

MEMORANDUM

TO: Claire Powell, City Manager

FROM: Stacie Anaya, Director of Parks and Recreation

DATE: September 15, 2025

SUBJECT: **Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Davey Resource Group, Inc. for a Citywide Tree Inventory in the Amount of \$173,044; and Authorization for the City Manager, or Her Designee, to Execute the Agreement.**

BACKGROUND

The City of Lewisville's Healthy Infrastructure Plan (HIP), adopted in February 2023, emphasized the importance of the City's urban tree canopy in advancing sustainability, stormwater resilience, air quality, and equitable access to nature. The HIP contains Appendix E: Urban Tree Canopy Report which recommend establishing an accurate inventory as a critical step to manage the canopy proactively and strategically.

Currently, no comprehensive dataset exists for municipal trees in rights-of-way or maintained park spaces. Without an accurate inventory, staff rely on reactive maintenance and incomplete information when budgeting, planning, and prioritizing tree care. This inventory will assist in meeting HIP action items related to Objective 5.2 – Preserve and grow the urban tree canopy.

ANALYSIS

The proposed contract with Davey Resource Group represents a critical investment in the City's long-term management of its urban forest. The HIP identifies the tree canopy as one of the most valuable forms of public infrastructure, providing measurable benefits in stormwater absorption, heat mitigation, carbon sequestration, improved air quality, and equitable access to shaded spaces. However, the plan also notes that Lewisville's current tree canopy is unevenly distributed across neighborhoods, and that the City currently lacks a complete dataset to guide decisions about planting, preservation, and long-term care.

Davey's Smart Tree Inventory Project directly addresses this gap. Using advanced LiDAR and AI technologies, the inventory will capture detailed information on tree species, size, health, and location within rights-of-way and public spaces. The results will be integrated into TreeKeeper, an industry-recognized cloud-based management platform that will allow staff to analyze canopy coverage, prioritize maintenance, and track changes over time. This tool will also give residents and decision-makers transparency into how the City is caring for its trees.

In addition to delivering the inventory dataset, Davey will prepare a 5-Year Urban Forestry Management Plan. This plan will use the collected data to identify maintenance cycles, risk mitigation priorities (such as removal of declining or hazardous trees), and planting opportunities in areas of greatest need. By aligning these strategies with the HIP's goals for canopy growth, resiliency, and equity, the City will be positioned to proactively manage its urban forest instead of simply reacting to emergencies and complaints.

Predicted outcomes from this project include:

- Reduced long-term costs by proactively addressing high-risk trees and optimizing maintenance schedules.
- Improved public safety through early identification and removal of hazardous trees.
- Enhanced access to tree-related benefits by using data to direct tree planting into neighborhoods with low canopy coverage.
- Climate resiliency gains through expanded canopy that mitigates the urban heat island effect and improves stormwater absorption.
- Better budgeting and resource allocation using accurate, up-to-date information instead of estimates.

In summary, this project delivers both immediate and long-term value by creating a reliable baseline of Lewisville's tree canopy and pairing it with a strategic management framework. The contract with Davey not only meets the intent of the HIP but also ensures that Lewisville can sustain and grow its urban forest as a core piece of the City's infrastructure.

Upon approval Davey will require Thirty-eight (38) weeks to complete the project with the total cost for all services at \$173,044. Tree Mitigation Funds will be used for the project.

CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager, or her designee, to execute the agreement as set forth in the caption above.