

Public Works Department

Urban Forestry Update

Park and Recreation Commission
February 2, 2026

BACKGROUND

1. Designated by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a “Tree City, USA” every year since 1987, the city strives to preserve and protect this tree heritage.
2. The purpose of the Urban Forestry Policy Manual (Manual) is to provide guidelines for the planting, pruning, preservation and removal of all trees in city rights-of-ways based on industry standards and specs.



DISCUSSION

Urban Forestry Policy Manual & Related Procedures

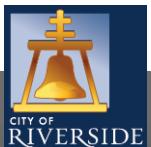
- Past updates/workshops
- Moving forward
 - Standard Operating Procedures
 - Perpetual Tree Care and Planting Fund
 - Urban Forestry Policy Manual



DISCUSSION

USDA Forest Service Grant Award

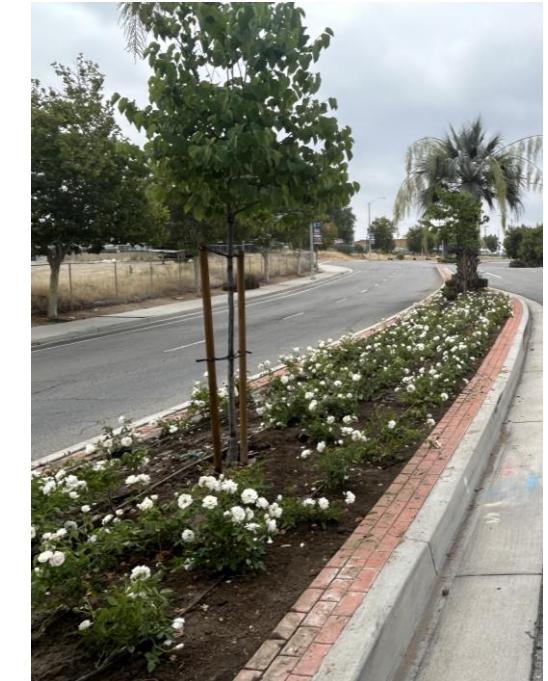
- \$1 Million Award
- Tree Inventory
- Tree Management Database
- RFP 2432
- Planit Geo, Inc.
- Grant Implementation



DISCUSSION

Ongoing Actions & Noteworthy Endeavors

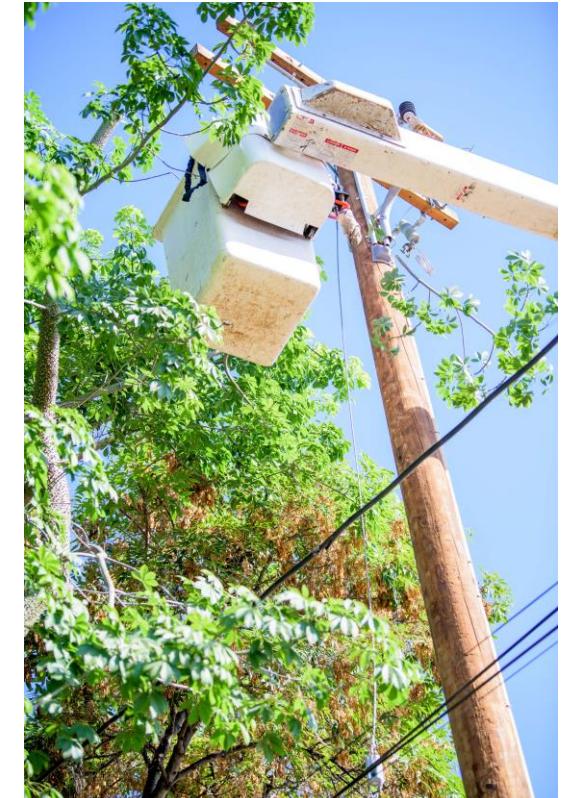
- Fully staffed!
- Renovations & Maintenance
- Beautification Efforts



DISCUSSION

2025 Plantings, Removals & Trimmings

- 423 Trees Planted
- 373 Trees Removed
- 13,608 Street Trees Trimmed
- 22,095 Utility Line Clearance Trims



OUR URBAN FOREST



The City's Urban Forest provides social, communal, environmental, and economic benefits to the entire community.

The Benefit of Trees



Trees help improve the quality of air by capturing pollutants like ash and gases.



Trees provide shade that help cool down buildings, parks and pathways.



Trees help prevent flooding. One tree can absorb 2,000 gallons each year.



Shade provided by trees can reduce the use of air conditioning, saving people money.



Trees are known to promote feelings of relaxation and well-being.



Trees are known to increase property values by as much as 10%.

FUN FACT!!!

Our urban forest has an estimated value of more than **\$449,000,000!**



It is more important than ever to continue pursuing funding opportunities that will augment and care for our urban forest.



RECOMMENDATION

That the Park and Recreation Commission receive and file an update on the Urban Forestry Policy Manual, United States Department of Agriculture – Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grant Award, and review Tree Plantings, Removals and Trimmings for 2025.

