

Verification Report

Village of Mount Prospect Planting Project 2022

City Forest Credits Project Number 031

01/29/2023

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1 INTRODUCTION

Brian Goodall (a Validation and Verification Body (VVB) acting as a third-party verifier) was engaged to verify the Village of Mount Prospect Planting Project 2022 (Project) in Mount Prospect, Illinois, for the period September 10, 2019 to June 13, 2022. The goal of the verification is to ensure that the GHG assertion is materially correct, and that the assertions made by the project are well documented.

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Village's main project goal is to participate in the carbon credit program with their current street tree replacement and reforestation planting operations. They hope to contribute to regional goals including environmental sustainability, help mitigate climate change, and to make a positive impact on their community.

Trees were planted on public rights-of-way throughout the Village. In total, 1,106 trees were planted between September 10, 2019 and June 13, 2022 using the Single Tree planting design and quantification method.

1.2 CONTACT INFORMATION

Project Operator

Village of Mount Prospect Public Works
1700 W Central Road, Mount Prospect, IL 60056
Illinois, 60056
Contact: Dave Hull,
Office #: 847-870-5640, Cell #: 847-980-1496
Email: dhull@mountprospect.org

Verifier

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1.3 OBJECTIVE

The goal of this GHG emission removal verification is to ensure that the GHG assertion made by the Project is materially correct, that the assertions and assumptions used in the offset calculations are appropriate, that the offset calculations conform to the City Forest Credits (CFC) Protocol, and that the Project is in compliance with all CFC requirements relating to eligibility, accounting, and documentation.

2 VERIFICATION CRITERIA

2.1 GENERAL

The Registry will accredit VVBs to act as third-party verifiers who meet the Registry's qualifications and complete training. Those accredited VVBs can then act to verify compliance with this Tree Planting Protocol per International Standards Organization 14064-3. Specifically, the Registry adopts and utilizes the following standards from ISO 14064-3:

- Upon receiving a Project Design Document with data on eligibility, quantification of carbon and co-benefits, and a request for credits, the Registry will conduct a validation. If it validates the project at that stage, the Registry will retain a VVB to act as third-party verifier to verify compliance with this Protocol.
- The Registry requires a reasonable level of assurance in the accuracy of the asserted GHG removals to a reasonable level.
- The verification items identified in Tables 1 and 2 are all material elements, and any asserted GHG removals must be free of errors, misstatements, or omissions regarding those elements.
- The Registry will record, store, and track all quantification and verification data and either display it for public review or make it available for public review upon request.

2.2 PROTOCOL

The verification was conducted to the City Forest Credits Tree Planting Protocol, version 10, dated February 7, 2022.

2.3 LEVEL OF ASSURANCE

This verification was conducted to a reasonable level of assurance. The Verification Report accurately reflects the documentation contained in the Project Design Document and supporting documents.

3 SCOPE OF VERIFICATION

- The Project is located in Village of Mount Prospect, Illinois, specifically described in the Project Design Document.
- Period is September 10, 2019 to June 13, 2022
- The verification includes review of documents, data, imagery, and other evidence provided by the Project Operator; independent checking of selected data; checking of calculations for accuracy and conformance with the Protocol.

4 VERIFICATION PROCESS

4.1 VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES

The verification process consisted of the following activities:

- Verifier checked all requirements in the Protocol, confirmed that documentation satisfies the requirements of the Protocol, and that values extracted from the documents and conclusions drawn from the document are accurate and appropriate
- Verifier checked mapping, tree data (including species planted, date planted, latitude/longitude for all trees planted), attestations, including photos of planting events and tree purchase invoices, and other documentation.
- Verifier reviewed the accuracy of the carbon quantification and City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credit calculations. Verifier reviewed the Project Operator's assertion that the Project results in total GHG emissions mitigation of 2845 tons CO₂e over the 26-year Project Duration. Verifier reviewed the Project Operator's assertion that the Project results in GHG emissions mitigation of 284 tons CO₂e after initial tree planting.

4.2 CITY FOREST CREDITS TREE PLANTING PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS

Verifier reviewed the Project against all CFC Tree Planting Protocol requirements and confirmed the following:

- Project Operator Identity (Section 1.1): Verifier confirmed identity by reviewing Project Operator city website: <https://www.mountprospect.org/services/village-staff>
- Project Design Document (Section 3): Verifier reviewed and confirmed Project Design Document is complete and accurate.
- Project Implementation Agreement (Section 1.3, 3, and 4): Verifier confirmed fully executed Project Implementation Agreement on file.
- Location (Section 1.4): Verifier reviewed and confirmed mapping and location data met the protocol criteria.
- Land Ownership or Right to Receive Credits (Section 1.7): Verifier confirmed a signed Attestation of Land Ownership.
- Commencement (Section 2.4, 3): Verifier reviewed Approval of Application Letter. Verifier reviewed the Attestation of Planting and confirmed the date the last project tree was planted.

- Project Documentation (Section 3 and Appendix A): Verifier confirmed all required project documentation present.
- Additionality (Section 4): Verifier reviewed for additionality as follows:
 - Legal requirements test (Section 1.8) – no law or ordinance for Project Operator to plant trees.
 - Performance Standards Baseline (CFC Standard, Section 4.9) – per the program wide performance standard baseline showing net tree loss, these trees are additional. The performance standard baseline is attached to the Project Design Document.
 - The Project did not plant trees on sites that were forested and then cleared of healthy trees (Section 1.9)
 - Project Operator signed a Project Implementation Agreement with City Forest Credits for 26 years.
 - The 26-year Project Duration commitment is additional to and longer than any commitment the Project Operator makes to non-carbon project tree plantings.
 - Project Operator completed and signed the Attestation of Additionality (Section 4).
- Permanence (Section 1.3, 2.2, and 8): Verifier confirmed Project Implementation Agreement imposes a legal obligation to Project Operator to conduct this project for 26 years, including a reversal obligation.
- Quantification (Section 10 and Appendix A):
 - Verifier confirmed Project Operator utilized Single Tree CFC quantification methodology described in Appendix A.
 - Verifier reviewed the accuracy of the data integrity in the quantification methodology.
 - Verifier reviewed spreadsheets with tree data for carbon quantification and compared against the tree planting data and maps/geospatial data, including the tree species, latitude and longitude of trees planted.
 - Verifier reviewed the completed and signed Attestation of Planting and Attestation of Planting Affirmation.
- Co-Benefits (Appendix A): Verifier confirmed the calculation of ecosystem co-benefits as set forth in the City Forest Credits quantification tool.
- Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm (Section 5)
 - Verifier reviewed the completed and signed Attestation of No Double Counting of Credits and No Net Harm.

5 VERIFICATION FINDINGS

The project documents and data were reviewed, and the verifier found that the emission reductions claimed are reasonable and in accordance with the Protocol. The verifier makes no further recommendations.

6 VERIFICATION RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

This verification of the Village of Mount Prospect Planting Project 2022 for the period September 10, 2019 to June 13, 2022 was completed in a manner consistent with ISO 14064-3 and in conformance with relevant CFC standards and guidelines.

The table below is a summary of the verified GHG emissions removals for the Project for initial credit issuance. These City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credits are ex-ante credits based on forecasted removals and subject to multiple safeguards, including sampling, and which convert to ex-post at Year 26.

Table 1. Project GHG Removals

Project Name	GHG Removals Attributed to the Project (mtCO ₂ e)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Mortality (20%) (mtCO ₂ e)	GHG Removals After Deductions for Reversal Pool Account (5%) (mtCO ₂ e)	City Forest Carbon Forward Removal Credits to be Issued to Project (mtCO ₂ e)
Village of Mount Prospect Planting Project 2022	3744	2995	2845	284
Cumulative	3744	2995	2845	284

Table 2. Ecosystem Co-Benefits Per Year After 25 Years

<i>Ecosystem Services</i>	<i>Resource Units</i>	<i>Value</i>
Rainfall Interception (m ³ /yr)	7225.35	\$51,726.73
Air Quality (t/yr)	0.2176	\$996.46
Cooling – Electricity (kWh/yr)	210,068.02	\$15,944.16
Heating – Natural Gas (kBtu/yr)	3,006,185.06	\$29,264.41
Grand Total (\$/yr)		\$97,931.76

Verifier Signature

Brian Goodall

Brian Goodall