

EL CERRITO URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN



Urban forests grown without foresight or planning create high maintenance requirements and cost burdens.

A well-managed urban forest, however, can be economically and environmentally sustainable and a highly-visible source of community pride.

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What is an urban forest?

- A collection of trees growing within an urban area.

What is an urban forest plan?

- An action plan for the standard of performance of the City's urban forest and how to plan and manage the public trees within the City.



Urban Forest Purpose

Build a healthy, extensive urban forest that provides the City of El Cerrito with social, environmental, and economic benefits.



Urban Forest Benefits

Social

Creating a Sense of Place

Provide connections to the natural world.

Improve city legibility

Facilitate a sense of community



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Creating a Sense of Place

Provide connections to the natural world.

Improve city legibility

Facilitate a sense of community

Color, texture, seasonal change

Natural cycles

Soften urban materials and forms



Urban Forest Benefits

Social

Creating a Sense of Place

Provide connections to the natural world.

Improve city legibility

Facilitate a sense of community

Create memorable entries, districts and routes



Urban Forest Benefits

Social

Creating a Sense of Place

Provide connections to the natural world.

Improve city legibility

Facilitate a sense of community

Create identifiable and loved social spaces

Sense of shared purpose and identity



Urban Forest Benefits

Environmental

Balancing Environmental Impacts

Mitigate Urban Heat Island Effect

Reduce Airborne Pollutants

Sequester Carbon Dioxide



Urban Forest Benefits

Environmental

Balancing Environmental Impacts

Mitigate Urban Heat Island Effect

Reduce Airborne Pollutants

Sequester Carbon Dioxide

*Reduce surface and ambient
temperatures*

Reduce smog formation

Reduce energy use



Urban Forest Benefits

Environmental

Balancing Environmental Impacts

Mitigate Urban Heat Island Effect

Reduce Airborne Pollutants

Sequester Carbon Dioxide

Hold particulate matter on tree surfaces

Reduce chronic respiratory disorders, lung cancer, mortality



Urban Forest Benefits

Environmental

Balancing Environmental Impacts

Mitigate Urban Heat Island Effect

Reduce Airborne Pollutants

Sequester Carbon Dioxide

Storage of carbon dioxide in tree biomass

Sequestration rates affected by location, age, species composition, conditions

Highly dependant on tree health



Urban Forest Benefits

Economic

Economic Vitality

Increase Property Values

Attract Business

Contribute to City's financial standing



Urban Forest Benefits

Economic

Economic Vitality

Increase Property Values

Attract Business

Contribute to City's financial standing

Increase property values 10%

Increase commercial property rental rates 7%



Urban Forest Benefits

Economic

Economic Vitality

Increase Property Values

Attract Business

Contribute to City's financial standing

Consumer preference for places with trees

Willing to travel further, stay longer

Willing to pay 9-12% more for goods and services



Urban Forest Benefits

Economic

Economic Vitality

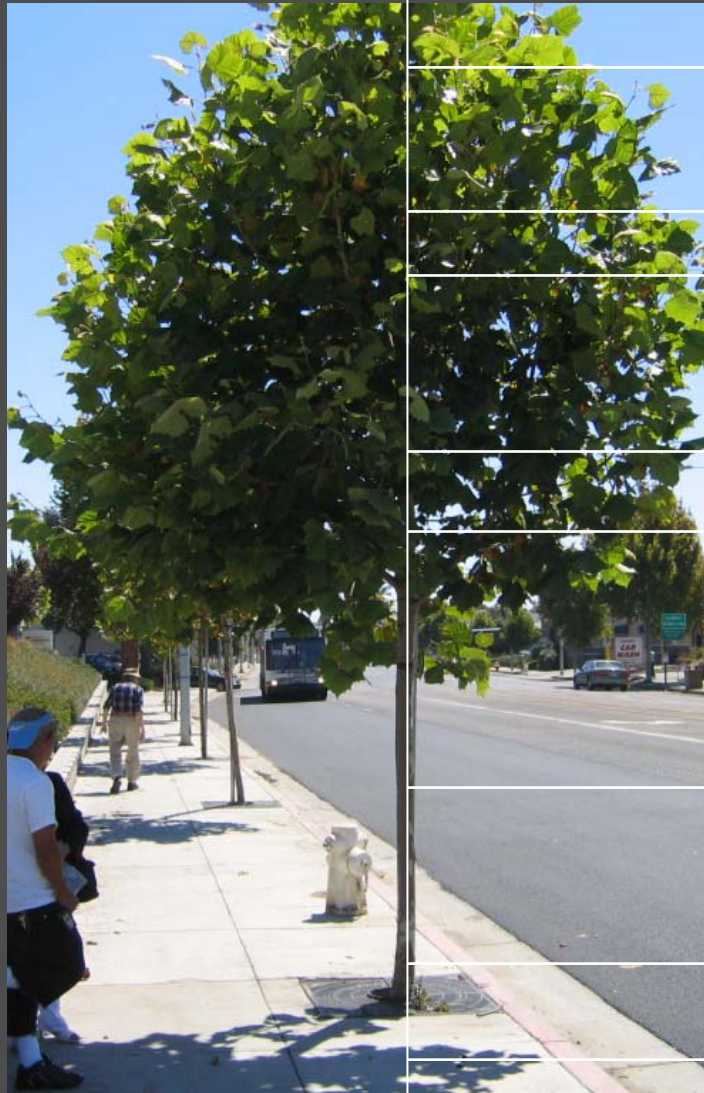
Increase Property Values

Attract Business

Contribute to City's financial
standing

*Potential type of
infrastructure asset
for purposes of
GASB 34*

Existing Conditions



Presence/Type of Overhead Utilities

Species' Scientific Name

Health of Tree

Spread of Tree

Height of Tree

Diameter of Trunk

Width of Planting Area

Sidewalk Condition

El Cerrito Urban Forest Management Plan - Goals and Actions





Goals

- 1. Establish and maintain a citywide commitment to a healthy, growing urban forest in the City of El Cerrito.**
- 2. Integrate the principles of the Urban Forest Management Plan into subsequent documents required by or in support of the City of El Cerrito General Plan.**
- 3. Provide consistent funding for urban forestry efforts that reflects the importance of the urban forest to the public.**
- 4. Provide excellent professional maintenance for the City's urban forest.**

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