Citrus Heights Urban Greening Strategy (CHUGS)

Urban Forest Master Plan

Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance

& Guidelines and Policies for native/drought tolerant landscapes

Presented by
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June 23, 2015

Presentation Overview

Overview of the Urban Forest

Summary of major recommended changes to:

- Zoning Code
- Landscape and Irrigation Guidelines

UFMP Goals and Objectives

Questions and discussion

CHUGS

Guiding Principles

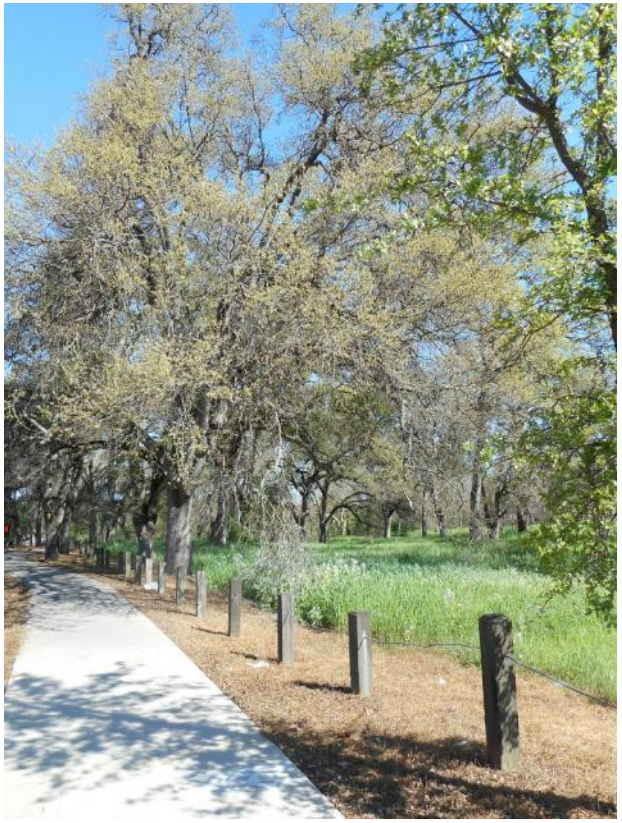
- Develop a more sustainable urban forest by improving conditions for urban trees and optimizing the environmental, economical, and social benefits trees provide to the community
- Incorporate urban greening principles into the City's regulations and daily activities
- Expand outreach, education, and engagement

CHUGS

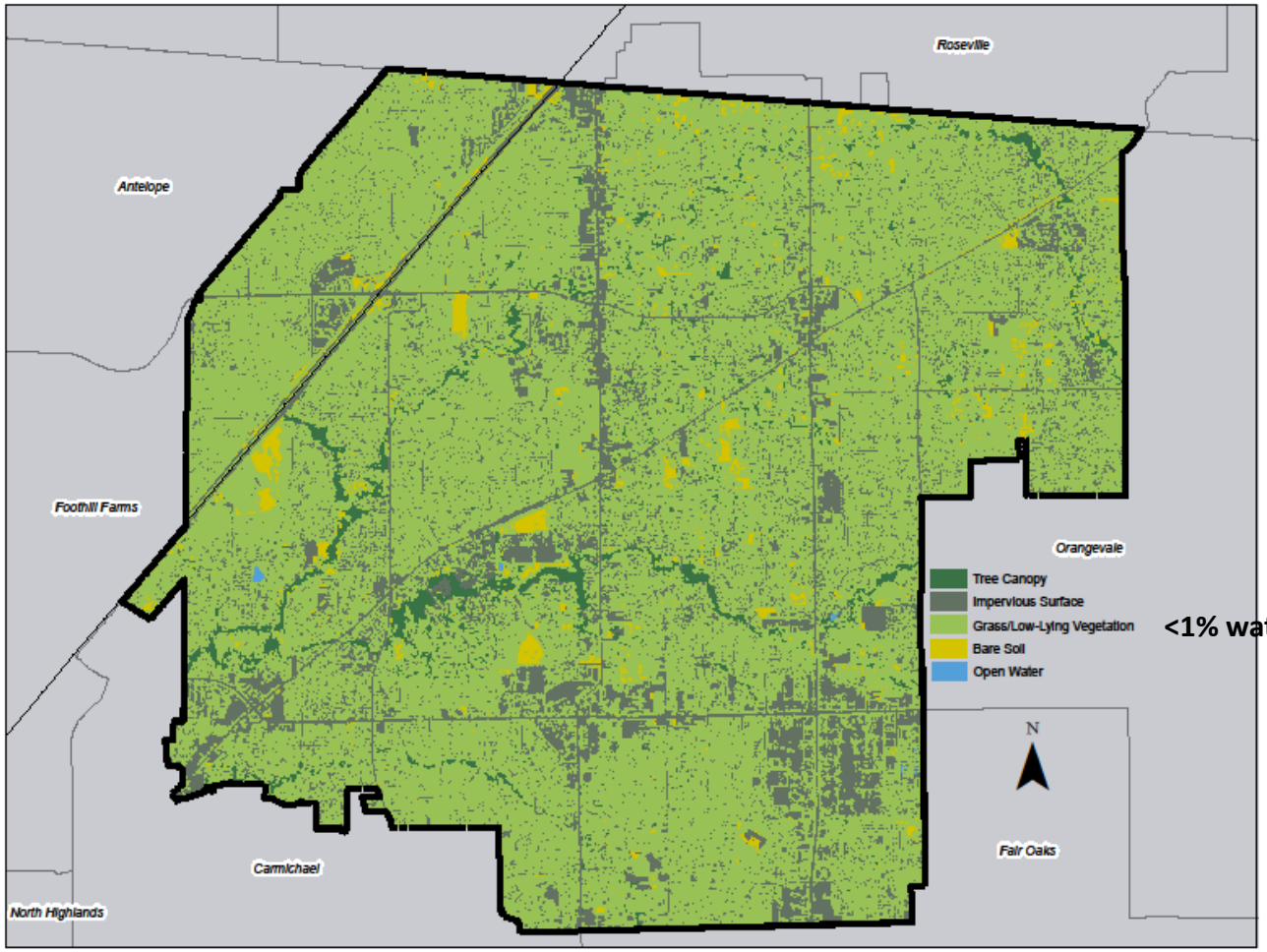
- Urban Forest Master Plan
- Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance
- Landscape Guidelines for selecting and using native and drought tolerant plants
- Species Palette

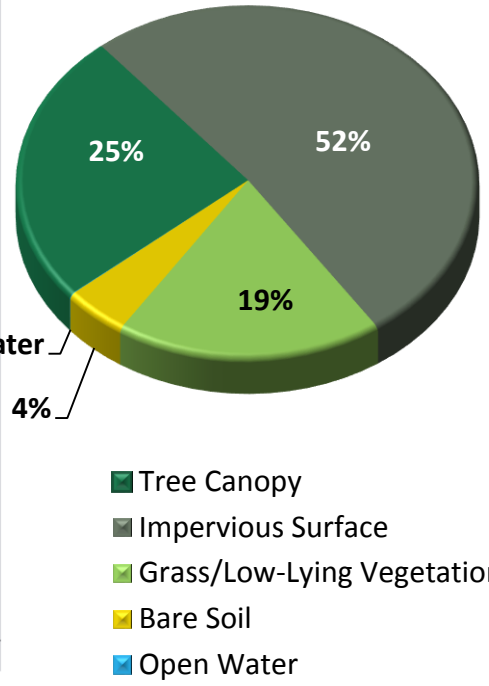
The Urban Forest in Citrus Heights

- **Tree Canopy and Land Cover**
- **Community Urban Forest**
  - Benefits
  - Composition
  - Investment versus benefits

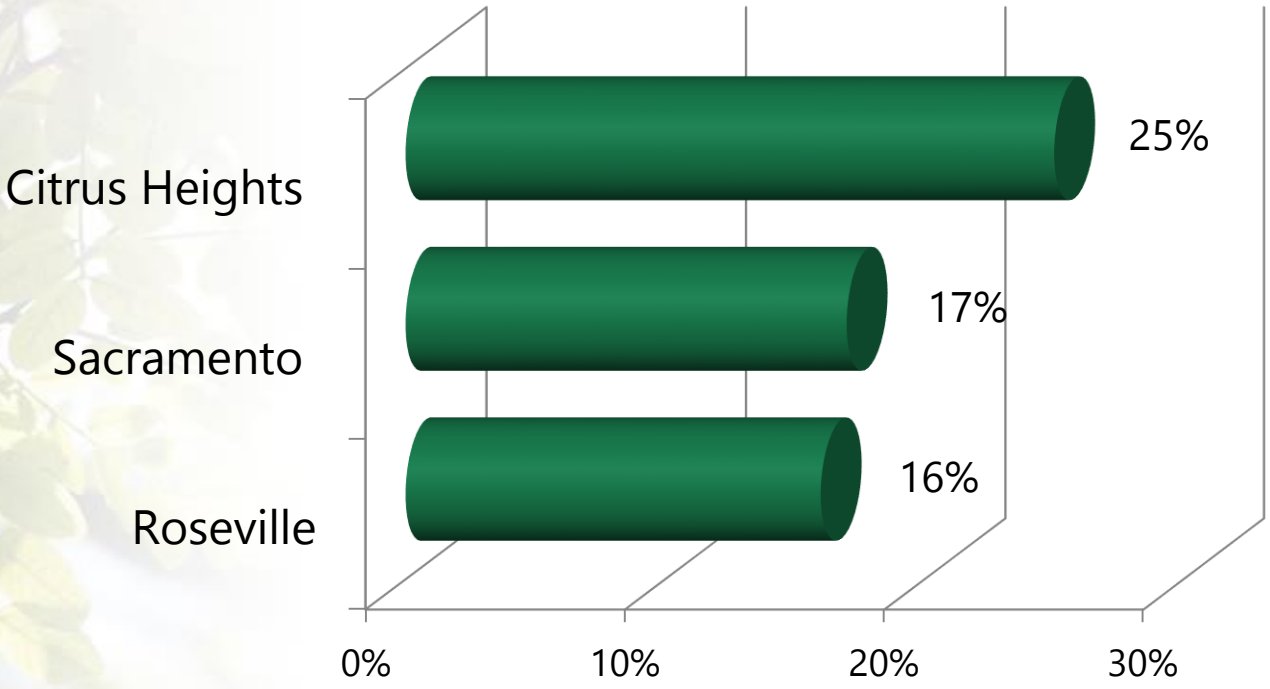


Land Cover in Citrus Heights





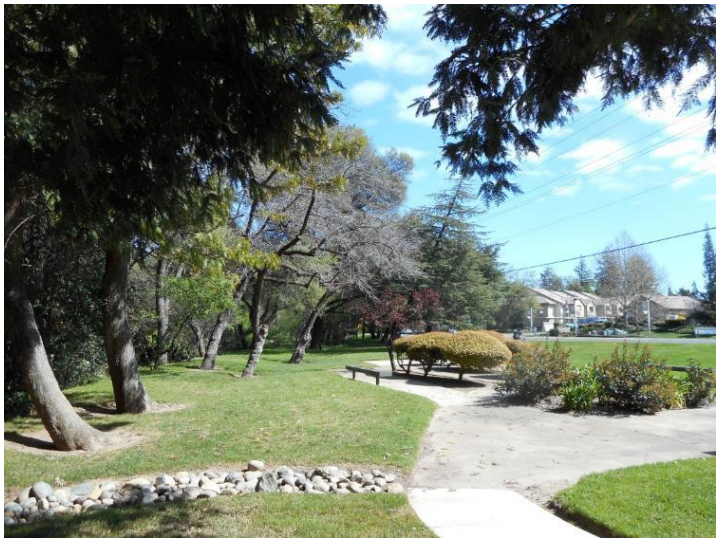
Regional Urban Tree Canopy



Citrus Heights' Community Urban Forest

Value

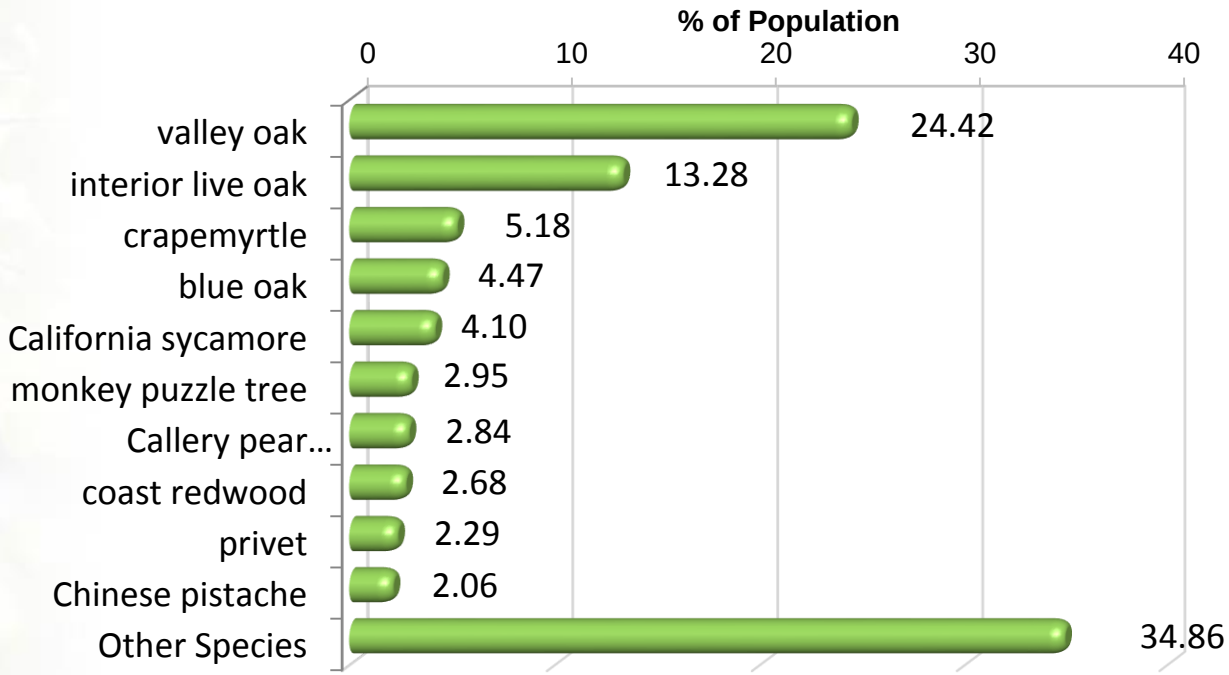
- 27,994 trees
- $101 million to replace ($3,603/tree)
- $2 million in annual benefits



Citrus Heights' Community Urban Forest

Composition

- 177 unique species

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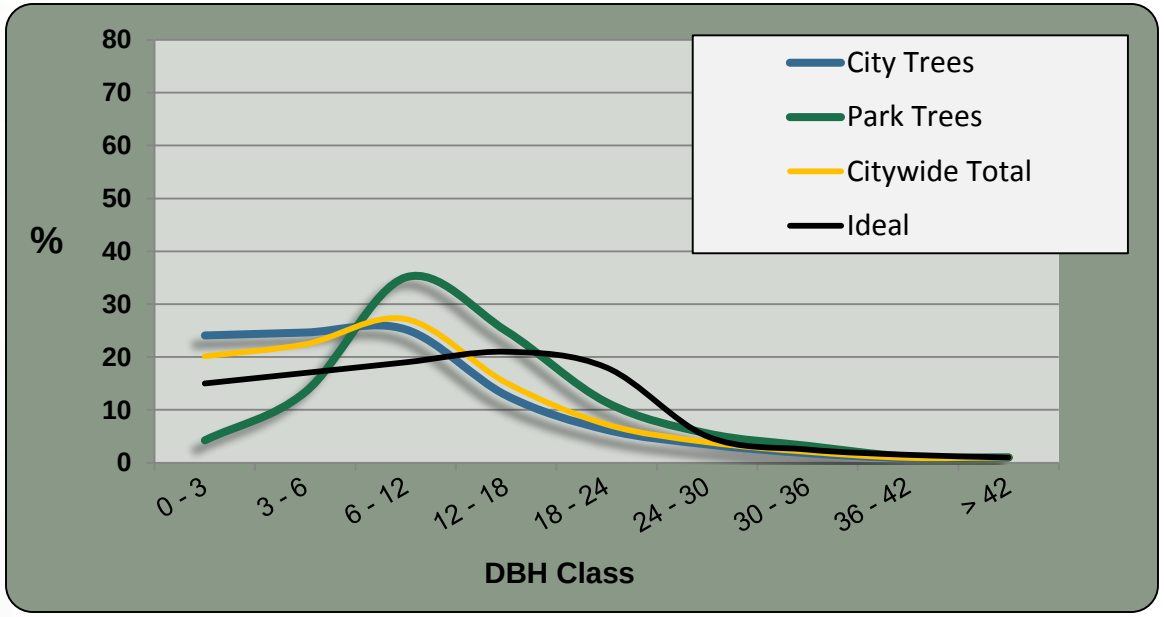
Citrus Heights' Community Urban Forest

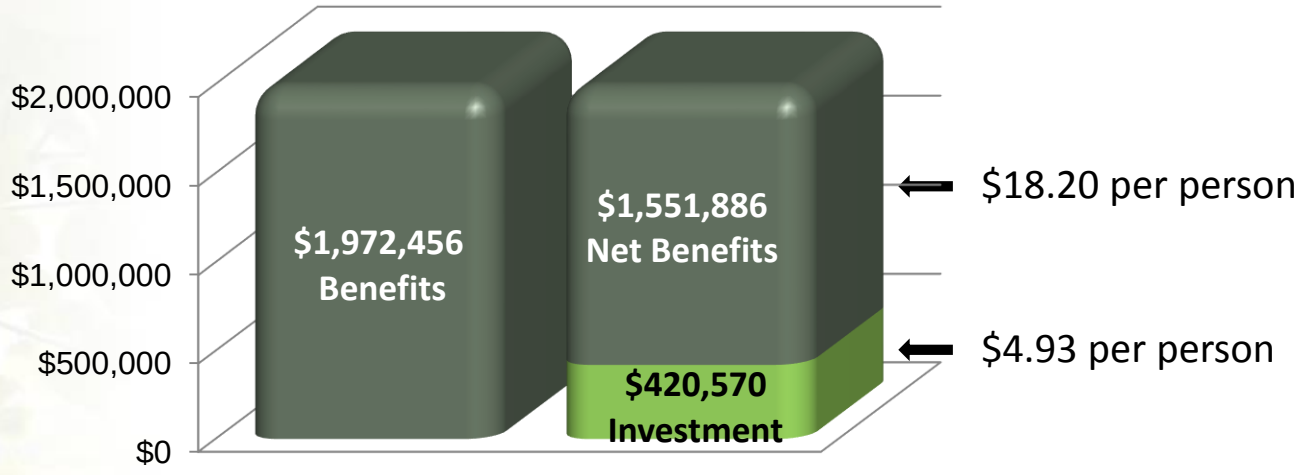
Composition

- Good condition
- Relatively young population



Citrus Heights' Community Urban Forest

Investment vs. Benefits



Annual Net Benefits from community trees = $1.6 million

For EVERY $1 Invested in community trees, Citrus Heights receives $4.69 in Benefits

Citrus Heights' Community Urban Forest

City Forestry Operations

- Inspection of ROW trees
- Pruning
- Tree removal
- Service requests
- Emergency response
- Tree planting
- Maintain inventory data

Summary of Recommendations

Zoning Code

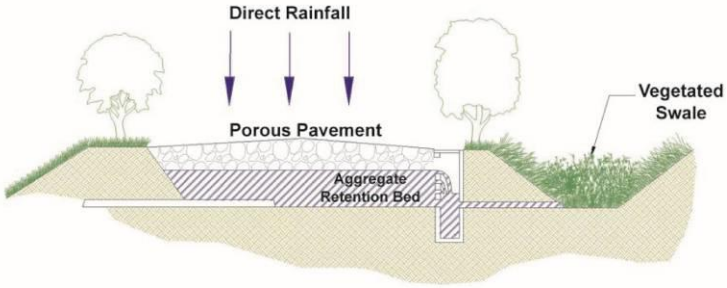
Landscape and Irrigation Guidelines

UFMP Goals

Summary of Proposed Zoning Code Changes

General Changes

- Requires the use of native species for temporary erosion control.
- Includes stormwater management/ groundwater recharge as a landscape design goal.
- Bans the use of turf in new parkways, planting strips, or medians.
- Sets requirements for soil volume and quality for planting areas.
- Requires trees to be irrigated separately from surrounding landscapes.
- Establishes approved plant list.



Summary of Proposed Zoning Code Changes

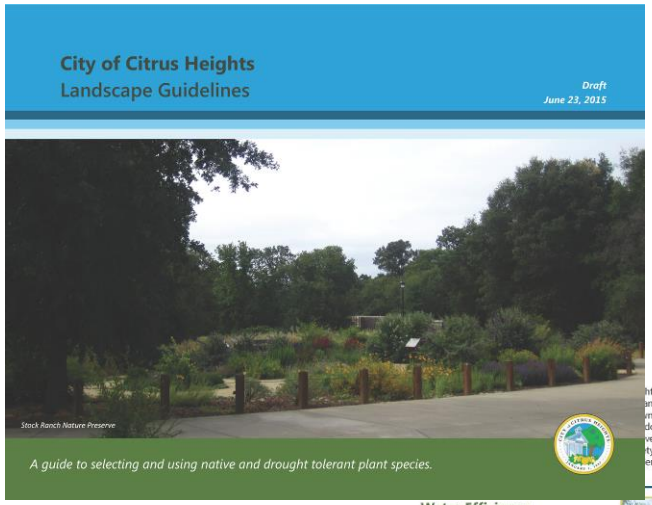
Water Efficient Landscape Requirements

- Apply to all new projects with more than 500 SF of landscape area and retrofit projects of more than 2,500 square feet – including residences.
- Require dedicated landscape water meters for projects over 1,000 square feet.
- Require irrigation systems to have a maximum precipitation rate of 1 inch per hour.
- Sets the total maximum landscape water use to 50% of evapotranspiration for residences and 40% for non-residential projects.
- Irrigation audits are required on all projects.

Landscape and Irrigation Guidelines

Gives a brief introduction of:

- Local Climate Zones
- Microclimates
- Soil Conditions
- Invasive Species
- Water Efficiency
- Riparian Areas
- Oak Trees



Landscape and Irrigation Guidelines

Includes Recommended Tree, Shrub, and Groundcover lists.

For each species, includes:

- Size and growth rate
- Flower color and season
- Sun/ Shade Requirements
- Water use
- Beneficial Uses
- Photographs

Common Name *Scientific Name*	Deciduous/ Evergreen	CA Native	Growth Rate	Lifespan	Height Width (feet)	Bloom Season and Color	Sun/ Shade	Water Use	Beneficial Uses	Special Maintenance	Photo
Coffee Berry *Rhamnus californica*	Evergreen	•	Fast		8' 8'	Spring White	Sun, Part Shade	Low	Birds/Hummingbirds Hedge/Screen With Oaks Riparian	Easy to prune	
GROUNDCOVERS											
Emerald Carpet *Arctostaphlos "Emerald Carpet"*	Evergreen	•	Fast	Mod.	< 1' 6'	Spring White	Sun, Part Shade	Low	Benficial Insects Medians Ground Cover	Need rich, well-draining soil	
Beach Primrose *Camissonia cheiranthifolia*	Evergreen	•	Fast	Peren.	0.5' 2'	Mar - Sept Yellow	Sun	Low	Benficial Insects Medians Ground Cover		

Common Name *Scientific Name*	Deciduous/ Evergreen	CA Native	Growth Rate	Lifespan	Height Width (feet)	Bloom Season and Color	Sun/ Shade	Water Use	Beneficial Uses	Special Maintenance	Photo
Weeping Bottlebrush *Callistemon viminalis*	Evergreen		Fast	40 - 150	25' 15'	Apr - Aug Red	Sun, Part Shade	Low	Fall Color, Berries, or Seed Pods		
Desert Museum Palo Verde *Cercidium x "Desert Museum"*	Deciduous		Fast	50 - 150	25' 25'	Mar - May Yellow	Sun	Low			
Western Redbud *Cercis occidentalis*	Deciduous	•	Mod.	50 - 75	20' 15'	Feb - Apr Magenta	Sun	Low	Benficial Insects Birds/Hummingbirds Fall Color, Berries, or Seed Pods Riparian	Tolerates clay soils and wide range of soil pH	
Desert Willow *Chilopsis linearis*	Deciduous		Mod.	40 - 150	25' 20'	Apr - Jul Various	Sun, Part Shade	Low	Birds/Hummingbirds		

Developing
An Urban Forest Master Plan

Why is a master plan important?

- Illustrates the value and benefit of community trees
- Communicates the challenges and opportunities
- Promotes shared vision
- Ensures resources are in place to support community goals

Developing
An Urban Forest Master Plan

Opportunities and Challenges

- Preserve and enhance existing trees and canopy
- Increase environmental benefits
- Identify sustainable resources/funding
- Increase public outreach and engagement

UFMP Goals

- A sustainable, healthy, and safe community tree resource
- Preserve and expand tree canopy on public and private property
- Comprehensive, user-friendly regulations and policies
- Optimize community planning to consider trees as an integral component
- Optimize funding and identify new opportunities
- Expand outreach, education, and engagement

A sustainable, healthy, and safe community tree resource

- Adhere to industry standards and BMPs and wildlife protection requirements
- Prune city trees on a regular cycle
- Tree planting and replacement plan increase diversity
- Develop policies: tree inspection, risk management, inventory data management

Preserve and expand tree canopy on public and private property

- Canopy goals
- Develop guidelines to preserve significant trees
- Optimize stocking level
- Identify strategies to increase tree planting on private property
- Collaborate with nonprofits to facilitate neighborhood tree planting
- Conduct a canopy assessment every 10 years

Comprehensive user-friendly regulations and policies

- Optimize city staffing to manage trees
- Revise Municipal Codes:
- 106.31 Site Design
- 106.34 Landscaping Standards
- 106.39 Tree Preservation and Protection
- Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance

Optimize funding and identify new opportunities

- Identify and apply for grants
- Increase partnerships
- Optimize support from existing sources
- Tree Mitigation Fund
- Explore Landscape Assessment Districts

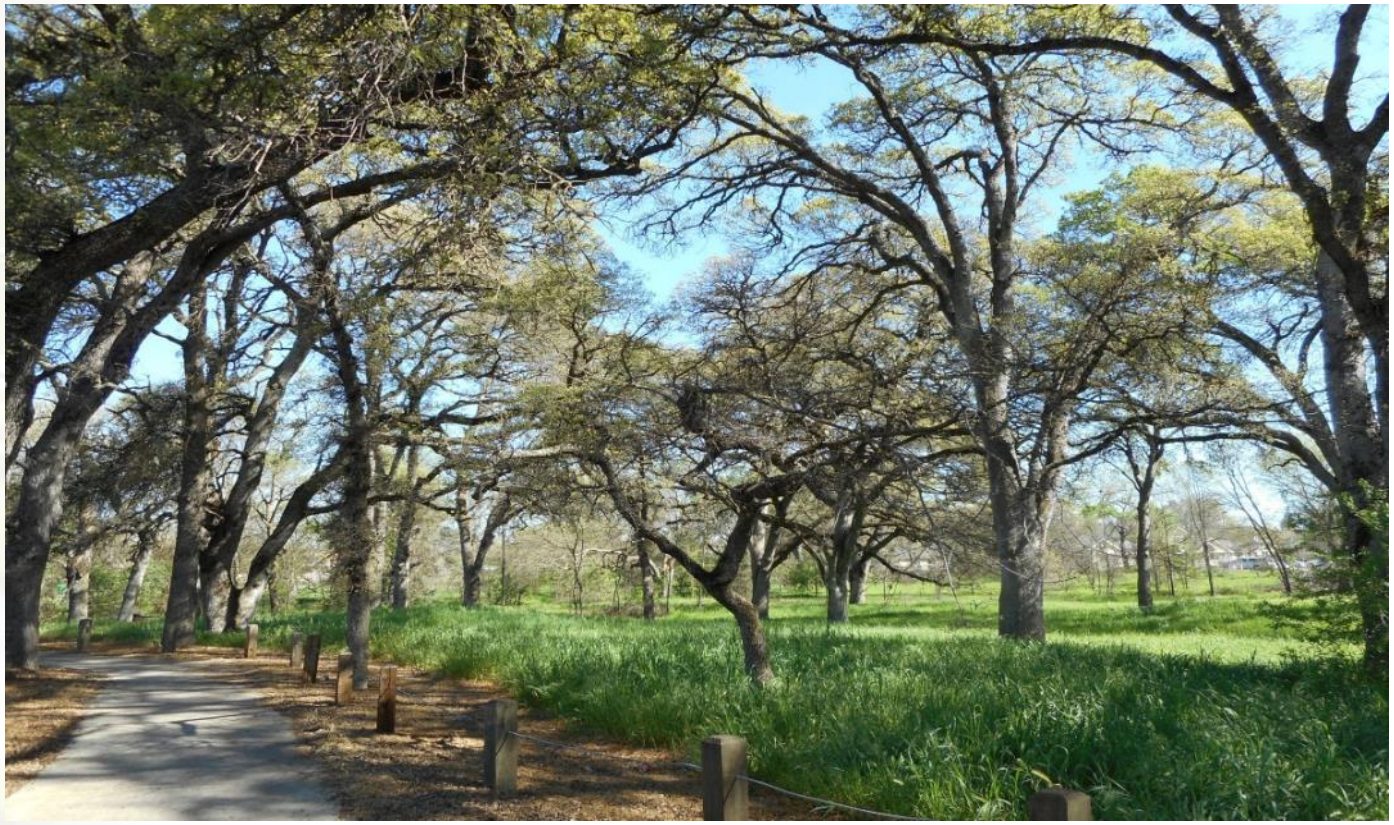
Optimize community planning to consider trees as an integral component

- Incorporate trees into new projects
- Ensure planting sites will support trees
- Participate in regional urban forest planning
- Apply for Tree City USA status

Expand outreach, education, and engagement

- Website, electronic and downloadable materials
- Recommended Tree List for homeowners
- Workshops and Seminars
- State of the Urban Forest Report

Questions and Discussion?



Thank you for your time

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