



TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2026 7:30 A.M.
BOB CRANE COMMUNITY CENTER - BOARD ROOM
3200 TREMONT RD.

- 1) Welcome: call to order and roll call – Chair Kim Landsbergen / Staff Veronica Trommer
- 2) Approval of Minutes from November 25, 2025 – Chair Kim Landsbergen
- 3) Public Attendance - Chair Kim Landsbergen
- 4) Election of Officers:
 - 4.1.Motion to Elect the Chairman of the Tree Commission
 - 4.1.1. Second
 - 4.1.2. Discussion
 - 4.1.3. Vote
 - 4.2.Motion to Elect the Vice Chairman of the Tree Commission
 - 4.2.1. Second
 - 4.2.2. Discussion
 - 4.2.3. Vote
- 5) Discussion items – Chair Kim Landsbergen and Staff Sam Simmons
 - a) Tree Canopy Assessment
 - b) Arbor Day 2026
 - c) Education/Outreach
- 6) Updates from staff: - Staff Sam Simmons
 - a) General/Operational Forestry Updates
 - b) Contracts
 - c) Park Updates
 - d) CIP/Development
- 7) Friends of UA Parks Update
- 8) Horticulture Update – Libby Roach
- 9) Future meetings – Topics and location



10) Adjournment – Chair Kim Landsbergen

Next Meeting April 7, 2026

THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND ALL COMMISSION MEETINGS.

Upon request to the City Clerk’s office, special accommodations for people with disabilities (i.e., interpreting services, audio recording, etc.) will be arranged for any City meetings open to the public. Requests for special accommodations should be submitted at least 72 hours in advance.

NOVEMBER 25, 2025, 7:30 A.M.
THE BOB CRANE COMMUNITY CENTER
3200 TREMONT RD

The City Tree Commission met at the boardroom of the Bob Crane Community Center and was called to order at 7:30 AM by Chair Kim Landsbergen

1. Welcome: Call to order and roll call - Chair/Veronica Trommer

MEMBERS PRESENT:

 X Chair Kim Landsbergen

 X Vice-Chair J.P. Ratajczak

 X Kathy Duke

 X Laura Oldham

 X Scott Zanon

 X Laura Fay

 X Blythe Price

ALSO PRESENT:

Associate members Karla Gengler-Nowak and Libby Roach, Sandra Albro from The Davey Institute, Director Debbie McLaughlin, Park Development & Arts Superintendent Jeff Anderson, Parks & Forestry Superintendent Samantha Simmons, Forestry Supervisor Matt Stewart, Forestry Technician Corey Oancea and Administrative Assistant Veronica Trommer.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the Tree Commission meeting for October 7, 2025

Motioned: Kim

First: Scott

Second: Laura Oldham

Motion passed

3. Public participation

No public participation

4. Discussion items

a.) Congratulations Commissioner Oldham

- This will be Laura’s last committee meeting. Commissioner Oldham is moving on to become a council member; will vacate the Tree Commission seat. The vacancy will remain until applications are reviewed and filled next year (Mar–June). Commissioners are encouraged to announce the position for interested applicants.

b.) Tree Canopy Assessment- presented by Sandra from Davey Resource Institute

- Assessment used 2025 NAIP imagery and previous LIDAR data (2011 & 2021) to track tree canopy change.
- Scope of Work:
 - Mapped land cover across Upper Arlington.
 - Tracked tree canopy at three points: 2011, 2021, 2025.
 - Quantified ecosystem services via i-Tree Eco.
 - Conducted priority planting analysis for decision-making.
- Tree Canopy Findings:
 - 41% canopy cover citywide in 2025.
 - Residential areas have the most canopy and the largest gains from 2021–2025.
 - Right-of-way (ROW) areas are gaining faster than commercial or other land types.
 - Parks have high canopy cover with minimal loss; schools have lower canopy and variable gains/losses.
- Priority Planting Analysis
 - Map: Stormwater mitigation, Urban heat island reduction, Socioeconomic equity, and Composite priority.
 - Plantable area: ~18% of city land (~119 acres), with high/very high priority public land ~65–66 acres.
 - Planting all priority areas could increase canopy cover from 41% → 44%.

c.) Education Outreach/Review –



- Witness /Historic Tree Research
Discussed Westover Oak and researching its role as a possible witness tree.
Identified need for additional historical and ecological research.
- 250th Anniversary Ideas
Brainstormed ideas related to trees and environmental history for the 250-year anniversary.
Emphasis on storytelling and educational components.
- Spring/Summer Activity Guide deadline is December 4th. All programs must be submitted by the deadline to be included.

5. Updates from staff

a.) General/Operational Forestry Updates

- A citywide asset management system called OpenGov is being put into place. The goal is to have better coordination, tracking, and planning across departments. IT and GIS confirmed that Davey Treekeeper will integrate and function with OpenGov, but current tree inventory data must be provided.

b.) Contracts

- Sidewalk contract is wrapping up
- Bare-root and ball & burlapped tree planting nearly completed.
- The winter pruning contract is coming up in the new year.

c.) Park Updates/CIP

- Devon Pool project is underway.

- Fancyburg maintenance area scheduled to go out to bid with the goal of preserving as many existing trees as possible.
- Columbia Gas Substation: Proposed landscape plan is being reviewed by City.

6. Friends of UA Parks – Karla Gengler-Nowak

FOUAP will be meeting at Northwest Kiwanis Park on December 16th. New dates for 2026 will be posted on the website.

7. Horticulture Update- Libby Roach

- Adding several Diervilla shrubs to the Miller Park Playground.
- Planting (3) 7' tall Thuja occidentalis 'Techny' at the Northam Boulder Garden
- Planting (10) Viburnum Dentatum and (10) Tulip tree near the Burbank Park shelter
- (7) Hydrangea 'Ruby Slippers' and (7) Clethra 'Ruby Spice' were planted at the Westover Butterfly Garden.
- We also worked with a local Boy Scout on his Eagle Scout project at the Northam Tennis Courts. With his help, along with some volunteers, we were able to install (50) Panicum 'Rotstrahlbusch' ornamental grasses, 5 yards of soil and 3 yards of mulch to help "spruce up" the tennis courts.
- Fall cleanup has been our main focus the last several weeks. Annual flowers have been removed at the History Walk and Bob Crane Community Center.
- We will continue cleaning our neighborhood gardens and gateway beds over the next few weeks so that we are ready for spring next year.
- The Horticulture Staff will be attending the Ohio Landscape Association's Plant Healthcare & Dormant Pruning classes on December 4th.

8. Future meetings – Topics and location

- February Meeting:
Scott will be absent.
Urban Plan Process updates to be presented.
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board:
December 10 at 4:30 PM.



City Council: Presentation planned for December or February on Davey results to be presented by Sandy and Matt.

9. **Adjournment**

Motioned: Kim

First: Kathy

Second: Scott

Meeting adjourned: 9:11 a.m.

ATTEST:

Secretary Veronica Trommer

Chair Kim Landsbergen

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The next Commission meeting is scheduled for February 10th at 7:30 a.m.

NOTICE

Street Tree Pruning is Scheduled in Your Area





PARKS & REC
City of Upper Arlington

PARKS & REC DEPARTMENT
614-583-5340 | www.upperarlingtonoh.gov

As part of the City's Forestry Program, trees in the public right-of-way will be pruned adjacent to your property. Street tree pruning is performed as part of the City's Urban Forest Management Program and has some specific goals that may differ from pruning practices typically performed on privately owned trees. These include:

- Trees are not pruned for shape or cosmetic purposes.
- Trees are pruned for clearance of 14' over roadways and 8' over sidewalks. Trained arborists will balance this pruning with aesthetics.
- Street trees are pruned on a six year rotational cycle. This work is contracted out to professional tree companies.
- Hazardous limbs and dead limbs are removed for safety.
- Young trees are pruned for good structure to eliminate future maintenance issues.
- The City employs Certified Arborists to inspect street trees on a three year rotational cycle. Additional pruning work is determined at this time and inspections are available upon resident request.

Parks & Forestry Division
614-583-5340 | forestry@uaoh.net

Thank you for supporting a greener Upper Arlington.

 **@CityofUAPR**

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