

MEETING DATE: 01/13/14

AGENDA ITEM: Authorization to Release a Request for Proposals for a Consultant to Prepare the City of Culver City Urban Forest Management and Tree Succession Plan and Appropriation of Grant Funds.

ATTACHMENTS

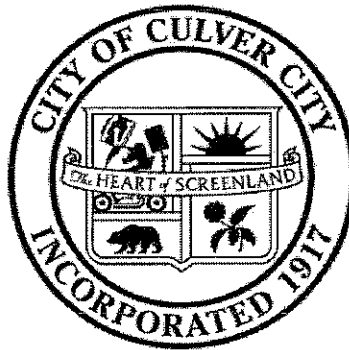
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

CONSULTING SERVICES

For the Development of a

City of Culver City Urban Forest Management and Tree
Succession Plan



January 2014

Submittal Deadline: 3:00 pm, February 20, 2014

SECTION I - GENERAL

The City of Culver City is seeking proposals from qualified consultants to prepare a long-term Urban Forest Management Plan and Tree Succession Plan (Plan). The Plan will serve as a tool for the City to effectively and efficiently manage its aging urban forest.

SECTION II - PROJECT SCHEDULE

The total budget is \$100,000, which entails \$10,000 reserved for City Staff Costs. The remaining \$90,000 is the amount allocated for the plan development within the scope of this RFP (including printing and other materials). Culver City is using Cal Fire grant funds and local matching funds for the project.

The following is the anticipated schedule for the Project:

Task	Time Frame
Response to RFP due date	February 20, 2014
Award Contract	March 2014
Project Kick-off Meeting(s)	April 2014
Outreach Process – Stage 1 (online and/or mailed out surveys as well as one or more Citywide community meeting)	April 2014 – May 2014
Outreach Process – Stage 2 (focused meetings in individual sections of the City to identify specific trees for each block that are consistent with the overall criteria)	May 2014 – July 2014
Preparation and Review of Plan	July 2014 – December 2014
Community Review of Plan	January 2015
Incorporate Community Input into Plan	March 2015
City Council Approval of Plan	May 2015
Distribution of Plan to community	June 2015
Project Closeout	July 2015

Note: All dates and timelines are tentative and subject to change.

SECTION III - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City's current Street Tree Master Plan (see Exhibit 2), last amended in 2002, is not a comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plan. Instead, it focuses only on street trees and consists almost entirely of a list that identifies a species for each street or street segment. This list is heavily weighed to only a small number of species and identifies just one species per block, typically the existing species (which may not be the ideal species for the location). Furthermore, there are regular requests for deviations from the Street Tree Master Plan, but very few of these requests for deviations have been incorporated.

Recognizing that in the coming decades, even with the best tree preservation techniques, many of the City's trees will need to be replaced, the City desires to develop a long-term, comprehensive Plan that addresses the issues identified above. The Plan will cover all City trees (street trees and trees in City Parks and adjacent to City facilities). It will cover topics such as principles/policies related to the urban forest; criteria for tree removals; existing tree locations, types and conditions; an update to the tree list; and a plan/vision for the future of the City's trees. It will also include some information on tree care that will serve as a reference for City staff and contractors, as well as for the community as they maintain their private trees and play a role in ensuring the health of nearby street trees as well. The Plan will be long-term (50 year), strongly informed by urban forestry best practices, and driven by a robust community input process that emphasizes public education.

SECTION IV - SCOPE OF SERVICES

The City is seeking proposals from consulting firms with a proven track record of similar plans to create an Urban Forest Management and Tree Succession Plan with all the components identified in this RFP and the approved grant application.

Proposing firms are expected to use this Scope of Services as a guide only. The Consultant shall identify all of the tasks required as described in the Grant Application (see Exhibit 1).

To assist with completing the Plan, Consultant shall work with City staff as needed to refine the Scope of Work and project timelines. The general framework of the Plan is as follows:

1. Review the City's tree inventory and existing tree policies, including the Street Tree Master Plan (see Exhibit 2), tree related ordinances and policies.
2. Implementation of a two-step public engagement process. The first step will involve online and/or mailed out surveys as well as one or more citywide community meetings. This step will educate the community and also seek overall input on the qualities residents and other stakeholders want to see in their trees, which will help inform the creation of overall criteria for tree

selection and a proposed tree palette (along with accepted best practices) as well as other components of the Plan. The second step will include four (4) more focused meetings in each individual sections of the City to identify specific tree characteristics and potential species from the palette for each block, consistent with the overall criteria for tree selection.

3. The Plan should be consistent with other relevant City policies and urban forestry best practices.
4. The Plan should establish a long-range (50 year) strategic framework (including comprehensive objectives and goals) supported by incremental (5-year) management plans.
5. The Plan should cover topics including: principles/policies related to the urban forest; criteria for tree removals; tree care; existing tree locations, types and conditions; an update to the tree list; and a plan/vision for the future of the City's trees (including the identification of undesirable trees and a replacement strategy).
6. The Plan should be concise and readable to the average citizen. While the majority of the content will be in a narrative format, the use of photographs, graphics, tables, charts, insets and bulleted lists of items and other techniques are welcomed.

SECTION V - SERVICES / INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE CITY

The City's tree maintenance contractor, West Coast Arborist (WCA) has inventoried all of the trees located within the City. This inventory includes information such as location, species, maintenance history, and size. The inventory also identifies vacant sites. The City will provide the following items and/or services, when applicable:

- Tree inventory data
- City policies and procedures
- Other documents, as relevant

SECTION VI - SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Two (2) copies of the following information, one copy of which must be single-sided and unbound, are requested as part of the submittal requirements. Please use the following format:

1. Letter of Introduction – Include the Consultant's basic understanding of the proposal; limited to three pages.

2. Project Team – List the proposed project team members, by name and position, the function each person will perform, and the percent of time each will spend on this project. Provide resumes for each proposed team member. Include past projects of similar scope as the one described herein. At least one team member should be an ISA registered consulting arborist. At least one team member should be a registered landscape architect.
3. Scope of Services – Describe the firm's approach to Section IV in this RFP and all work as identified in the Grant Application (see Exhibit 1). Include any other tasks your team will perform that may not be listed in the Scope of Services.
4. Project Fee Schedule – In a separate sealed envelope provide a not-to-exceed fee schedule for the project. The "project fee schedule" shall be broken down by tasks and shall include, but not be limited to all professional consultant services necessary to complete the work covered by this proposal. The fee should be broken down, at a minimum:
 - a. A "project fee schedule" indicating the fee for individual tasks with a "not to exceed fee" which shall be the sum of all tasks by part, phase, and milestone.
 - b. The number and classification of personnel required and the number of anticipated hours. The hourly rates for all employee classifications that may be billed to the project.
5. References – Provide at least three (3) references of individuals and/or firms with whom the Proposer has worked with on similar projects; Public Sector references within the same region are required.
6. Samples – Provide sample tree management plans for two (2) past similar projects your firm has completed.
7. **Do not use the Culver City logo in the proposal.**

SECTION VII - CONSULTANT SELECTION GUIDELINES

The City will evaluate and rank proposals. Any proposal may be rejected if it is conditional, incomplete, or contains irregularities. Minor or immaterial irregularities in a proposal may be waived by the Public Works Director/City Engineer at his discretion. Waiver of an irregularity shall in no way modify the RFP nor affect recommendation for award of the Contract.

Proposals will be evaluated by the City to determine which proposal, if any should be accepted. The City at its sole discretion reserves the right to accept or reject proposals. Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Specialized experience and technical competence of the firm and its personnel
- Recent experience and expertise with developing municipal Urban Forestry Management Plans
- Demonstrated success of municipal urban forest management plan(s) created by proponent that are currently in practice
- Past record of performance on contracts with municipalities or public agencies
- Responsiveness to this RFP and the completeness of the information provided
- Presentation style and ease of understanding
- Cost

The proposed fee is not intended to be the governing factor in the selection process but will be considered.

While it is the intention of the City to complete the full Scope of Services provided above in an uninterrupted sequence, the City reserves the right in consultation with the top candidates to narrow the final scope of services to reflect project budget constraints. As such, the final scope of services could be revised.

SECTION VIII - SOLE AUTHORITY & RIGHTS OF REJECTION

The City intends to award a contract to the respondent that demonstrates the highest level of expertise and capabilities to provide the requested services. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to re-issue the RFP when such action shall be considered in the best interest of the City.

By submitting a response to this RFP, prospective consultants waive the right to protest or seek legal remedies whatsoever regarding any aspect of this RFP. In addition, the City reserves the right to issue written notice to all participants of any changes in the proposal submission schedule or submission requirements, should the City determine in sole and absolute discretion that such changes are necessary. The City also reserves the right to approve all individuals and firms, if any, to be retained by the prime consultant. The City's policy is to screen consultants based upon their proposal and project reference checks.

SECTION IX - PAYMENT TO CONSULTANT

1. This work is to be performed for a "Not-to-Exceed Fee."
2. The Consultant shall provide a "Project Fee Schedule" indicating the fee for individual tasks with a "Not-to-Exceed Fee" which shall be the sum of all tasks by part, phase, and milestone.
3. Monthly invoices will specifically identify job title, person-hours, and costs incurred and previously completed by each task.

4. State prevailing wages and all other State laws and regulation shall apply.

SECTION X - CONTRACT

The lead firm will be required to enter into an agreement with the Culver City prior to commencing work. No selection will be final until an agreement has been properly executed and signed by the consultant and the City. The terms of the agreement will include, among other items, insurance and business license requirements established by the City.

SECTION XI - PROPOSALS DUE

Two copies of the proposal and the proposed Project Fee Schedule (in a separate sealed envelope) shall be submitted by **3:00 pm, Thursday, February 20, 2014** to the address shown below (postmarks will not be accepted in lieu of delivery):

Eric Mirzaian - Assistant Maintenance Operations Manager
Culver City Public Works Department
Maintenance Operations Division
9505 W. Jefferson Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90232

All submittals must be clearly marked as "Proposal for consultant services - City of Culver City Urban Forest Management and Tree Succession Plan."

SECTION XII - RFP QUESTIONS

Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing **no later than February 6, 2014** to:

Eric Mirzaian - Assistant Maintenance Operations Manager
eric.mirzaian@culvercity.org

EXHIBITS:

1. Grant Application
2. Street Tree Master Plan

Exhibit 1
Grant Application



Concept Proposal
2012/2013 CAL FIRE Urban & Community Forestry Program
"Urban or Community Forest Management Plan" Grant Program

Please fill out this form completely. Be sure to save a copy of this form for your records. Submit your application by selecting the button at the end of the form. Applications that are not fully filled out will not be rated. It is recommended that you submit well before the September 19, 2012 due date.

Organization City of Culver City

Requested Grant \$ \$75,000.00

Matching \$ \$25,000.00

Total Project \$ \$100,000.00

Note: the above dollar amount boxes will be automatically filled by the budget sheet later in this application.

Project Title City of Culver City Urban Forest Management and Tree Succession Plan

Primary Source of Technical Advice

Certified Arborist

Explanation (if required):

1. Applicant information - Eligible applicants for most grant types include cities, counties, qualifying districts, or nonprofit organizations qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Only cities, counties, and qualifying districts are eligible for the Urban Forest Inventory and Urban Forest Management Plan Grants.

Type of Organization

City

Project Manager Title

Maintenance Operations Manager

First Name Steve

Last Name Orozco

Email Steven.Orozco@culvercity.org

Phone Number (310) 253-6444

Address 1 9505 West Jefferson Boulevard

Address 2

City Culver City

State California

Zip Code 90232

2. Partner information - List any partners or co-sponsors

Name of Organization N/A

First Name

Last Name

Name of Organization

First Name

Last Name

3. Location information - List the communities served by the project. Include all cities and counties or list as statewide. Check a box below if your community is disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged per PRC 4799.09.

The project is located in the City of Culver City. The proposed Plan will be holistic and will cover the entire City. Neighborhoods within the City have a median household income (MHI) of less than \$47,942 and thus are considered disadvantaged.

☒ Disadvantaged community ☐ Severely disadvantaged community **NOTE: PROOF WILL BE REQUIRED LATER.**

You can find a tool for assessing disadvantaged community status per the CA Public Resources Code at the following web site: <http://www.parkinfor.org/factfinder2011/grantee.html>

☐ Check here if you have an active CAL FIRE Urban & Community Forestry grant or have had one in the past 5 years.

☐ **IMPORTANT:** Check here if your project is or will be completed prior to projected start time for new project (likely Spring 2013).

If your previous grant project was not able to be completed within the grant period, please briefly explain the circumstances that led to the incomplete project.

N/A

4. Grant Information - Describe the project by answering the questions below. Responses are limited to the space provided. You may wish to refer to the grant guidelines document, specific grant program Request For Proposals (RFP), and the California Urban Forestry Act (Public Resources Code Sections 4799.06 - 4799.12) for guidance on parts 4A - 4C.

A. Organizational Information - Provide the following information for your organization.

☒ Check here if your organization has a tree inventory ☒ Check here if your organization has an existing tree ordinance

☒ Check here if your organization has an existing urban forest management plan

What year was your organization's existing inventory updated?

2,012

What year was your organization's tree ordinance updated?

2,011

What year was your organization's management plan updated?

2,002

B. Plan Information - Provide the following information for the proposed plan.

What will be the time period covered by the plan (years)?

50

Will the plan encompass your entire jurisdiction?

Yes

☒ Check here if proposed plan will be periodically updated. ☐ Check here if private property area will be addressed in significance.

Will you be having a public outreach and participation component in creating the Urban Forest Management Plan?

Yes

Is the applying organization willing to integrate the Urban Forest Management Plan with other applicable local plans?

Yes

Is the applying organization willing to reference the Urban Forest Management Plan in appropriate local ordinances?

Yes

C. Background and Rationale - What is the situation, condition, or problem to be addressed by the project?

The City of Culver City's street trees are aging and are increasingly showing signs of distress and disease. Because of this, a growing number of trees are requiring replacement. However, as these trees are being replaced, challenges are emerging. The City's current Street Tree Master Plan, last amended in 2002, is not a comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plan. Instead, it consists almost entirely of a list that identifies a tree species for each street. This list is heavily weighed to only a small number of species and identifies just one species per block, typically the existing species. This lack of diversification is problematic as one disease can cause tremendous damage to the City's street tree population. And, when a species does fall victim to a disease, listing only the existing species as a replacement species means that the replacement trees can be wiped out as quickly as their predecessors were if Plan is followed.

Furthermore, the existing species are often not well suited to their locations. Specifically, many of them are prone to causing infrastructure damage (approx. 9% are Ficus trees), and do little to promote the City's environmental goals related to stormwater runoff and carbon sequestration (approx. 8.5% are Mexican Fan Palms). Finally, because the current Plan did not include sufficient neighborhood buy-in/education and only lists one tree option per street, there are regular requests for deviations from the Plan. Unfortunately, due to the cumbersome nature of the existing amendment process and the lack of a procedure for regularly updating the Plan, very few of these requests for deviations have been incorporated into the existing Plan.

Recognizing that in the coming decades, even with the best tree preservation techniques, many of the City's street trees will need to be replaced, it is important for the City to begin as soon as possible to develop a long-term, comprehensive Plan that addresses the issues identified above. The project proposed in this Concept Proposal will meet this need.

D. Project Objective - What are the objectives of the proposed project? Explain how they are in line with the RFP for the grant type selected.

This proposed project is intended to address the problems identified above, and is closely aligned with the objectives identified in the RFP. The project will be commenced within a short time-frame (approx. one month after finalizing the grant agreement). This quick start will be possible because the project is a high priority due to the urgency of the need, the City has the expertise and capacity to take on the project, and the City already has foundational elements for this Plan in place (such as a comprehensive tree inventory). The project will include the creation of a long-term (50 year) plan driven by a robust community input process that emphasizes public education and will be strongly informed by best practices. Some of the best practices that will be critical to incorporate into this Plan, include: diversification of tree species; identification of multiple tree species per block; selection of site-appropriate tree species considering criteria such as parkway size, canopy coverage (to facilitate stormwater infiltration and reduce the heat island effect), carbon sequestration properties, drought tolerance, and aesthetics. The Plan will also be designed to be reviewed and updated regularly (every 5 years) to reflect changing public needs and best practices using a more streamlined process than the one currently in place. The Plan will also be tied to and consistent with other relevant policy documents such as the City's General Plan, relevant Ordinances, and policies (including the City's Climate Action Plan, when undertaken). Once complete, the Plan will be posted on the City's website and provided to the public via outreach and education events such as the City's annual Fiesta La Ballona celebration. The wide distribution of the Plan will help ensure that the public is aware of it and the larger urban forestry concepts it reflects, and will further support the public education component of the Plan.

E. Project Description - How will the project achieve the objectives? Who will be involved?

The project will be able to begin within a month after finalizing the grant agreement as the City is ready to move forward immediately and has adequate capacity to manage this project. Staff, led by the City's two certified arborists, will put together an RFP for a consulting arborist to develop the Plan. The scope of the RFP will be clearly defined to ensure that the objectives described previously are met. Specifically, the RFP will be written to make certain that an extensive outreach and education process is followed and results in a Plan that incorporates best practices, connects to other relevant policy documents, and is holistic, long-term, and flexible. The project will be closely managed by the consulting arborist under the supervision of the Public Works Department (including its two certified arborists) to ensure that it is carried out as anticipated and reflects the needs of the City and community.

Once the consulting arborist is selected, they will begin to lead a community outreach process. We envision a two-step outreach process. The first step will involve online and/or mailed out surveys as well as one or more Citywide community meetings. This step will educate the community and also seek overall input on the qualities residents and other stakeholders want to see in their trees, which will help inform the creation of overall criteria for tree selection (along with accepted best practices). The second step will include more focused meetings in individual sections of the City to identify specific trees for each block that are consistent with the overall criteria.

A draft will be completed and provided to the community for feedback prior to City Council adoption. Once City Council adopts the Plan, it will be distributed widely and will serve as a guiding document for tree replacements and overall urban forest management. While we are not proposing any formal partnerships, we expect to collaborate with local environmental and neighborhood groups, such as Ballona Creek Renaissance, Transition Culver City, and local HOAs to outreach to the community and seek input. Also, we will learn from other nearby jurisdictions that have completed similar plans, such as Santa Monica.

5. Task and Budget Information

A. Budget - Provide an estimate of costs and budget information for the project. A specific budget displaying detailed line items will be required if a final proposal is requested. Budget total may not be adjusted upward at a later time.

Project Work Task	Task Description	Amount Requested	Matched Funds	Task Total Cost
Task 1	Public Meetings and Outreach	\$15,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$20,000.00
Task 2	Surveys/Mailings/Printing	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00
Task 3	Plan Preparation	\$56,000.00	\$19,000.00	\$75,000.00
Task 4				
Task 5				
Additional Tasks				
Admin / Overhead				
TOTALS		\$75,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$100,000.00
Percentages		75%	25%	Total % 100

B. Explanation of Budget and Costs - In the space provided, describe the basis for the budget amounts listed above. Successful applicants will be asked for a more detailed line item budget. The total amount requested in this application can not be exceeded during the final proposal process. Any decreased request amount for a final proposal must maintain the same matching percentage as the concept proposal submitted for review.

The proposed budget is based on the scope of the activities being proposed. It is informed by other types of plans that have been undertaken by the City in the past several years (such as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and Green Space Plan described in question 6), as well as the costs that other cities have paid for similar types of plans.

C. Other Funding Sources - List other funding sources, grants or applications that are considered matching funds for this proposal.

Description	Source	Requested Amount	Funded?
Gas tax funds	Gas Tax	\$25,000.00	?

6. Other Project Work - List any similar activities conducted in the proposed project area over the past 3 years. Include any contributions of the applying organization to these projects. Include partners and sponsors of the projects, if known. Projects listed should include an explanation of how they relate to the proposed project. *Projects listed should demonstrate organizational capacity for a project of the nature being applied for and organization's ability to begin work on the project immediately after a grant is awarded.*

The City just completed an updated tree inventory in 2012. The City now has access to an online management system with a complete, GIS based inventory of the City's trees, including a wide range of information on each tree, such as: species, size, condition, service history, estimated value, and pictures. In the last three years, the City has worked with the community on a variety of tree-related issues, including a process to select alternative species for arterial streets and streets that have recently been affected by ficus disease. Also, the Public Works Department has engaged in similar types of outreach processes for other environmentally-related projects, such as the City's first Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, which was adopted in 2010 and included a collaboration with the LA County Bicycle Coalition. The City also recently completed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan and is currently completing a Green Space Plan, which included a partnership with Ballona Creek Renaissance and North East Trees. The creation of this Urban Forest Management and Tree Succession Plan is identified in the Public Works Department's Work Plan, showing the Department's commitment to completing this Plan as soon as possible and emphasizing the Department's capacity to take on this project.

Thank you for your application. Please save a copy and print a copy of the application for your records. Submit the application using the "Submit by Email" button below. You should receive a confirmation email shortly after submittal. To save a copy, please select the file menu and select "save as" or "save a copy as" from the list of options. You will be prompted about how to proceed saving the file.

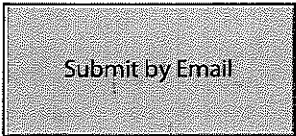
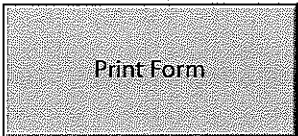


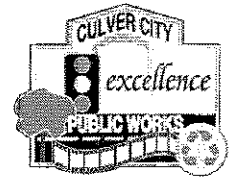
Exhibit 2

Street Tree Master Plan



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

9770 CULVER BOULEVARD, 2ND FLOOR
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507



CHARLES D. HERBERTSON, P.E., L.S.

Public Works Director
And City Engineer

Phone (310) 253-5600

FAX (310) 253-5626

APPROVED STREET TREE MASTER PLAN CRITERIA, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

On November 11, 2002, the City Council approved the Street Tree Master Plan (STMP), which designated tree species for public street parkways and medians in the City. The intent of the STMP is to foster coherent and sustainable tree plantings, through the use of drought-tolerant species, that have low maintenance needs. The STMP designates tree species for each public street or segments of streets throughout the City. The tree species identified in the STMP are provided as the requirement for what basic species of tree shall be planted in a given location. However, tree species may also have different varieties (Cultivars) that would fit different situations. For the most part the STMP does not specify the Cultivars of the species to allow for flexibility. The City's Tree Maintenance Supervisor shall determine which species Cultivar is appropriate for the specific planting location. The following criteria, policies and implementation mechanisms, and the attached STMP spreadsheet constitute the approved STMP.

The tree species in the STMP are those with the fewest faults that typically cause negative impacts to the community. The trees are expected to have long lives and retain their attractiveness into their maturity. The trees are also reasonably free of insect infestation, and typically have less aggressive and invasive deep-root systems in order to reduce the potential for negatively impacting sewer lines, sidewalks, curb and gutters, and streets. However, any tree after several decades of growth may produce aggressive and invasive root systems.

In additions to the negative impacts that some trees cause, there are other trees that emit naturally occurring hydrocarbon compounds that contribute to the creation of ozone and fine particulate matter which assist in the formation of air pollution. To the extent practical the STMP includes tree species that emit low or moderate amounts of these "Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds" (biogenics). The STMP does include some species that do generate high amounts of biogenics, but their use has been limited and generally are limited to the areas where they are currently planted. Some of the higher emitting tree species are the Liquidambar styraciflua (Sweetgum) and the Tristania conferta (Brisbane box). The STMP no longer includes inappropriate tree species with infrastructure damaging characteristics, such as Ficus microcarpa "Nitida," Indian Laurel Fig.

Species Selection Criteria

The following is the list of criteria used for selecting the STMP tree species pallet:

1. Maintain appearance of the existing tree canopy of the neighborhoods/districts, where possible. The City has an extensive and varied tree inventory that includes a significant number of mature trees. The intent of this criterion is to build on the established character in the neighborhoods and districts.
2. Eliminate problem tree species from the tree inventory and identify replacement species, respecting existing canopies and conforming to parkway widths, traffic and utility constraints. This criterion has been used in an attempt to reduce costs of maintaining the City's infrastructure, which may be subject to increased potential for damage from invasive root systems.
3. Reduce the total number of species in the City inventory, while maintaining sufficient bio-diversity, health and beneficial environmental effects. This criterion has been used in an attempt to reduce costs of maintaining the City's tree inventory and focus on trees best suited for growth in our climate zone.
4. Enhance the aesthetics of the streetscapes. This criterion has been used to support the urban design goals of the City.
5. In residential areas, use canopy and Pine tree species verses Palm trees. This criterion has also been used to support the urban design goals of the City and to positively address climate effects in residential areas of the City.
6. Selected tree species should be anticipated to be readily available for the long term. This criteria has also been used in an attempt to reduce costs of maintaining the City's tree inventory.

General Policies

The STMP identifies a specific species for a given public street or street segment. Overtime this will result in a consistent aesthetic theme in the City's neighborhoods and districts. In order to address potential planting questions, the following policies for the implementation of the STMP have been established:

1. Single tree species are provided for each City street, street segments, and median, except where large structural trees are used in combination with canopy trees to provide enhanced vertical identity and smaller-scale trees are used to provide shade and aesthetics in specific commercial districts and projects. A second species may also be present if utility lines are present on only one side of a street and existing approved trees are not suited for planting underneath the lines.

2. Due to the City's irregular borders and street layout, some streets within the City are actually small fragments of larger areas in neighboring jurisdictions. The intent of the STMP is to establish the Culver City identity for these fragments as well as those streets more readily identifiable in the City, and serve as important transportation corridors. As such the STMP implementation strategy is based on the following policies:
 - a) The Public Works Director or their designee shall determine the locations of street tree plantings in order to assure standard vehicle/pedestrian sight-clearance are provided.
 - b) At the intersection of a non-residential street and a residential street, the identified species for the non-residential street would be continued down the residential street to the end of the non-residentially zoned property, public alley, or a maximum of 120 linear feet from the nearest end of the corner radius, whichever is less.
 - c) At the intersection of residential streets, the identified species for each street will be continued to the intersection.
 - d) At the intersection of non-residential streets, the identified species for the classified higher-capacity street, as established in the City's current General Plan Circulation Element, Street System Classification section, would be continued down the intersecting street to the end of the corner property, public alley, or a maximum of 120 linear feet from the nearest end of the corner radius, whichever is less.
 - e) At the intersection of non-residential streets with the same classifications, the identified species for the street which generally is oriented in an East/West alignment (such as, Venice, Washington, Culver and Jefferson Boulevards), would be continued down the intersecting street to the end of the corner property, public alley, or a maximum of 120 linear feet from the nearest end of the corner radius, whichever is less.
3. Focus areas, significant intersections and designated districts/projects may be established by the City, which may use alternative species in order to highlight or otherwise enhance the visibility of the locations. If these types of areas are identified, the STMP shall be amended as discussed in Policy 4., below.
4. Future amendments of the STMP are anticipated. The STMP allows for amendment where new circumstances arise, such as identification of focus areas, significant intersections and designated districts/projects, as has been done for Downtown and East Washington Boulevard Overlay Districts. The STMP also may be amended, as desirable new tree species become available and new diseases and/or pest infestation impact existing species.

The STMP shall be amended in the manner it has been adopted, subject to Park, Recreation and Community Services Commission review and recommendation and City Council approval.

5. Pursuant to the City Council's direction on November 11, 2002 the participants in the Proposition 12, Residential Infill Tree Planting Project, may request a change in the designated species for their streets. Provided that the proposed replacement tree species meets the above referenced STMP criteria, the City's Street Tree Maintenance Supervisor may administratively approve the participants' request.

STMP Implementation

The City has limited resources for implementing the STMP. The implementation of the STMP will occur in the following manner:

1. Tree planting in the approximately 1,200 identified vacant street tree sites through the use of grant funds, such as the State of California, Proposition 12, Park Water Bond 2000, tree planting grant.
2. Annual replacement of trees due to attrition using General Fund monies.
3. As part of any City conditional approval of "Discretionary Projects".
4. As part of Capitol Improvements Projects undertaken by the City or possibly other governmental/public agencies.
5. The General Public may plant trees in the public parkway, provided they have first obtained a tree-planting permit from the City.

Contacts:

Questions regarding the species, planting locations and/or obtaining tree-planting permits, should be addressed to:

Tree Maintenance Supervisor, 310/253-6420