Report #2020-1 January 24, 2020

Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Trees – Report to the City Council

Subject: Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree

This is a follow-up to Report #2019-2 (dated August 7, 2019) regarding the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree. The Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT) members voted at their July 23, 2019 meeting to support another planting of an Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree (ERMT). At subsequent ACT meetings, discussion of the location and type of tree has taken place.

ACT members support planting the ERMT in an open space near the Greenbelt Community Center, possibly near the area where there used to be a large willow oak, which was removed over three years ago. This would be in the open space on the south side of the Community Center, near the Greenbelt Branch of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System.

ACT members have further discussed the type of tree to plant for the ERMT and suggest an evergreen American Holly. In particular, ACT favors the American Holly 'Satyr Hill,' which was the Holly Society's "2003 Holly of the Year." Some close nurseries stock this tree and it is hoped that a fairly large specimen, 7-8 feet tall, could be acquired this spring to plant near Arbor Day in 2020.

If the City Council approves the purchase of the American Holly 'Satyr Hill' in the next few weeks, then the next Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree can be planted this spring.

Summary: ACT members ask for approval from the City Council to purchase and plant another Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree, this time near the Greenbelt Community Center. The planting would take place near Arbor Day in 2020.