

Appendix I

Site Hardiness Index

The purpose of the Site Hardiness Index is to identify the hardiness of the proposed planting sites throughout the City by a rating system. The goal is to match the hardiness of the site to the hardiness of the tree. We want to minimize situations such as planting salt intolerant trees along a major arterial when the site will receive large quantities of salt compared to a quiet residential street.

The soil layers are the first component looked at and is scored as follows: No soil – 0 points, Layers C or A-C – 1 point, Some Native Topsoil – 2 points, Layers A-B-C Native Topsoil – 3 points. The next component is soil compaction and is scored as follows: Probe does not enter soil – 0 points, Probe goes in, but not completely – 1 point, Probe enters completely, but with difficulty – 2 points, Probe enters easily – 3 points. The last component of soils that is looked at is the presence of existing vegetation and it is scored as follows: No vegetation – 0 points, Sparse weeds – 1 point, Sparse turf – 2 points, Lush turf – 3 points.

The last four components look specifically at the street and its uses. The speed limit on the street is scored as follows: ≥ 35 MPH – 1 point, < 35 MPH – 2 points. The number of lanes on the street is scored as follows: ≥ 3 Lanes – 1 point, 2 Lanes – 2 points. Determine whether on street parking exists or not and it is scored as follows: No parking – 1 point, Parking – 2 points. The last component looks at the block length between traffic control devices and is scored as follows: $> \frac{1}{2}$ mile – 1 point, $< \frac{1}{4}$ mile – 2 points.

After all of the components are scored, add the totals for a rating number. This number is then compared to the following rating system: No Tree 0-5 points, Poor 6-9 points, Intermediate 10-15 points, Good 16-20 points.

The Site Hardiness Index will record the GIS asset number, the street name, street boundary, ward location, and size of the street lawn. This index will be recorded and maintained through the Tree Inventory.

Site Hardiness Index

GIS Asset #: _____

Street Name: _____

Street Boundaries: _____

Ward: _____

Size of Street Lawn: _____

Soils

Layers: _____

Compaction: _____

Vegetation: _____

Street

Speed: _____

Lanes: _____

On Street Parking: _____

Block Length

Between Traffic

Control Devices: _____

Score: _____

Ratings

No Tree = 0-5

Poor = 6-9

Intermediate = 10-15

Good = 16-20



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