

To: **Mayor and City Council**  
Through: **Nate Burkett, City Manager**  
From: **Dave Schletty, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director**  
Date: **May 10, 2021**

## **Arbor Day Proclamation**

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### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City of West St Paul has been recognized, by the National Arbor Day Foundation and MN DNR, as a Tree City USA for many years. To receive this designation Cities must budget a certain percentage for trees and tree care, maintain a Tree Board or equivalent group (Environmental Committee). Additionally, cities must annually hold an Arbor Day Celebration that includes planting a ceremonial tree and making an Arbor Day Proclamation. The Environmental Committee has been instrumental in coordinating these celebrations in past years.

In 2020, COVID-19 made it impossible to hold the community Arbor Day Celebration. Cities that had fulfilled the requirements in 2019 were able to apply again in 2020 using the 2019 data, including here in West St Paul. A similar situation is still in place in 2021, were spring Arbor Day Celebrations are nearly impossible to hold. The Arbor Day Foundation is again waiving the event requirement in 2021, but requiring Cities to pass Arbor Day proclamations. Staff reviewed the 2021 Arbor Day requirements with the Environmental Committee at their May 5 meeting. The Committee is recommending the City Council approve the attached resolution and declare May 10, 2021 as Arbor Day, and May as Arbor Month in West St Paul. Arbor Day was celebrated nationally on April 30, 2021.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve and proclaim May 10, 2021 as Arbor Day in West St Paul by resolution.