COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Landscape & Forestry Master Plans Project Presentation

January 30 • February 4 • February 10
27,000 City-Maintained Trees
27,000 City-Maintained Trees

= 225 trees!
27,000 City-Maintained Trees: 4,000 Trimmed / Year

= 225 trees!
27,000 City-Maintained Trees: 300-400 Removed / Year

= 225 trees!
27,000 City-Maintained Trees: 500 Planted / Year

= 225 trees!
Tree City USA since 1998
400 Acres of Public Right-of-Way Plantings
21 Acres of Turf Grass Medians
21 Acres of Turf Grass Medians = ~16 Football Fields
Convert Turf to Save Over 10 Million Gallons / Year

= 125,000 gallons!
State Mandate

“The Water Board shall prohibit irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians.”

Executive Order B-29-15
April 1, 2015
Turf Medians
Community-Generated Priorities
Commitment to Being an Environmental Leader
Promote Water Conservation in the Maintenance of Parks & Landscaping
Reconstruct City Landscape to Conserve Water & Decrease Grassy Areas
Provide for Citywide Uniformity in Streetscape & Street Tree Canopies while Providing for Unique Area Needs
Continue to Monitor & Sustain the Urban Forest
1989 FMP Volume 1: Program & Policies

Overview of the Community Forestry Program

The Thousand Oaks community forest program is a mutual effort of the City Council, business people, developers, residents, City staff and other public agencies. This chapter provides a synopsis of the community forestry program. It introduces roles and responsibilities relating to trees in Thousand Oaks.

1.2.1 Roles and Responsibilities

As might be expected in a city which has grown so rapidly in the past decades, developers have played a major role in the creation of the community forest. All new development is required to have street trees and other landscaping along all streets, median landscaping on major arterials, and protected status for existing oaks and other historic trees.
Neighborhood Planting Design: Species diversity is diminished while still allowing for design unity.

Do not plant whole neighborhoods with one or two species. Although consistent plantings on individual streets often give the strongest visual effect, the repetition of the same species on street after street can create a monotonous situation that would subject the neighborhood to a sudden erosion of character if the trees encountered problems. (See Figure 2.)

Maintain a sense of order within diversity by planting trees with compatible forms. Many of the visual benefits of trees outlined in the design guidelines rely on the large-scale repetitions of species. These effects should not be sacrificed to diversity for diversity’s sake, which can result in visual chaos. Consult the design guidelines for ways of balancing unity and diversity, such as alternating species of compatible forms, and using accent species or tree groupings. (See 2.4.1 for further explanation of tree forms.)

Test new species and cultivars for wider application.

The city should actively seek to expand its palette of acceptable trees by test planting species not widely planted here and monitoring their performance. Since availability is often a limiting factor to the use of new species, the city could contract with nurseries both to provide experimental stock and to supply usable quantities once a species is proven. The city might also contract to have nurseries provide oaks and other native species grown from local genetic stock rather than those developed elsewhere in California. (See 1.3.5.6.)

Monitor pests and diseases within Thousand Oaks and other communities. To prepare for problems which may entail large-scale removal and replacement of trees, the city should actively monitor all major pest and disease populations, both locally and regionally, that could adversely affect its forest. Preparations should then...
### STREET TREE INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Species</th>
<th>Recommended</th>
<th>Experimental</th>
<th>Conditioned</th>
<th>X</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Betula nigra</strong> 'Heritage' River Birch</td>
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<td><em>Brachychiton populneus</em> Bottle Tree</td>
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<td><em>Callistemon citrinus</em> Lemon Bottlebrush</td>
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<td><em>Callistemon viminalis</em> Bottlebrush</td>
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<td><em>Calocedrus decurrens</em> Incense Cedar</td>
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<td><em>Carpinus betulus</em> 'Fastigiata' Upright European Hornbeam</td>
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<td><em>Casuarina cunninghamiana</em> River She-Oak</td>
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<td><em>Casuarina stricta</em> Coast She-Oak</td>
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<td><em>Catalpa bignonioides</em> Hybrid Catalpa</td>
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<td><em>Cedrus atlantica</em> Atlas Cedar</td>
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<td><em>Cedrus deodara</em> Deodar Cedar</td>
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<td><em>Celtis australis</em> European Hackberry</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Celtis occidentalis</em> Common Hackberry</td>
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<td><em>Celtis sinensis</em> Chinese Hackberry</td>
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<td><em>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</em> Blue Palo Verde</td>
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<td><em>Cercis occidentalis</em> Western Redbud</td>
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<td><em>Chamaecyparis excelsa</em> Windmill Palm</td>
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<td><em>Chorisia speciosa</em> Floss silk tree</td>
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<td><em>Cinnamomum camphora</em> Camphor Tree</td>
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<td><em>Cinnamomum glanduliferum</em> Himalayan Camphor</td>
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<td><em>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</em> Carobwood</td>
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<td><em>Cupressus sempervirens</em> Leylandii Leyland Cypress</td>
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<td><em>Eucalyptus deglupta</em> Bronze Loquat</td>
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Aeration and Watering Tubes with Filter Fabric:

Improper soil meeting the Soil and Plant Laboratory Impervious Landscape Soil Specification (8480) should be used as backfill to replace the soil in the entire planting area (minimum 4 ft. by 4 ft. by 1 ft. deep). The soil should be a sandy loam with:
- course sand: 15% max. by weight (0.5-2.0 mm)
- silt plus clay: 15%-45% by weight (less than 0.05 mm)
- gravel: 20% max. by weight (2-13 mm)
- rocks: 1:1/2 - 1% max. by volume
- no rocks larger than 1” diameter
- pH should be between 5.5 and 7.5.

Improving Drainage

Consistently wet soil prevents active root growth. Trees should never be planted in swales or depressions. Various methods for ensuring acceptable drainage in the planting area should be used.

In the very worst cases, where no percolation takes place; and the layer creating the problem is too thick to drill through, planter holes must be thought of as “bath tubs.” A drainage must run from the bottom of the “bath tub” to a common drain.

- Where a hardpan layer is encountered, drill numerous 2” diameter holes through the hardpan.

- In clay soils which drain fairly slowly but in which the top soil is at least 4 ft. deep, and soil continuous (the dominant condition in Thousand Oaks), watering tubes are recommended in all cases. Irrigation should be thorough and frequent. If water does not drain when tested while preparing the planting area, 6” diameter holes are suggested to a depth of 2 ft. minimum, and filled with gravel, may help keep water away from the roots.

- In deeper soils with an uncompacted soil profile to a depth of 10 ft. or more, no drainage at all should be needed other than the watering tubes recommended in all cases.

Watering and Aeration Systems

It is essential that moisture and air reach the feeder roots of the tree. All new trees must be installed with watering tubes. It is recommended that existing trees under 5 years old be retransplanted with these tubes. These will also serve as drainage tubes where no other provisions have been installed.

- Dig holes 3” to 6” in diameter, 2 to 3 feet deeper than the bottom of the planting hole.

- Install two 4” diameter perforated PVC drainpipes which have been wrapped with filter fabric. The top of the pipe should be 1” to 2” above finish grade with a removable cap. (See Figure 5.)

- Place a 2” deep layer of 1 to 1/2” diameter clean, washed gravel at the bottom of the tube to break the velocity of the water (unless a horizontal system is also used at the bottom of the hole, as recommended for major streets).
4.2.5 KEEPING THE INVENTORY CURRENT

Once a comprehensive inventory is in place, the responsibility for maintaining its accuracy rests largely on the city's maintenance crews. Every servicing of every tree must be recorded in the inventory, along with pertinent information on the tree's current condition. The work order forms (opposite) should be used by city crews to assure accuracy and consistency in documenting each servicing.

It is the responsibility of each maintenance crew foreman to compile these forms and deliver them at the end of each day to the office administrative staff, who will input the new data into the inventory on a weekly basis. All foremen must therefore be trained in the proper use of the forms and the proper assessment of trees. In addition, all information relating to a tree—permits issued, citizen complaints and the like—should be recorded as it is processed by the community forestry office.

It will be necessary to completely update the inventory every ten years in order to thoroughly assess the forest's status. A forest can change drastically in ten years. This ten-year tree census should be planned and budgeted for well in advance.
The type of involvement depends on the type of business. Developers play a major role in the community forest's growth, of course, but so can other businesses if given the opportunity and inspiration. As with residents, interaction may be between the city and individual business people or groups of businesses. Such groups can be particularly influential in the expansion of the forest, especially when their intent is to make commercial districts more attractive and humane.

- Institutions—schools, hospitals and libraries—offer many opportunities for the community forest. Their grounds provide room to expand the forest, and their strong connections to the community create a natural interest in the forest. Schools and libraries are especially invaluable in their role as community teachers, but will need city support and advice to fully develop this function.

- Organizations—Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, 4-H, civic organizations and environmental groups—can be encouraged to play an active role in the creation and maintenance of the forest. These groups will assist with community education as well as participating in the physical needs of the forest. Outreach programs aimed at these groups will ensure their ongoing interest and participation.

5.2 INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY

This chapter describes some of the ways to bring the community into the process of creating and maintaining the forest.

5.2.1 TYPES OF PARTICIPATION

The primary avenues for community participation in the forest fall into the following categories:

- Selecting trees. Residents usually have a strong notion of how their neighborhood should look and what its character should be. In addition, having a hand in the design process will result in a more personal connection between residents and their neighborhood, engendering greater pride of place. Citizens should therefore be brought into this process as much as possible through neighborhood meetings to review planting plans for their areas.

- Planting trees. While all work associated with the forest is important, perhaps the most emotionally satisfying job is planting trees. This is where people develop emotional attachments and a lifelong interest in the forest. The more individuals who personally plant a tree in the city, the greater the long-term support for the forest. This axiom is especially applicable to the children of Thousand Oaks. Setting a goal of having each child plant a tree ensures that the ideals of the community forest will be carried into the next generation.

- Maintaining trees. Residents already play a hand in the maintenance of the neighborhood street trees—many people at least water the tree in front of their house, and some go beyond this to include fertilizing, minor pruning and the like. Providing residents with standards for care will result in healthier trees. In addition, residents as well as businesses should be alerted to signs of poor tree health or maintenance. Having all eyes focused on the forest will increase the ability of the forestry staff to engage in "preventative maintenance," possibly saving trees in the early stages of ill-health and eliminating accidents in the making.

- Funding tree planting or maintenance. Providing the mechanisms for citizens, including businesses and institutions, to donate money earmarked for this work is an important avenue of participation for people with time or physical constraints.

- Providing land for expansion of the forest. Landowners with room to spare can be brought into the formation process without sacrificing property rights. The benefits of trees to the community—and to the planet—provide convincing reasons to join the effort.

- Advising the city on forestry decisions. Advisory committees and commissions...
Drought-Stressed Landscape
Damage to Infrastructure
Right Tree in the Right Space

Overhead Utilities

Building Fronts, Awnings & Signage

Vehicular Traffic

Underground Footings

Underground Utilities
Project Outcomes

NEW

Landscape Master Plan

California-friendly plant species palette

Applies to City-maintained plantings only

UPDATED

Updates focused on species palette & tree maintenance

Applies to City-maintained plantings only

UPDATES TBD

Updates to be determined through the Master Plan update process
Project Objectives

1. **Community Engagement:** Involve the community and incorporate resident and stakeholder input in plan recommendations.
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2. **Municipal Arboriculture:** Provide recommendations for City-maintained plantings in the public right-of-way.
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1. **Community Engagement:** Involve the community and incorporate resident and stakeholder input in plan recommendations.

2. **Municipal Arboriculture:** Provide recommendations for City-maintained plantings in the public right-of-way.

3. **Water Conservation:** Meet guidelines and regulations for water conservation.
Project Objectives

1. **Community Engagement:** Involve the community and incorporate resident and stakeholder input in plan recommendations.

2. **Municipal Arboriculture:** Provide recommendations for City-maintained plantings in the public right-of-way.

3. **Water Conservation:** Meet guidelines and regulations for water conservation.

4. **Maintenance:** Develop standardized, cost-efficient, and safe maintenance practices.
Project Objectives

1. Community Engagement: Involve the community and incorporate resident and stakeholder input in plan recommendations.


5. Character: Retain and enhance neighborhood character through public street tree and median plantings.
TODAY’s Goals

Collect your input on the character of streetscape plantings

Inform the development of planning design guidelines, not the design of specific projects

#1 TODAY!
January 30 Saturday
10 am - Noon
Grant R. Brimhall Library

#2
February 4 Thursday
6 pm - 8 pm
Civic Arts Plaza
Oak Room

#3
February 10 Wednesday
6 pm - 8 pm
Newbury Park Library
Information Station: Geographic Regions

Geographic Regions

- DOS VIENTOS
- NEWBURY PARK
- THOUSAND OAKS WEST
- THOUSAND OAKS EAST
- NORTH RANCH / WESTLAKE
Feedback Stations

- Dos Vientos
- Newbury Park
- Thousand Oaks West
- Thousand Oaks East
- North Ranch / Westlake

Map of Thousand Oaks showing feedback stations.
Landscape Elements

DOS VIENTOS

- Place a dot sticker by the landscape elements that you would like to see in the public landscape in your neighborhood.
- Consider the **general look & feel** of the plant categories, not particular species.

**Shrubs & Accents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flowering Shrubs</th>
<th>Non-Flowering Shrubs</th>
<th>Large Shrubs (&gt;5')</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agave</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ornamental Grasses</strong></td>
<td><strong>Strap-Leafed Plants</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Small Accent Trees</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cacti</strong></td>
<td><strong>Boulders</strong></td>
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</table>

**Groundcovers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low Shrubs (&lt;2')</th>
<th>Small Succulents</th>
<th>Decomposed Granite</th>
<th>Riverstones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*Comments:*
Place sticky note comments here.

*Notes:*

- Agave
- Ornamental Grasses
- Strap-Leafed Plants
- Drought-Tolerant Grass
- Turf Grass (non-potable water only for irrigation)
- Mulch
- Comments: Place sticky note comments here.
Landscape Elements
DOS VIENTOS

- Place a dot sticker by the landscape elements that you would like to see in the public landscape in your neighborhood.
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### Shrubs & Accents
- **FLOWERING SHRUBS**
- **NON-FLOWERING SHRUBS**
- **LARGE SHRUBS (>5')**

### Groundcovers
- **LOW SHRUBS (<2')**
- **SMALL SUCCULENTS**
- **DECOMPOSED GRANITE**

### Large Shrubs (5')
- **DROUGHT-TOLERANT GRASS**
- **ORNAMENTAL GRASSES**
- **STRAP-LEAFED PLANTS**

### Small Shrubs (<5')
- **NON-POTABLE WATER** (non-potable water only for irrigation)
- **MULCH**
- **BOULDERS**

### Small Accent Trees
- **SMALL ACCENT TREES**
- **CACTI**

### Large Shrub Category
- **DECOMPOSED GRANITE**
- **RIVERSTONES**

**Comments:**
Place sticky note comments here.
At left is a typical turf median in Thousand Oaks. Below are four example images of how the same median could be replanted to reduce water use.

Each example was designed using different combinations of plants, accents, and groundcovers.

**Please Vote**

Visit the “Landscape Elements” boards to vote for the types of plants and other materials you would like to see used in the future redesign of medians in your neighborhood.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS**

- TURF LOOK-ALIKE
  - Low Shrubs

- CALIFORNIA ARROYO
  - Flowering Shrubs, Non-Flowering Shrubs, Large Shrubs, Ornamental Grasses, Small Accent Tree, Boulders, Riverstones, Mulch

- SCULPTURAL LANDSCAPE
  - Agave, Small Succulents, Decorative Paving, Decomposed Granite

- GARDEN PLANTING
  - Flowering Shrubs, Strap-Leafed Plants, Small Accent Tree, Mulch
Street Tree Profiles
NEWBURY PARK

- Place a dot sticker by the tree profile patterns that you would like to see along the streets in your neighborhood.
- Consider the **general look & feel** of the tree categories, not particular species.

**Which would you prefer for your street?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGLE TREE SPECIES</th>
<th>MULTIPLE TREE SPECIES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FLOWERING TREES</strong></td>
<td><strong>NON-FLOWERING TREES</strong></td>
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</table>

**Which street tree patterns do you prefer?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BROADLEAF EVERGREEN</th>
<th>Trees remain green year-round, and have the leafy appearance of deciduous trees.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Annual Benefits = $248  <strong>per</strong> Tree</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>NARROWLEAF EVERGREEN</th>
<th>Trees typically have needle or scale leaves, &amp; remain green year-round.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Annual Benefits = $168  <strong>per</strong> Tree</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECIDUOUS</th>
<th>Trees lose their leaves seasonally, providing variety throughout the year.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Annual Benefits = $44  <strong>per</strong> Tree</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Average Annual Benefits = $106  <strong>per</strong> Tree</td>
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**Comments:**
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**Photo:** Michael Kuhns

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*NOTE: Average Annual Benefits are provided by “The National Tree Benefit Calculator™”, developed by Casey Trees and Davey Tree Expert Co. (treebenefits.com). Average benefit values are for street trees located in small business commercial areas, and include: stormwater, energy, property value, air quality, & CO2 sequestration.*
Street Tree Profiles
NEWBURY PARK

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Average benefit values are for street trees located in small business commercial areas, and include: stormwater, energy, property value, air quality, & CO₂ sequestration.
The presentation today was great!

Have you considered ...
THANK YOU
for participating!

www.toaks.org/forestry_master_plans
forestrymasterplans@toaks.org
Information Station: Median Redesign Preview