



Park and Recreation Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MAY 21, 2018**

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT URBAN FORESTRY/LANDSCAPE DIVISION

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT URBAN FORESTRY/LANDSCAPE DIVISION
QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

ISSUE:

Receive the quarterly activity report for the Urban Forestry/Landscape Division of the Public Works Department.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Park and Recreation Commission receive and file the quarterly activity report for the Urban Forestry/Landscape Division of the Public Works Department.

BACKGROUND:

In an effort to improve communication to the Commission, the Public Works Department provides a quarterly report to highlight noteworthy updates and accomplishments.

DISCUSSION:

The following report for the Public Works Department Urban Forestry/Landscape Division details accomplishments, claims against the City related to damages caused by City trees such as fallen limbs and root damages to private property, plan checks related to new developments and property upgrades such as new housing tracts, commercial/industrial buildings and expansion of existing properties that are required to plant new street trees within the public right of ways, tree removals, and tree plantings in the first quarter of 2018, and activities planned for the second quarter of 2018.

Public Outreach

On Saturday, February 3, 2018, the Public Works Department, working with Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful (KRCB), held a beautification project in Ward 2. Volunteers from throughout the community planted a total of 296 one-gallon plants. The plant varieties consisted of purple and gold Lantanas, yellow Day Lillies, purple Society Garlics, and red Bougainvilleas that were planted along a publically maintained right of way located on University Avenue between Mesa Street and

Cranford Avenue. The new plants replaced missing plant material that will grow to beautify the existing landscape.

On Saturday, February 24, 2018, the Public Works Department, working with Victoria Avenue Forever (VAF), held a tree planting project within the median areas of Victoria Avenue from La Sierra to Central Avenues. A total of 40 trees were planted to replace trees that have been damaged or died from insects, drought, vandalism, accidents or thefts. The tree species consisted of Redbuds, Hong Orchids, Chitalpa, Gold Medallions, Silk Tree, Saucer Magnolia, Chinese Fringe, and Bottle Brush.

On Saturday, March 3, 2018, the Public Works Department, working with KRCB, held a beautification project in Ward 7. Volunteers from throughout the community planted a total of 396 one-gallon plants. The plant varieties consisted of red and gold Lantanas, orange Day Lillies and purple Society Garlics that were planted along a publically maintained right of way on Jurupa Avenue between Rutland Avenue and Van Buren Boulevard. The new plants replaced missing plant material that will grow to beautify the existing landscape.

On Saturday, March 10, 2018, the Public Works Department, working with VAF, held a tree planting project in celebration of California Arbor Week. A total of 44 new trees were planted along Victoria Avenue, between Washington and St. Lawrence Streets, with grant funds that were secured and received by VAF through a 2016 Social Equity Tree Planting Grant provided by California ReLeaf and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire). The tree species consisted of Eucalyptus Lemon Scented Gums, Eucalyptus Red Iron Bark, Eucalyptus Silver Dollar, and Coral Trees. In appreciation of VAF, a Proclamation was prepared and signed by the Mayor recognizing their dedication to the City and California Arbor Week.

On Saturday, April 14, 2018, the Public Works Department, working with KRCB, held a beautification project in Ward 5. Volunteers from throughout the community planted a total of 55 five-gallon Apple Blossom Roses on Magnolia Avenue between Van Buren Boulevard and Myers Street. The roses were planted along a publically maintained right of way to replace missing plant material that will grow to beautify the existing landscape.

On Friday, April 27, 2018, the Public Works Department, working with the Kiwanis Club of Riverside and KRCB, held a tree planting event in celebration of Arbor Day. The Kiwanis Club of Riverside donated and planted with Kiwanis volunteers, 25, 15-gallon Magnolia Trees. The location was in a publically maintained reverse frontage on Columbia Avenue between Arthur Avenue and American Drive. In appreciation of the Kiwanis Club of Riverside and KRCB, a Proclamation was prepared and signed by the Mayor recognizing their donation and dedication to the City and Arbor Day.

On Saturday May 12, 2018, the Public Works Department, working with KRCB, will hold the Great American Cleanup event. Volunteers from throughout the community will be assigned litter cleanups, graffiti abatement, city waterway cleanups, and community greening projects within the City. After the event, volunteers will be provided a lunch with an award ceremony that will be held in the breezeway in front of City Hall.

Certification

The Public Works Department is proud to announce that the Arbor Day Foundation has recognized the City of Riverside as a Tree City USA recipient. This is the 30th year that the City has received this distinctive honor. The Tree City USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day

Foundation in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, provides direction, technical assistance and national recognition by supporting the framework for a sustainable urban forest. Benefits of being a Tree City USA include reduced energy costs and consumption, increased property values, strong neighborhood ties, and demonstrated commitment to a healthier environment. To qualify for Tree City USA, a town or city must meet four standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters:

1. A Tree Board or Department
2. A Tree Care Ordinance
3. A Community Forestry Program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita
4. An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

Tree Projects

In preparation of the future Magnolia Avenue Street Improvement project, the Public Works Department, working with the Public Utilities Department, will be removing 14 Mexican Fan Palm Trees within the center median areas located between Nye Avenue and Park Sierra Drive for the installation of a new 42 inch water delivery pipe line. New trees and landscaping will be installed with the Magnolia Avenue Street Improvement project.

Tree Maintenance

The following grids are currently underway:

1. Grid 63 – Ramona Neighborhood
2. Grid 64 – Ramona Neighborhood

The following grids are scheduled:

1. Grid 66 – Arlanza Neighborhood
2. Grid 18 – Airport Neighborhood
3. Grid 47 – Arlington Heights Neighborhood

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director

Approved by: Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director

Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. Tree Removal and Planting List
2. Plan Checks – 1st Quarter 2018
3. Claims – 1st Quarter 2018
4. Magnolia Avenue Tree Removal Exhibit