

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 18, 2022

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **City Forestry Task Force – Follow Up**

Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) has notified the City Forestry Task Force of the confirmed presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) within Dallas city limits and western Dallas County. EAB is a non-native wood-boring insect destructive to ash trees. Given ash trees are 5% of the Dallas/Fort Worth urban forest, according to TFS, City staff is prepared to respond. TFS intends to release a formal media advisory later this week. This notification initiates the next steps in the EAB Action Plan.

As part of the City's response, staff will: assess ash trees on public property; treatment of significant ash trees (i.e., 24" or larger in diameter in good condition; large groves of ash trees; etc.) will be occurring; and infected ash trees and damaged ash trees that pose safety issues will be removed.

Staff will increase public awareness and outreach for both the residential and business community. Attached is a flyer that can be distributed to your constituents and pushed through our social media accounts. Staff will provide additional information on status and efforts as part of our quarterly updates to the Environment and Sustainability Committee.

Dallas County will join Denton, Parker, and Tarrant Counties in its quarantine status. This quarantine is mandated by the State through the Texas Department of Agriculture. During this quarantine the moving of ash wood, wood waste, and hardwood firewood products from within Dallas County to other non-quarantined counties is prohibited.

As a reminder, concerned or interested parties can view the [City of Dallas Forestry website](#) to find resources for their property.

Please contact me at 214-671-9735 with questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl P. Simpson'.

Carl P. Simpson
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Chris Caso, City Attorney
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors