



Park and Recreation Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MAY 20, 2019**

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT URBAN FORESTRY / LANDSCAPE DIVISION

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

ISSUE:

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:

The Urban Forestry / Landscape Division of the Public Works Department reports to the Park and Recreation Commission on a quarterly basis due to their connection to City trees as mentioned in the Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 13.25 Tree and Shrub Supervision.

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 2019 and activities planned for the second quarter of 2019.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

On Saturday, January 19, 2019, the Public Works Department working with Victoria Avenue Forever (VAF), held a rose planting project at the Lorraine Small Rose Garden located in the median nose on Victoria Avenue at Myrtle Avenue in Ward 3. Volunteers recruited by the VAF Board, planted forty carpet roses to replace missing/dying roses and added bark mulch around the garden to help retain moisture and control weeds. The roses were funded by VAF and will

grow and beautify the median nose for all the community to enjoy.

On Saturday, February 2, 2019, the Public Works Department working with Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful (KRCB), was scheduled to hold a beautification project in Ward 2. Unfortunately, the event was canceled due to rain. It was rescheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2019 and KRCB secured volunteers from the local Circle K Club. Circle K Club members planted a total of 344 one gallon and five gallon plants on Lochmoor Drive between Kirkmichael Circle and Deveron Court along a publically maintained and irrigated parkway. The plants included 30 Blue Bells, 7 Plumbagos, 133 Yellow Lantanas, 12 Marguerite daises, and 162 Bottle Brush 'Little Johns'.

On Saturday, February 16, 2019, the Public Works Department working with the Riverside East Rotary Club, planted 24 5-gallon Eastern Redbud trees and one 15-gallon Magnolia grandiflora tree on Streeter Avenue between Jerry Louder Drive and Dewey Avenue along a publically maintained and irrigated right of way in Ward 3. The Riverside East Rotary Club for the past several years, has worked with the City of Riverside with the purchase and planting of new trees throughout the community to recognize each of their members. This year a total of 71 trees will be planted by the Riverside East Rotary Club. A second planting site is being identified to plant the remaining 46 trees.

On Saturday, February 23, 2019, the Public Works Department working with VAF, held a tree planting project on Victoria Avenue in Wards 4 and 5. Volunteers from throughout the community planted a total of 41 5 gallon and 15-gallon trees in the medians between Jefferson Street and Myers Avenue. The tree species included 2 Vitex Trees, 25 Gold Medallions, 5 Silk Trees, 4 Redbuds, 4 Saucer Magnolias and 1 Trumpet tree. The planting project replaced missing and declining trees. The trees are funded by VAF through donations collected by their non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation that is dedicated to the preservation and beautification of Victoria Avenue.

On Saturday, March 2, 2019, the Public Works Department working with KRCB, was to hold a beautification project in Ward 7. Unfortunately, the event was canceled due to rain and will be rescheduled for a later date once volunteers have been identified. The project sites will be located at Arlington and La Sierra Avenues and Jurupa Avenue between Crest and Tyler Avenues.

On Saturday, March 9, 2019, the Public Works Department working with VAF, held a tree planting event in celebration of California Arbor Week in Wards 3 and 4. Volunteers from throughout the community planted a total of 40 5 gallon and 15 gallon trees in the parkways between Jane and St. Lawrence Streets. The trees are funded 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).

On Saturday, April 6, 2019, the Public Works Department working with KRCB, held a beautification project in Ward 5. The meeting location held at California Baptist University, 8432 Magnolia Avenue, 92504 included installing new plant material on Lincoln Avenue between Jamestown Circle and Monroe Avenue. Volunteer students from CalBaptist University planted 1 gallon and 5 gallon shrubs along a publically maintained and irrigated parkway. The shrub species included Pink Indian Hawthorn, Birds of Paradise and Iceberg Roses.

On Saturday, April 27, 2019, the Public Works Work Department working with VAF, in celebration of Arbor Day, will hold a tree planting event on Victoria Avenue, Villegas Park and the Casa Blanca House of Neighborly Services. The meeting site will be on the corner of Victoria Avenue and Adams Street and will begin at 9:00am.

On Saturday, May 11, 2019, 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.

On Thursday, June 6, 2019, the Public Works Department, working with KRCB, will hold a volunteer project in Ward 6. The meeting location will be at The Grove Community Church/Bryant Park, 7950 Philbin Avenue, 92503. The project sites are to be determined and will include litter cleanup, graffiti removal, and a community greening site.

TREE TRIMMING PROGRESS

With the help of an additional \$1,000,000 allocated by City Council through Measure Z funding, since November 27, 2018 to March 5, 2019 a total of 2,967 trees have been trimmed. Below is a break down by categories:

- Measure Z Funding: 2,676
- Service Requests: 346
- Resi-Pay: 10

Since the start of the fiscal year, July 1, 2018 to March 5, 2019 a total of 8,379 trees have been trimmed.

TREE MAINTENANCE

The following grids are currently underway:

Grid 38 – Mission Grove Neighborhood

Grid 41 – Hawarden Heights Neighborhood

The following grids are scheduled:

Grid 67 – Arlington Neighborhood

Grid 48 – Arlington South Neighborhood

Grid 25 – Magnolia Center 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: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. Tree Removal and Planting List
2. Plan Checks – 1st Quarter 2019
3. Claims – 1st Quarter 2019