City of Des Moines

Urban Tree Planting 2022

Validation Report

Document Prepared by City Forest Credits

February 24, 2023

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Name	City of Des Moines Urban Tree Planting 2022
Project Registry Number	037
Project Type	Tree Planting
City Forest Credits Protocol Version	Version 10, February 7, 2022
Project Start Date	November 3, 2022
Project Location	Des Moines, Iowa
Project Operator	Trees Forever

SUMMARY

State what stage of crediting this Validation Report applies to (i.e. after planting, Year 4, 6, 14, or 26). Provide a few sentences about the overall project. Include the Planting Design and Quantification Method.

This Validation Report is for the initial crediting after planting.

The Project Operator, Trees Forever, planted 1,730 trees throughout the City of Des Moines from April 9, 2022 to November 3, 2022. Tree planting locations include a mix of street tree plantings on city-owned rights-of -way and city-owned parks, but with the major focus on street tree plantings. The main project goals are to increase tree equity across the city by targeting trees to under-resourced neighborhoods, work with Trees Forever's Growing Futures teen employees and area volunteers to plant trees, and to complete major street corridor plantings.

The Project used the single-tree planting design and quantification method.

ELIGIBILITY

Project Operator Identify (Section 1.1)

Criteria
Under Tree Planting Protocol Version 10, a Project requires at least one Project Operator ("PO"), an entity organized and licensed under the laws of its jurisdiction, or a governmental body, which undertakes a Project, registers it with the registry of City Forest Credits (the "Registry"), and is ultimately responsible for all aspects of the project and its reporting.

Issue Validated
Trees Forever, a 501c3 nonprofit corporation, is the Project Operator. To demonstrate that it is an entity organized and licensed under the laws of its jurisdiction, Trees Forever provided documentation in the form of an IRS letter to City Forest Credits.

Project Submittal Dates (Section 2)

Criteria
Under Tree Planting Protocol Version 10, projects must submit an application and all crediting documentation to the Registry within six months of the date of the planting of the last tree that is part of the planting project. Project with plantings prior to May 1, 2017 are not eligible.

Issue Validated
Project Operator submitted the application on August 22, 2022 which is before the last project tree was planted and all crediting documents were submitted by February 6, 2023, which was within 6 months of the date of planting the last project tree (November 3, 2022).

Permanence – Project Duration and Reversals (Section 1.3, 2, 8)

A. Project Duration – Project Implementation Agreement (Section 1.3 and 2)

Criteria
Project Operator must sign a Project Implementation Agreement with the Registry setting forth the Project Operator's obligation to comply with the protocol. Project Operator must monitor and report for 26 years.

Issue Validated
Trees Forever and City Forest Credits signed a Project Implementation Agreement on October 13, 2022 for the City of Des Moines Urban Tree Planting 2022 (Project Registry Number 037). The project has a 26-year duration under City Forest Credits Tree Planting Protocol Version 10.

B. Reversals (Section 8)

Criteria
A "Reversal" is loss of stored carbon such that the remaining stored carbon within the Project Area is less than the amount of stored carbon for which Registry credits have been issued. The Registry will retain in a Reversal Pool account 5% of all credits issued to planting projects. This Reversal Pool account shall be used to compensate for Unavoidable Reversals.

Issue Validated
The Project Design Document and request for credits based on GHG mitigation includes a 5% deduction for the Reversal Pool account of credits, with 198 credits contributed from this Project to the Registry Reversal Pool. The carbon quantification and Reversal Pool deduction were verified by the Validation and Verification Body, Matthew Lee.

Project Location (Section 1.4)

Criteria
Project Area must be located in parcels within or along the boundary of at least one of the urban area criteria. The Project Operator must specify the Project Area and provide an electronic map of the Project area.

Issue Validated

The Project is located within the municipal boundary of the City of Des Moines, which meets protocol criteria Section 1.4B. The Project Operator has provided maps as supporting evidence, including regional-scale and project area maps.

Project Area (Section 1.5)

Criteria
The Project Operator may include more than one planting site in a project. The initial planting of trees for all properties in a project must occur within a 36-month period or less.

Issue Validated
The Project includes 1,730 planting sites over an eight-month period. The trees were planted between April 9, 2022 and November 3, 2022.

Ownership or Eligibility to Receive Potential Credits (Section 1.7)

Criteria
Project Operator must demonstrate ownership of potential credits or eligibility to receive potential credits.

Issue Validated
The City of Des Moines is the landowner for the City of Des Moines Urban Tree Planting 2022 Project. The City has granted the Project Operator the right to receive potential credits, meeting protocol criteria Section 1.7C. The Project Operator provided an Agreement to Transfer Credits, signed by the City and the Project Operator on February 6, 2023, as supporting documentation.

Additionality (Section 4)

Criteria
The City Forest Credits Standard and Tree Planting Protocol ensure additionality for every carbon project. A project activity is additional if it can be demonstrated that the activity results in emission reductions or removals that are in excess of what would be achieved under a "business as usual" scenario and the activity would not have occurred in the absence of the incentive period provided by the carbon markets.

Projects must demonstrate the following:

- A Legal Requirements Test that declares city trees planted due to an enacted law or ordinance not eligible (Section 1.8);
- Either 1) a project-specific baseline or 2) the current version of the Registry's performance standard baseline developed in adherence with the WRI GHG Protocol (CFC Standard);
- Project Operators must sign and comply with a Project Implementation Agreement with the Registry that requires a 26-year Project Duration.

Issue Validated

Project Operator has met the Legal Requirements Test that the trees were not planted due to an enacted ordinance or law. Project Operator used the Registry's performance standard baseline in adherence with the WRI GHG Protocol, which is attached to the Project Design Document. Project Operator signed a Project Implementation Agreement with the Registry for a 26-year Project Duration.

Project Operator has signed an Attestation of Additionality that confirms the above, as well as stating that the 26-year Project Duration is in addition to and longer than any commitment the Project Operator makes to non-carbon project tree plantings and that trees were not planted on sites that were forested and then cleared of trees within the prior 10 years. The Attestation of Additionality was signed by Trees Forever on November 22, 2022.

No Double Counting and No Net Harm (Section 5)

Criteria
The City Forest Credits Standard describes prevention of double-counting in Section 5.1 and safeguards and the "No Net Harm" Principle in Section 5.2. Project activities shall not cause net harm to the environment or urban communities. Project Operator must sign an Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm.

Issue Validated
Project Operator has submitted a signed Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm, and the Registry sees no evidence of net harm from this project. The Registry has reviewed the records of prior projects to confirm that the Project Area for this project has not already received credits under the CFC Standard. The Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm was signed by Trees Forever on November 22, 2022.

Carbon Quantification (Section 10 and Appendix A)

Criteria
Project Operator must follow the quantification methods outlined in Appendix A of the Protocol.

Issue Validated
Project Operator used the Single Tree planting design and quantification method, per Protocol criteria in Appendix A. Project Operator signed the Attestation of Planting, including attachments of invoices of trees purchased and planting photos. Project Operator provided an Attestation of Planting Affirmation signed by the City of Des Moines Public Works Department.

The Carbon Quantification Summary is as follows:

Total number of trees planted	1730
Project area (acres), if applicable	N/A
Total number of trees per acre, if applicable	N/A
Credits attributed to the project (tCO2e)	4,958
Credits after mortality deduction (default is 20%)	3,966
Contribution to Registry Reversal Pool Account (5%) (tCO2e)	198

Total credits to be issued to the Project Operator (tCO2e)	3,768
Total credits requested to be issued in Year 1 (10% of above)	376

GHG Assertion: Project Operator asserts that the Project results in GHG emissions mitigation of 3,768 tons CO_2e. Project Operator will sample trees, quantify tons CO2e, and submit documentation for verification and credit issuance at Year 4, 6, 14 and 26 per the Tree Planting Protocol and Single Tree Quantification Methodology.

Project Operator asserts that the Project results in the GHG emissions mitigation of 376 tons CO2e after initial tree planting.

Co-Benefits Quantification (Section 12 and Appendix A)

Criteria
Project Operator must follow the co-benefit quantification methods for rainfall interception, air quality, and energy savings.

Issue Validated
Project Operator has followed the co-benefits quantification method using the templates provided by City Forest Credits. The following table documents the quantified ecosystem services in resource units and avoided costs per year when Project Trees reach 25 years old.

Ecosystem Services	*Resource Units*	*Value*
Rainfall Interception (m3/yr)	9,378.28	$67,139.69
Air Quality (t/yr)	0.2906	$1,342.24
Energy: Cooling – Electricity (kWh/yr)	284,758.16	$21,613.14
Energy: Heating – Natural Gas (kBtu/yr)	4,134,587.89	$40,229.11
Grand Total ($/yr)		$130,344.18

Monitoring and Reporting (Section 7)

Criteria
Project Operator must report on tree conditions across the Project Area for the Project Duration. Reports must be submitted annually on the anniversary of the date of the first Verification Report. At Years 4, 6, 14, and 26, sampling, measurement of trees or canopy coverage, and/or quantification of CO2e will be submitted for request of credit issuance in lieu of a monitoring report that year.

Issue Validated
Project Operator has agreed to submit written annual monitoring reports using the template provided by City Forest Credits. Monitoring plans have been described in the Project Design Document. Monitoring will take place through imaging and can be easily tracked utilizing the unique tree ID number that the tree inventory system – TreeKeeper – produces.

Social Impacts (Section 11)

Criteria
The Project Operator must use the Carbon Project Social Impact template to evaluate the SDGs to determine how a Project provides social impacts that contribute towards achievement of the global goals, as described in Tree Planting Protocol Version 10, Section 12.

Issue Validated
Project Operator has submitted a completed Carbon Project Social Impact document

VERIFICATION REPORT

CFC reviewed the Verification Report dated February 22, 2023 by Matt Lee to ensure it accurately reflects the documentation contained in the Project Design Document and supporting documents.

VALIDATION CONCLUSION

I attest that all the information provided in this validation report is free of material misstatement, to the best of my knowledge. The project complies with the validation criteria outlined in the City Forest Credits Standard and Tree Planting Protocol Version 10.

Approved by City Forest Credits on February 24, 2023.