

Attending: Marcy Denker, Steve Cea, Phil Berg, Kathleen Johnson, Ric Plaisance,

---

## **1. Nice-Pak Grant**

### **The Opportunity**

We would like to use this opportunity to help create a vision and build support for further work of this kind where there are paving challenges but good opportunities if we can approach it with funding partners in this way.

### **Tree Equity**

American Forest's Tree Equity Tool shows the low canopy score for downtown and nearby areas. The low canopy is due to various decisions over time that led to lots of parking lots, narrow or no tree pits in residential areas, and in some cases, resistance to planting trees. Tree Equity approach is based on the work of Dr, Kathy Wolf Kathy Wolf, PhD.

[https://staff.washington.edu/kwolf/KW\\_CV/](https://staff.washington.edu/kwolf/KW_CV/)

<https://www.americanforests.org/magazine/article/research-social-scientist-dr-kathleen-wolf/>

### **Grant Contract**

The \$29,000 grant contract includes a requirement to submit for [City Forests Certification](#) (\$4,000) so the total for the planting project is \$25,000. Steve has offered to do the work of completing the application for certification. We are required to create the volunteer tree planting event for Nice-Pak employees and all of the supplies, safety measures etc.to go with that. It will be in late April or early May.

### **Organization and Presentation**

We are creating a PowerPoint that can be used as a booklet to help communicate about the project overall and individual sites. It is organized into four focus areas: Gateway to Downtown, Downtown Core, Residential Streets in the Tree Equity Zone, and Other Residential Streets for Volunteer Plantings.

### **Where we are**

Working on the budget (it does not have to be prevailing wage as it is a donation; some sites will be on private property; no need for bid), and finding contractors who will help make the most of this opportunity.

We will check with the Village Administrator about all proposed sites on Village property. We have asked to present the project to Rotary. Have contacted Mike Naclerio, who is supportive. We need to contact private property owners once we can have specific project ideas to show them.

+ Jack - Kathleen will connect with him.

- + Marcy and Kathleen will connect on 2/16.
- + Group meeting - Marcy, Jenn, Phil, and Rick on 2/18 at 9 am to look at sites.
- + Kyle Sitzman LA with Westchester County Planning - Marcy will connect and meet on 2/19 to discuss some locations. He does sidewalk design.

## **2. Commenting on Open Site Plan Application**

We should discuss the Village Attorney's message about codifying this at the next meeting.