFF ENGAGEMENT</b>		

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UFAB board members (or delegates) in attendance at previous Full Board Meeting ( <i>April 2025</i> ), of 13 total board members	UFAB	11
Additional City staff members in attendance at Full Board Meeting	UFAB	4
City staff members in attendance at UFAB Education WG	UFAB Edu WG	0
City staff members in attendance at UFAB Policy WG	UFAB Policy WG	3 to 5
<b>311 DATA</b>		
New tree-related requests received	BOF	--
Tree-related requests closed	BOF	--
<b>NOTES:</b> n/a: not applicable --: not available * There are 915 total grids, of which 800 are serviced by the Bureau of Forestry. ** Projects still under construction		