



DATE: April 26, 2021

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

FROM: Shelley McVein, Deputy Director, 452-452-5378
Bellevue Parks & Community Services

SUBJECT: Arbor Day-Earth Day Postponement & Arbor Day Foundation Awards

COVID-19 has disrupted the City's traditional recognition and celebration of Arbor Day and Earth Day.

Arbor Day-Earth Day 2021 Postponed

Annually in April, the Natural Resource Division of Bellevue Parks & Community Services hosts an event to celebrate Arbor Day, Earth Day, and the irreplaceable contributions nature makes in our community. Unfortunately, given the ongoing community spread of the novel coronavirus in the region, we will not be hosting an in-person event for the second consecutive spring. We have tentatively scheduled October 2, 2021 for a similar event (scope to be determined), assuming we can safely do so this fall.

Tree City USA & Growth Award Recognition

At the April 26 Council meeting, Mayor Robinson will declare April 26, 2021 Arbor Day-Earth Day in Bellevue. This year, Bellevue will receive its 30th Tree City USA award and 28th Growth Award from the National Arbor Day Foundation for our dedication to trees and urban forests during 2020. Although we will not be hosting an accompanying event this spring, the proclamation is a requirement for Bellevue's ongoing recognition through these awards programs.

cc: Parks & Community Services Board
Transportation Commission
Planning Commission
Environmental Services Commission