

TOWNSHIP OF VERONA
COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY



SHADE TREE COMMISSION AGENDA

Sept. 17, 2025

**IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, CALL VCC AT (973) 857-4830,
If the VCC is closed there will be no meeting.**

In Person at the Conference Room at 880 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona
5:00pm

IN PERSON or VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

Via the internet, please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/95500877750>

Via telephone, please dial 1(312)626-6799 or 1(646)558-8656

Use Zoom Meeting ID: 955-0087-7750, when prompted for a Participant ID, press #

A. CALL TO ORDER-SEE BOTTOM

B. ROLL CALL

Members: Prout, Ryan, Jacobs, Thomas, Conboy
Alternates: Tamasik, Rutherford
Council Representative: Councilperson Christine McGrath

C. PUBLIC COMMENT: *Any member of the public wishing to address the commission, please state your full name and township of residence. On Zoom please raise your virtual hand, on the phone press *9.*

D. CORRESPONDENCE

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Jul 14, 2025 [July 14, 2025](#)

F. BUDGET UPDATES

G. NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Wedgewood Garden street project status

Planning board :1 Wedgewood Drive; Application Hearing for Tree Removal.

Sept 25. .2025 [Wedgewood plan](#)

17 Trees to be removed, plan shows 22 to be installed, states 36, reality should be closer to 50. CT has sent contradictions to engineers, more can follow.

- Everett Park: Requested updates plans fro number removed, number to be replanted, species to be used. The engineering firm has already received some suggestions from the STC chair. We can make others.
- Linden Ave Project- no updates, Questions sent to admin: :Are there any updates regarding the project? Has the number of trees to be removed changed?Can they

accommodate bumpouts for roots? Which entity will be responsible for replanting ?

- Verona Streetscape meeting, Sept 12: attendees, plans, input to be discussed.

We need a date to invite the engineering team to meet with us

- A Community Forestry Management Plan contractor has been chosen.

[Gracie and Harrigan](#) Consulting Foresters, \$5000

They will also conduct a thorough inventory of street trees, \$14000

A Green Communities Grant from NJDEP application has been prepared by Millenium Strategies with input from the Shade Tree Commission chair, town admin, DPW. The grant would cover the \$19,000.

- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Natural Climate Solutions Grant

<https://dep.nj.gov/climatechange/mitigation/ncs-grant/>

We will be preparing a three year project plan to apply for a grant of \$300,000 to \$400,000. This will include approximately 300 street trees, site preparation, maintenance equipment, consultant fees, etc.

- Fourteen Wilton Terrace callery pears to be treated for fire blight
- Grove Park: dangerous trees to be removed
- Set a date to invite Verona Environmental Commission and Sustainable Verona to a meeting
- No final plan for Lakeside Ave Parking lot available yet

H. ADJOURNMENT

CALL TO ORDER

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied with respect to this meeting of the Verona Shade Tree Commission being held both in-person in the Conference Room at the Verona Community Center and via Zoom video conferencing. Specifically, the time and date were included in the Annual meeting notice. This information, along with the public internet link and telephone call-in information was posted in the Municipal Buildings, and sent to the official newspapers of the Township, the Verona-Cedar Grove Times and the Star Ledger, at least 48 hours preceding the start

time of this meeting. A public comment period will be held in the order it is listed on the meeting agenda and instructions on how to comment will be provided at the appropriate time. All meetings are recorded. Those wishing to speak during any public comment period need to only provide their name and municipality. Street addresses are not required. Please be advised that should a member of the public choose to state their street address, it will not be redacted