



SUSTAINABLE LONG BEACH

Tiffany Chen, Sustainability Assistant
Urban Forest Master Plan Initiative

What is an urban forest?



"The sum of all woody and associated vegetation in and around dense human settlements, ranging from small communities in rural settings to metropolitan regions."

-From *Urban Forestry, Planning and Managing Urban Greenspaces* by Robert W. Miller: 1988. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.



Long Beach's Urban Forest

previous inventory completed in 2000: 83,451 trees

Municipal Code 14.28 grants regulatory authority to Department of Public Works Director for planting, maintenance, and removal of trees along any city street.

In 2005 Tree Advisory Committee established to incorporate Councilmember and citizen input

2006/2007: revises Tree Maintenance Policy to:

1. Preserve the existing urban forest and grow it further, while ensuring public safety
2. Provides guidelines for planting, maintaining, and removing street trees



2008 Master Plan

Urban Forest Phase I - Goals, Policy

- Protect & maintain urban forest
- Fair provision and distribution of services
- Education & outreach & planting efforts
- Long term funding

2011: Phase II- Inventory



Long Beach's Urban Forest

At a Glance:

92,654 trees located in medians, parkways, other right-of-ways (2011 inventory)

Approximately 250-350 Thousand Trees in Parks throughout the City

Current Tree Plantings:

1,000 Trees (AQMD)

6,000 Trees (POLB)

Totaling > 400,000 by 2020



Internal Tree Committee

Established in 2011 to address multi-departmental issues

Includes

Public Works, Development Services, Parks Recreation
and Marine, Sustainability

Sustainability Issues

Water conservation
Conflicts between tree coverage and solar panels
Air/water quality
Nesting
Native and drought tolerant species



Approved Street Tree List

32 Approved Species to 123



Urban Forest Management Plan

The UFMP Toolkit provides

- an overall framework for developing an urban forest management plan;
- an overall process to organize the steps involved;
- a list and descriptions of elements that may be included;
- an online work plan tool;
- an online editing tool to assist in the development of a complete detailed plan outline with notes input by multiple collaborators.



Mission Statement

The Urban Forest Management Plan addresses the long-term management and maintenance of City trees including street trees in the public right of way and on City-owned property, such as parks. The plan also addresses maintenance of residential and privately owned trees through partnerships with private property owners and businesses in the City.

1. Protect, preserve and enhance Long Beach's existing urban forest.
2. Expand Long Beach's urban forest in the public right of way, on institutional campuses, on City-owned property and in partnership with private property owners in the City.
3. Provide fair distribution of urban forest services in all parts of the City.

Mission Statement

4. Develop a common vision and partnership with local organizations, businesses, and residents to coordinate and address the long-term expansion, stewardship and maintenance of Long Beach's urban forest.
5. Enhance education and outreach related to the urban forest and tree care.
6. Enhance the social, economic, environmental, and public health benefits to the entire community through a sustainable urban forest.
7. Commit adequate and stable, long-term funding levels to maintain and enhance urban forest activities and programs.

Moving Forward

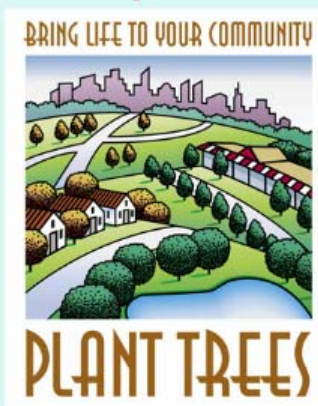
Parks and Recreation Tree Inventory

Increased transparency of the urban forest management process

Increased Councilmember, community input

Policies and procedures that have been thoroughly vetted

Continuing to address complex issues



Urban Forest Management Plan

UFGMP Goals

- 1. Increase the number of trees in the city
- 2. Increase the diversity of tree species
- 3. Increase the health of trees in the city
- 4. Increase the number of trees in the city



Mission Statement

The Urban Forest Management Plan is a strategic plan that provides a framework for the city's urban forest management and maintenance activities. It is a living document that will be updated as needed to reflect changes in the city's urban forest and the needs of the community.

1. Protect, enhance and expand the city's urban forest.
2. Promote the health and vitality of the city's urban forest.
3. Increase the number and diversity of trees in the city.

Approved Street Tree List

10 Approved Species



Long Beach's Urban Forest

At a Glance:

\$2,451 trees located in medians, parkways, other right-of-way (2011 inventory)
 Approximately 250-300 Thousand Trees to Plant throughout the City

Current Tree Plantings:

1,000 Trees (AGMDF)

4,000 Trees (PDR)

Totaling > 400,000 by 2020



Mission Statement

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2008 Master Plan

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Long Beach's Urban Forest

Ordinance 120000 established the Urban Forest Code (UFC) in 2008 to provide a framework for the Department of Public Works Director for planting, maintenance, and removal of trees along city streets.

In 2009 Tree Advisory Councils established to coordinate Citywide tree and street work.

2009/2010 revised Tree Maintenance Policies

1. Promote the planting, urban forest and grow a culture of caring for public trees
2. Provide guidelines for planting, maintaining, and removing street trees

What is an urban forest?

"The term urban forest refers to all trees and shrubs, whether planted or naturally occurring, in the city's right-of-way."

From the City of Long Beach Department of Public Works, 2008



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