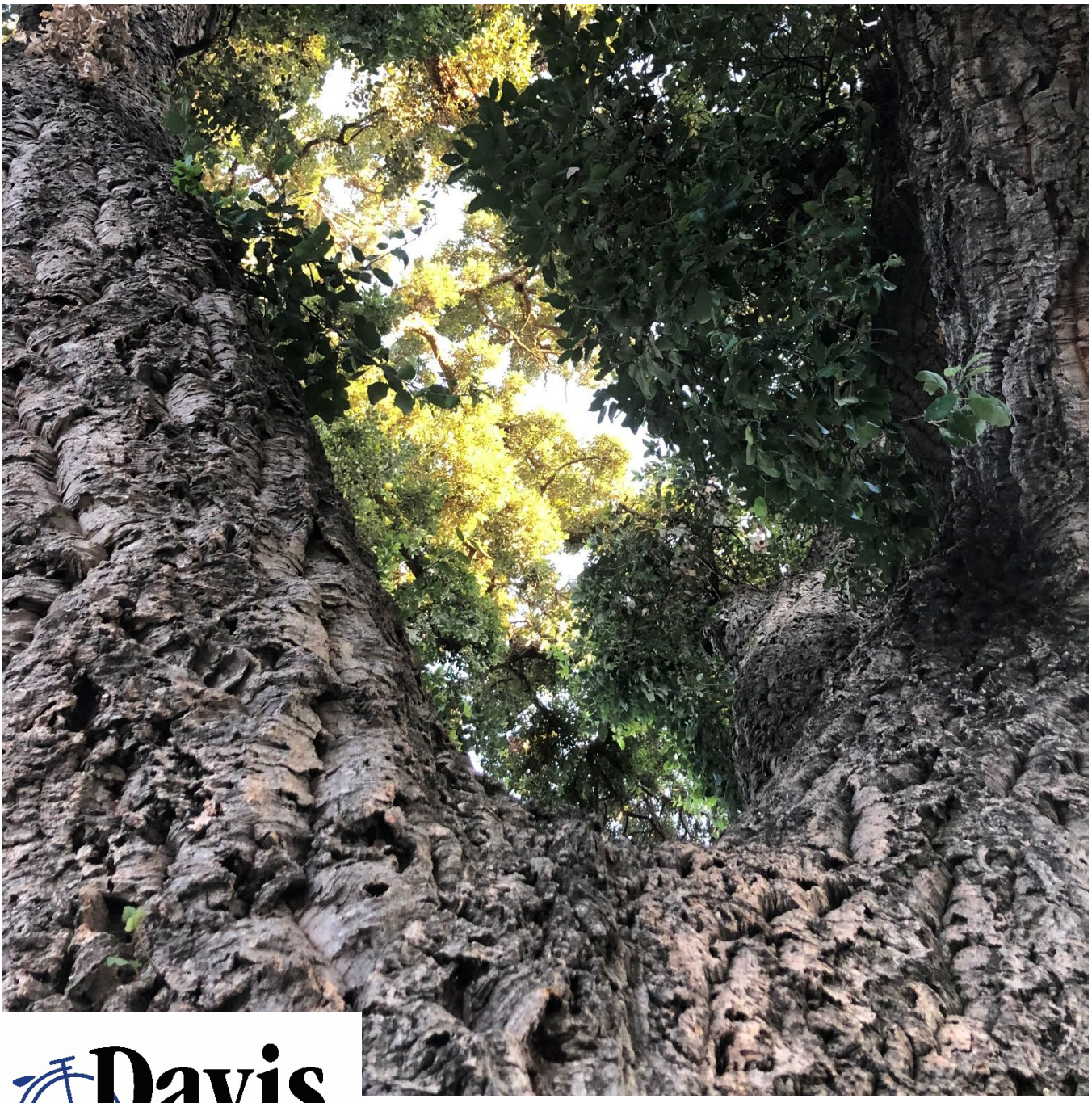
Davis, CA

Public Engagement Summary

2022



Davis CALIFORNIA

Tree Davis

HELIX Environmental Planning

DAVEY Resource Group

Introduction

As part of the development of the Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP), the City of Davis held a series of public engagement events to solicit feedback from City residents about the urban forest. This report summarizes the results of the public engagement activities held during development of the draft UFMP. The goals of the public engagement effort were:

- Engage a diverse range of residents, populations, community organizations, and City staff through targeted outreach and multiple types of engagement opportunities.

- Determine the community's current impressions, experiences, and goals when interacting with Urban Forestry Division staff and programming.

- Obtain feedback on the current urban forest and vision for the future.

- Foster two-way communication, both eliciting information and providing information to the public about the planning process and recommendations, including why the recommendations were developed and how their input contributed.

A five-pronged public engagement plan was developed. Each event was publicized by the City and partner groups on websites, through social media, and email lists. Additionally, they were advertised at the Celebrate Davis event on June 3, 2022, and fliers were posted at key locations throughout the City, such as at the Farmers' Market and areas of low canopy cover. Public engagement opportunities included the following events:

- A photography competition organized by Tree Davis ran from June to October 2022.

- Two pop-up workshops were held at the Saturday Davis Farmer's Market on August 27 and September 24, 2022. These workshops included posters providing information on the UFMP goals and process and asking the public to share their thoughts on the urban forest and where more trees or maintenance are needed. Additionally, City, HELIX, and Davey Resource Group staff were present to listen to comments and answer questions.

- A virtual community meeting was held on Thursday November 10, 2022, from 6:30-7:30 pm. The meeting began with a presentation covering the UFMP process and the information gathered on the urban forest and City tree resources, which was followed by a question-and-answer session. This meeting provided an opportunity for people to participate in the outreach process without traveling to a meeting location.

- A virtual comment box was available on the City's website starting in late July 2022. Additionally, digital copies of all presentations and videos of public meetings were available on the City's website. This allowed people to review project information and submit comments at their convenience. This summary included comments submitted through December 16, 2022. The comment box will remain open through development of the UFMP so that people may continue to comment on the draft UFMP document.

- Updates on the UFMP were presented at regularly scheduled meetings of the Davis Tree Commission on May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, and November 17, 2022. These meetings were open to the public and included a public comment period. Since meeting minutes are a matter of public record and available on the City of Davis website, Tree Commission meetings are not further discussed in this outreach summary.

Summary of Results

Throughout all of the public engagement events, the appreciation of trees and desire for a thriving urban forest by City residents was clear. The desire for proactive and responsive maintenance of City trees and clear guidance for care of non-City urban forest assets was also strongly expressed. Each public engagement event is briefly summarized below, and more detail can be found in Attachments A through D.

Photography Contest

Seventeen people submitted 73 entries to the photography contest. Judging was based on originality, educational value, and relevance to the Urban Forest Management Plan. Winning photographs will be featured in the final Urban Forest Management Plan.

Pop-up Workshops

In total, approximately 90 people participated in the pop-up workshops. Overall, the community loves their trees and support a maintaining a diverse canopy that provides a range of benefits including shade, habitat, carbon absorption, and beauty. There was significant interest in planting large shade trees and in ensuring that there is a diversity of ages, with young trees being planted near older trees in advance of the older trees being removed.

In both workshops there was significant discussion of tree species in the urban forest. While feedback on some species, such as Callery pear, was uniformly negative with participants stating that it should not be planted, most species-specific feedback was mixed with some people suggesting it should not be planted while others like it. A common theme regarding tree species in the urban forest was that trees be native, adapted, and/or drought tolerant.

Much of the feedback on the City's Urban Forestry Division was concern about inadequate tree maintenance and tree removals that were seen as unnecessary. There was significant concern surrounding the safety and maintenance of older trees. The maintenance of younger trees was also brought up, with feedback that damage to young trees due to lack of watering, trimmers, and mowers was disheartening to attendees.

Participants also suggested programs they would like to see implemented in the City including a free tree program for private residences, additional tree maintenance assistance and enforcement, particularly on commercial and rental housing, community fruit trees, and volunteer programs for maintenance.

Detailed summaries of each workshop are included in Attachments A and B.

Virtual Community Meeting

Approximately 10 members of the public attended the meeting. They were supportive of the UFMP and had concerns about tree maintenance, enforcement of parking lot shade and tree maintenance standards, and questions about how the UFMP will be implemented once completed. A meeting summary is included in Attachment C.

Virtual Comment Box

A total of 35 people, all of whom were Davis residents, submitted comments through the website or by email before December 16, 2022. The most common comment topics were maintenance, replacing invasive or inappropriate species with native or climate-adapted species, preserving mature trees and providing more shade, increasing management or staff resources, and improving watering of trees in the urban forest. Most people shared experiences with the urban forest related to shade, maintenance, or tree watering and expressed concerns about maintenance based on past experiences with the Urban Forestry Division. When asked to identify future goals and priorities for the urban forest, the majority of commenters expressed a desire for a well-maintained urban forest of native or climate-adapted trees that provide shade throughout the City. A summary of comments is included in Attachment D.

Attachment A

POP-UP WORKSHOP #1 SUMMARY

A public meeting was held at the Davis Farmer's Market in Davis, CA on Saturday, August 27, 2022 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. The open house format consisted of a booth at the farmer's market with fliers, posters, comment boxes, and in-person conversation to share about the process and elicit feedback from the community.

Approximately 42 people visited the booth. Also present to interacting with attendees was Meredith Branstad and Jessamyn Lett of HELIX, Adrienne Heinig, Charles Murphy, and Jeremy Ferguson of the City of Davis, and Tina McKeand from Davey Resource Group. Following is a summary of comments received by attendees.

Three posters were displayed, one informing the public about the urban forest and Urban Forest Management Plan process, a second poster asking the public questions to elicit their thoughts on the urban forest, and a third asking the public where they would like to see more trees and more maintenance.

Summary

The community loves their trees and support a diverse canopy that provides a range of benefits including shade, habitat, carbon absorption, and beauty. Trees that attendees were most concerned with were trees in poor health or causing damage. Most attendees commented particularly on trees in their neighborhood.

Much of the feedback on the City's Urban Forestry Division was concern about inadequate tree maintenance and tree removals that were seen as unnecessary. Specifically, attendees commented that younger trees in particular needed more water and were dying due to a lack of water. There was also concern that mature trees were being removed instead of pruned and that too many tree removals were permitted.

What do you think about the urban forest?

The poster asked three questions with written answers provided on post-its notes. Responses provided below.

What does the Urban Forest do for you?

- Provides shade, cooling of pavement, cooling, habitat support (birds, etc.), beauty, peaceful feelings.
- Shade, habitat, beauty.

What kinds of trees do you like?

- Trees that will survive our climate future! Trees that have long lives, Trees that grow fairly fast.
- Fruit trees!

- Valley and interior live oaks, buckeyes, CA walnuts.
- No “messy” trees….but useful trees that produce edible products such as fruits and nuts!

Are you satisfied with the Urban Forestry Division's level of service?

- No.
- Maintenance is way behind schedule. I only see trees being cut down and removed. No pruning.
- No. Trees not getting adequate water or attention. Planted then not maintained for health/longevity.

Where do you want to see more trees or more maintenance?

Green dots indicate areas attendees would like to see more trees, yellow dots where attendees would like to see more maintenance.

Verbal Comments Summary:

- Prefer more trees that are smaller.
- There are plenty of trees but not enough water.
- I think maintenance should be a higher priority than planting. I’m also concerned about maintenance on private property.
- I love the trees.
- Urban Forestry needs more resources to support the maintenance.
- We need more trees and to stop cutting the existing ones down. The saplings need maintenance and watering, they should try to treat mature trees for disease before they remove them.
- The trees need more water.
- I love a diversity of trees, especially oaks.
- I love the trees in Davis.

- We need more tree maintenance around the parks.
- I love the big, beautiful trees.
- The young trees that were recently planted are dying because of lack of watering, particularly around rentals.
- Habitat value should be prioritized and wildlife corridors considered.
- I love the tree canopy and greenery.
- I like that trees provide better air quality.
- Tree species selection and planting should be future proof and take into account drought and climate change.
- The master plan should inventory the trees and their carbon sequestration and prioritize carbon sequestration.
- I love trees that are not messy.
- I am concerned about private maintenance issues at Georgetown Place. The trees are too big, and I am concerned about the safety of them due to their size, especially near sewers and sidewalks. Get trees with minimal issues.
- Want more trees with more long-term watering.
- The policy and goals need to match, do what the plan says and follow through.
- There are tree maintenance issues at Sutter-Davis High School.
- More trees are a good thing.
- We could have a community harvest with fruit trees like apples, figs, pomegranates, and peaches.
- Please remove the ash trees.
- A lot of the trees are dying, we need to irrigate them.
- The hackberry trees are a maintenance issue with aphid issues.
- The mistletoe problem is coming back around the city.
- There are specific problems at Arroyo Place. The redwoods need water and the cottonwoods are dead near the playground. There are a lot of weedy and volunteer trees coming up.
- We need more maintenance around the parks, some trees are hazards to kids. Tree maintenance around parks and playgrounds should be prioritized.
- I am always pro-tree. Wherever you can, plant a tree.
- Please don’t plant more ginkgo trees.

Attachment B

POP-UP MEETING #2 SUMMARY

A public meeting was held at the Davis Farmer's Market in Davis, CA on Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. The open house format was held in conjunction with the Tree Davis Great Tree Search Bike Tour and consisted of a booth at the farmer's market with fliers, posters, comment boxes, and in-person conversation to share about the process and elicit feedback from the community.

Three posters were displayed, one informing the public about the urban forest and Urban Forest Management Plan process, a second poster asking the public questions to elicit their thoughts on the urban forest, and a third asking the public where they would like to see more trees and more maintenance.

Approximately 47 people visited the booth. Also present to interact with attendees was Carolyn Hagele and Jessamyn Lett of HELIX and Adrienne Heinig and Jeremy Ferguson of the City of Davis. Following is a summary of comments received by attendees.

Summary

The community loves their trees and supports additional maintenance and tree planting. There was significant interest in planting large shade trees and in ensuring that there is a diversity of ages, with young trees being planted near older trees in advance of the older trees being removed. It was also repeatedly suggested that trees be native, adapted, and/or drought tolerant.

Attendees expressed their thoughts on whether particular species should be considered for future plantings. Redwoods and Callery pear were both specifically mentioned repeatedly. Callery pear was only brought up as a species that shouldn't be planted due to maintenance concerns and its smell. Redwoods had mixed reviews, with approximately half of those who commented on redwoods noting that they need a lot of irrigation and aren't doing well and suggesting they shouldn't be planted, and the other half liking redwoods. Fruit trees were also specifically mentioned as desirable by multiple attendees.

Much of the feedback on the City's Urban Forestry Division was concern about inadequate tree maintenance. Attendees commented that trees weren't getting adequate maintenance, with limb drop being a specific concern, as well as mistletoe, oak galls, and watering. There was significant concern surrounding the safety and maintenance of older trees. The maintenance of younger trees was also brought up, with feedback that damage to young trees due to lack of watering, weedwhackers, and mowers was disheartening to attendees.

Respondents also suggested various programs they would like to see implemented.

- Multiple respondents asked for a tree planting program for private residences, with Sacramento's program [the Free Shade Trees program is a partnership between SMUD and the Sacramento Tree Foundation] being referenced as a good example. It was suggested that this should include free trees, planting, and maintenance guidelines.
- One attendee suggested a program specifically aimed at developers make tree planting easier.

- Another often suggested program is one which requires developers/landlords to be responsible for not only tree planting, but tree maintenance. Rental owners not maintaining their trees was a common concern. Variations on this idea were suggested requiring fees from developers for the City to maintain their property, stricter regulation and/or enforcement for tree maintenance, and Council writing letters to rental owners requiring them to care for their trees.
- It was also suggested that the City should either harvest fruit trees as part of their maintenance regime or partner with organizations (such as the Sacramento Rare Fruit Growers) to promote harvesting and donation of fruit to local food banks.
- There were various suggestions for increased maintenance programs, including the suggestions for an internship program and various volunteer programs for maintenance, harvesting, and watering.

What do you think about the urban forest?

The poster asked three questions with written answers provided on post-its notes. Responses are provided below.

What does the Urban Forest do for you?

- Shade!
- Shade, CO_2 removal, environment cooling.
- Shade, ecology, fix carbon, cooling.
- Provides more cost-effective green infrastructure.
- Shade, cooling, joy, wildlife habitat.
- Shade, O_2, habitat, mental well being, cooling, beauty, life!

What kinds of trees do you like?

- Climate adaptive trees!
- Any, beautiful trees.
- Native trees, trees adapted to urbane areas.
- Big trees with heat and drought tolerance.
- Right tree, right place!
- Ginkgo trees!
- Locally native, climate adapted trees. Increasing host trees for our local butterflies, moths, birds, among others.

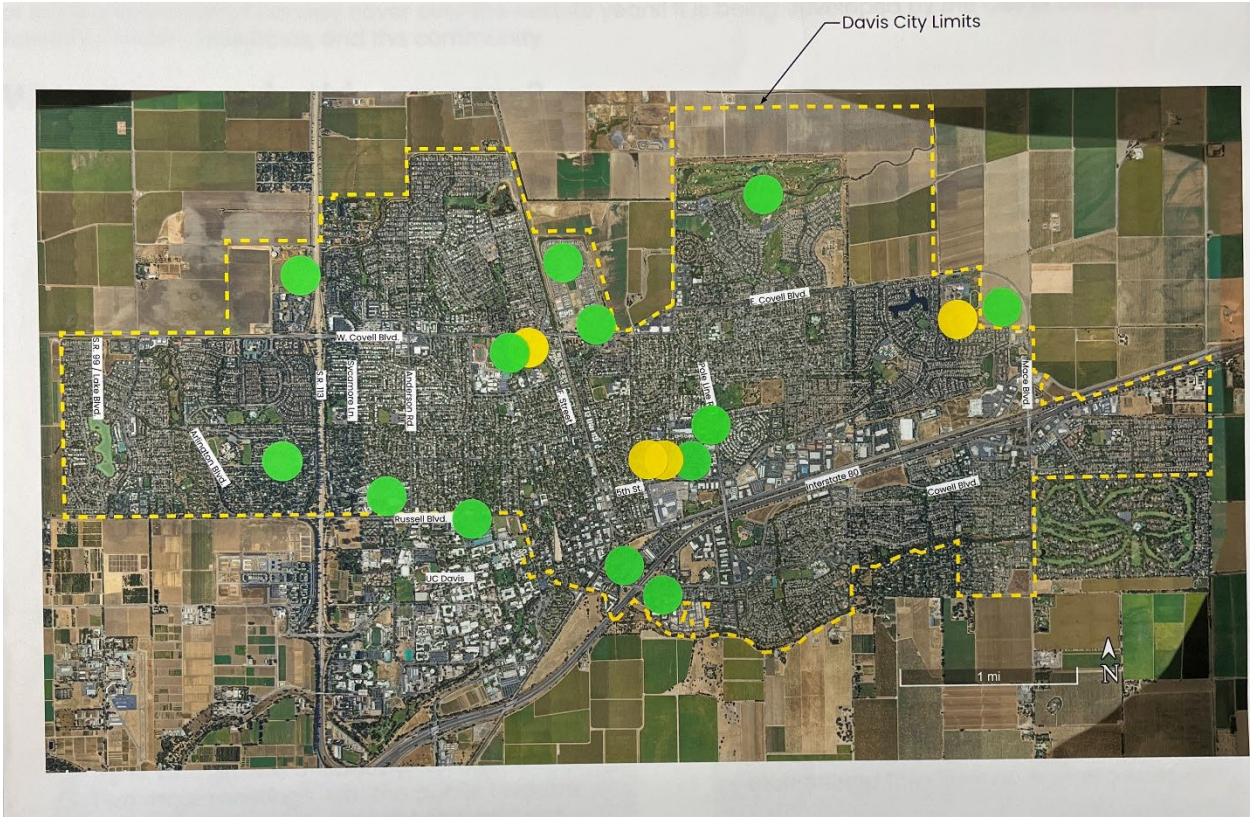
Are you satisfied with the Urban Forestry Division's level of service?

- Age and species diversity for an urban forest with robust health. More planting, more maintenance (watering and pruning)
- Yes! Thank you!
- We need a successional planting/removal strategy – so a street doesn't go "bald" at the same time.
- I think more support is needed to deal with failing older trees.
- We need to increase funding and permanently fund the program. It's senseless to plant trees & have them die from lack of water.

- Young trees need yearly pruning/checkups, otherwise they are removed as hazards before the end of their natural lifespan.

Where do you want to see more trees or more maintenance?

Green dots indicate areas attendees would like to see more trees, yellow dots where attendees would like to see more maintenance.



Verbal Comments Summary:

- I'm less concerned about water and more concerned about an ecosystem and habitat approach. Why don't we plant all native trees? For instance, I have a tree from China in my backyard. We don't always need oaks, but they provide habitat and other native trees are great too. With threats to native trees, we should look at a conservation approach for threatened tree species.
- We need more maintenance; I see limbs that need to be trimmed up.
- We need to use less water, but the City wastes a lot of water on City-maintained properties especially grass that could be better used for trees.
- Davis does a good job compared to other cities.
- Add more trees for color and shade, especially along paths.
- People were upset about taking out trees at the hospital for solar panels. I was a proponent for that. I think the City was going to get money to replace them and I'm wondering if they replaced them yet?
- I had a tree taken out and Tree Davis is planting a new one. My issue is that the City left behind lots of thick roots.

- I think it is very important and critical to plant and maintain the trees and I understand the department is changing leadership.
- I live on the greenbelt and the pine trees along the green belt behind my property drop lots of pine needles all over yard. I feel like they're a fire hazard. The City has taken down some branches but I'm still concerned about their health and safety.
- My neighborhood has a lot of failing, older trees, we need more maintenance for them. At Pomona & Adeline, there's been a lot of removals and replacements, but there are also a lot of rentals and no sign of care for them. The selected species need more summer irrigation. We need to plant trees that will thrive and make sense where they are planted.
- We could use more support for volunteerism like a neighborhood-based tree care program.
- I'm worried that the trees on A Street aren't getting enough water. The sycamores are dropping their leaves early.
- The City's doing a good job compared to others.
- I thought the tiny maples on 3rd Street would die but they're thriving!
- I get attached to particular trees, especially the one that was at 3rd and University which came down about 6 months ago. I'm wondering if they'll replace it.
- Grass is important is some areas but I understand it takes a lot of water. I love jacarandas, they're all over my home country, Peru. Can we get some of those?
- Make it a forest, but not a ginkgo forest.
- The old part of town has tons of trees. But elsewhere it's not as good. Trees in parking lots are paved up to the trunk, can we not do that? The parking lot trees don't have irrigation to them either.
- A lot of our big trees look bad, what should we plant? I'd like huge shade trees. There are a lot of useless small trees, they don't provide shade.
- We have a huge magnolia in our backyard, but I know it takes a lot of water. Does the City help to remove and replace these financially?
- I know each tree has a purpose, but one of ours took down the power lines and we were without power for two days.
- I'm a bike commuter and the roads and paths aren't shaded enough.
- Trees in traffic circles have calming effects, we need more of that.
- I think it would be good to have a network of trees where the roots are able to connect to each other.
- Do trees help with noise? All the hotels are along the railroad tracks and the noise is constant and distracting.
- I'd like to see more natives, like redwoods. The redwood groves can reduce heat with their cooling effect and would be great at parks and where there's lot of paving. Santa Barbara native plant botanic gardens had a lot of redwoods. Wouldn't native trees help reduce maintenance needs?
- I really like the idea of the UFMP.
- I bought a house 1 year ago on Loyola and noticed a lot of dead/dying trees all over the neighborhood. I've also noticed a lack of pruning everywhere I look. But I've especially noticed this at Slide Hill Park where it could be really dangerous.
- There's a beautiful, old oak at Mace Ranch Park and I'm concerned it may be dying. Does the City get water to these older, established trees?
- I like that they're transitioning more to desert type landscaping.
- I've seen a lot of trees that aren't maintained. We want to get a bike watering brigade together. We wonder if it's possible to get support for supplies, weekly watering, etc.

- When there's money, it always goes to something else, never the living things. The program won't have enough money so we need to do it ourselves, learn from neighbors. They don't talk about how it will be feasible, how will it happen? They have these public outreach meeting to check off the boxes but nothing happens. They need more communication and engagement beyond 3 public outreach events, it's not enough. It's always about if they had more money. Can't they enact a parcel tax to take care of the trees on the same level as infrastructure. Everybody should have to pay for it as a collective commitment. The biggest problem is climate change, why can't the City use that as it's priority?
- Too many trees have stakes to mark them as needing help but they never got watered and are now dying.
- Trees need to be seen as tools to decrease speeds, especially in medians.
- Go back to bikes, trees, and art!
- The City hires West Coast and they don't know what they're doing. Mario's just chopping them.
- Plant more trees, I like trees.
- I want more trees. I have concerns about water so not redwoods, they need to be sustainable.
- Big shade trees are important and are really important to preserve. Plant replacements for redwoods before removing redwoods. Make sure to water trees.
- We should require tree maintenance and not just installation with new development or have fees paid by the developers for the City to maintain.
- A lot of the oaks are developing galls and get sickly and do poorly. I like the oaks in the arboretum.
- I have concerns about redwoods and trees struggling in the drought.
- We need resources for managing trees, particularly with the drought and water. What about limb drop?
- I like the trees, they're my favorite part of Davis. They provide habitat, shade, and beauty.
- They could plant demonstration fruit trees and use the Sacramento Rare Fruit Growers and other organizations for management. We could harvest walnuts and olives and donate to the food bank.
- I don't like Callery pear. I like all other trees, the more the better.
- I have concerns about rental managers who don't care for their yards or trees. Council should write letters to managers.
- Trees need to be irrigated and we should require maintenance obligations for landowners.
- Tree Davis's trees aren't getting watered because they don't have irrigation systems.
- We need more trees, more shade.
- We need more trees of all kinds like fruit and flowering trees, but not pine trees.
- The trees provide beauty, emotional well-being, and cooling.
- We need to maintain what we have as the top priority to keep the urban forest.
- Plant more trees in new developments and provide replacements.
- I love green space and support it.
- I like trees. Get rid of grass and plant trees.
- The urban forest needs maintenance, there's a lot of mistletoe.
- I support the idea of successional planting by putting young trees in and mimicking the actual forest with a variety of age.
- We can't live without it. We live because of the canopy.
- We need a diversity of trees and a program that will plant trees for you. Every new house should have trees and planting guidelines. Make it easy for homeowners and developers.

- Replace dead trees and provide maintenance. Limb drop is big concern, particularly in neighborhoods with mature trees.
- We need more trees and a requirement for trees in new developments.
- The developments in South Davis need more trees.
- Yes on trees, especially ones adapted to climate change and drought.
- They could hire more people right out of undergrad and have an internship program.
- We can't afford to lose trees, plant more trees. I like redwoods, I like all trees.
- Mower damage for young trees is a huge problem. To help prevent damage from smashing and weed-whacking, they need mulch and tree protection. Maintenance also needs to be educated about this.
- Provide crown maintenance for PG&E trimmed trees.
- Trees are good. They improve mood.
- I like redwoods. Callery pear is bad, no smelly trees.
- We need more shade with large trees that create a canopy over the street. This is successful in the streets named after colleges, like Reed st.
- The trees at public parks need more maintenance.
- Plant as many trees as possible. Prioritize replacements and maintain trees.
- I have drought concerns.
- I'd like to see tree walks as a supported activity.
- I support more tree planting in private areas.
- We need a variety of tree ages. All trees are good.
- I love trees. I like a mix of deciduous and evergreen. I like to see fall color, like from Gingkos.

Attachment C

VIRTUAL MEETING SUMMARY

A virtual public meeting was held on Thursday, November 10, 2022 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The meeting began with a presentation summarizing the Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) process so far, including results of previous outreach efforts, a summary of various City tree resource data, and the next steps to be taken in the process. This was followed by a question and answer session to elicit feedback and address questions and concerns. The meeting was attended by approximately 10 members of the public. Also present were Meredith Branstad and Carolyn Hagele of HELIX Environmental Planning; Adrienne Heinig, Charles Murphy, and Jeremy Ferguson of the City of Davis; and Tina McKeand and Rachel Sitz from Davey Resource Group.

Overall, the community is supportive of the UFMP. Questions and comments focused primarily on maintenance concerns, enforcement of existing standards, and how the UFMP will be implemented.

Summary of Discussion

The questions and comments provided following the presentation are summarized below.

2. It is not always clear who is responsible trees. People plant trees in the 10-foot easement. What does the City ordinance say about trees in easement.

3. The UFMP has been long awaited and is really important. What happens after the UFMP is presented to the City Council. Where will the money for implementation come from?

4. What percent of 36,000 trees are planted on ROW versus greenbelt? Are the requirements for contractors maintaining greenbelt trees the same as those for maintaining street trees?

5. Parking lots are required to be 50% shaded but most don’t have close to that percentage. How is this enforced? If the developer sells, who takes over?

6. Is the Tree Ordinance part of the Master Plan?

7. Have you found anything surprising in the background research?

Attachment D

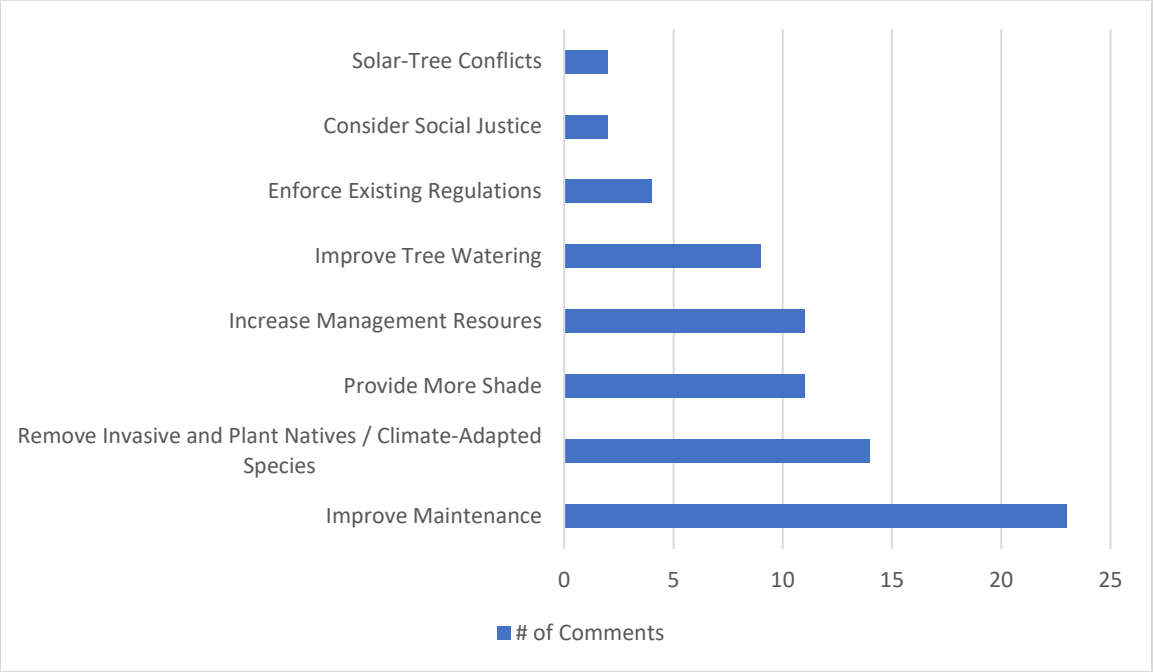
VIRTUAL COMMENT BOX SUMMARY

The virtual comment box was available on the City's website starting in late July 2022. Commenters were asked questions about their relationship to Davis, experiences with the existing urban forest and the City's Urban Forestry Division, and their thoughts on the future urban forest. Questions about the existing and future urban forest were open-ended format, allowing commenters to respond with as much detail as they wished. They were also asked if they would like to be added to the City's project email list.

Summary

A total of 35 people, all of whom were Davis residents, submitted comments through the website or by email before December 16, 2022. Although many responses were detailed, eight common themes emerged. The frequency of the most common topics are summarized in the chart below. In instances where one comment topic was repeated by the same commenter, that topic was counted only once. The full text of all comments are included in the Comment Responses section that follows this summary.

Chart 1
Summary of Response Topics



Many commenters expressed frustration at the lack of tree and landscape maintenance provided by the City and a lack of communication or response when help is requested by residents. Specific maintenance concerns included pruning, clearing dead branches and dead trees for safety reasons, replacement of dead or missing trees, and establishment care of young trees. Additionally, specific concerns were raised about maintaining tree irrigation during drought conditions and ensuring sufficient irrigation to establish

young trees. A number of people suggested increasing City staff and resources for tree care to address the perceived lack of response and maintenance, and improve enforcement of existing requirements regarding tree maintenance and replacement. Organizing neighborhood volunteer groups to provide additional labor was another proposed solution to this issue. In addition to planting native or climate-adapted trees, multiple people commented on other aspects of the landscape including removing or reducing turf and planting more appropriate shrubs and groundcovers. A few people also recommended evaluating the urban forest in relation to social and environmental justice concerns. Concerns about balancing the requirements for trees with solar panel access were also expressed.

When asked about their current experiences with the urban forest, the most common response involved an appreciation of or desire for more shade provided by mature trees and concerns about loss of these trees resulting in loss of shade. Concerns about maintenance, lack of watering of trees, replacing invasive species with natives, and dealing with conflicts between solar panels and trees were also mentioned.

Responses to the question regarding experience with the Urban Forestry Division were overwhelmingly focused on maintenance issues. However, a few people did state that the Division seems to be doing a good job and that resources for the division should be increased.

Commenters vision for the future urban forest focused most frequently on removing inappropriate or invasive species and using native and climate-adapted species. The desire for a well-maintained urban forest was also high. The only other topic to receive more than one comment was regarding establishing and maintaining shade.

Almost half of the commenters identified maintenance as the most important priority for the Urban Forestry Division. Interest in all other topics was significantly less and relatively evenly distributed.

Comment Responses

What is Your Relationship to Davis

Commenters were asked to check all responses that applied. All 35 commenters are residents of Davis and 14 people also work in the City. No commenters responded that they are students, have visited Davis, or have never visited Davis.

Please share your experiences relating to the City Davis' urban forest.

- I live in old north davis. the sycamore trees are very unhealthy and unsafe given the dead wood. I wish more new trees would be started in the tree lawn to ultimately replace the sycamores
- I love the shade from all of our trees. They keep me cool when I'm biking around the city.
- I am quite concerned about our urban forest. Due to the drought and lack of water trees are dying. In some cases this can be dangerous to people if big limbs fall, or the tree falls. Above all else the city needs more staffing in this area to keep up with maintenance.
- It's great to have such a vast canopy in Davis. I love that Davis works to protect keystone trees such as the great valley oaks, some of which appear to even predate the City itself! There are a few issues though...it seems that the canopy, especially the most-recent additions are nearly all NON-NATIVE trees such as the Chinese Elm and the non-native Sycamores. This is going to create some huge problems as we have seen in Sacramento with the Elm Disease as well as the sycamore's propensity to drop giant limbs when it gets too heavy. We really need to be focusing

on centuries/millennia-adapted native trees such as the California Valley Oak, Elderberry, Black Walnut, Redbud, and other species.

- I live with the redwood trees on the bike path by Northstar Park. I water the city trees and bushes on the strip on city property by my front yard because they get brown leaves from the amount of city watering.
- I live near Slide Hill Park, the site of a tragic accident.
- I appreciate the urban forest for the shade it provides and the general park-like atmosphere it gives to the city. However, many of the trees seem to be aging and appear to be dangerous. I anxiously watch the old English walnut trees along East Covell Blvd and some of the huge stone pines along F Street at Community Park, expecting large limbs or entire trees to drop any day! In addition, the causuarina all over town create a huge mess throughout the year, so I'll be happy when they age out. Parkinsonia and Chilopsis are certainly beautiful to look at, but don't belong on park strips or in parking lots because they have low branches and don't provide summer shade. I could come up with more challenges, but I'll leave it there.
- We worked and retired from UCD and are residents of Davis since 1970. We have lived on Maple Lane since 1970. Initially our beautiful street trees, Zelkova serrata, were maintained by the city. After the city eliminated the city tree maintenance crews and went to commercial outfits, our trees have been neglected. It has been no less than 15 years since any maintenance of any kind have been done on our trees except for an occasional one-only tree having a few dead branches pruned out. All of the trees have large dead branches, hanging over the street and elsewhere. BTW: Maple Lane is an egress street for the access to Cesar Chavez School. Parents and children walk this tree twice a day during the school year. This is a safety concern if nothing else. Before you start planning the 'care and maintenance' of the future trees, it would be wise to 'care and maintain' the current trees and their canopy. From our kitchen window we can see dead limbs in the canopies of tree on our street as well as Pine Lane, one block over.
- The City's urban forest is one of the things that attracted us to living in Davis and raising a family here. With the high temperatures that Davis can experience, trees are essential to provide shade to our urban areas.
- I loved the line of walnut trees on Russell Blvd (west part), and was very sad to see a lot of them had to be removed because of disease.
- I enjoying walking in Davis on the many greenbelts and paths. The shaded trails not only provided a more comfortable place to walk and exercise year round but also beauty and a calm experience. I also feel it is important for the sake of the environment to have trees in Urban Areas as well as for people's health. Davis has a good balance of open space (parks, greenbelts, etc.) but unfortunately some of these areas are not maintained as they should be and have become neglected.
- I love trees and got one for my 50th birthday (21 years ago), but I place a higher priority on canopy-mounted solar arrays in both private and public parking lots.
- Growing up in Davis, I have had the pleasure and honor to experience the immense ecological, social, and economic benefits that the urban forest provided. These benefits have been the product of early visionaries prioritizing and stewarding the urban forest in Davis through funding, proper resourcing and cultural prioritization of the urban forest as a critical part of the city's infrastructure.
- Wonderful trees that make Davis aesthetically pleasing, provide shade and habitat for wildlife.
- I love especially the trees in/on our streets which make our air cleaner and provide shade, traffic calming, cooling so that one also can walk and bicycle pleasurably.

- Recommend removing inappropriate trees for clients, replace invasive trees for native species at flood control, recommend native and drought tolerant species for new projects.
- I am a master gardener and I walk frequently in the Greenbelt and I am conscious of the intentional decisions about where and what kind of trees are planted
- I see trees suffering from reduced watering and increased temperatures, as well as trees being removed for solar panel installations. I think there is a gap in the City and State's messages to citizens regarding watering and the drought, as well as saving energy with solar and tree removal. People hear "save water, water less," and their trees (private and commercial) suffer secondarily. Also, people are encouraged to go solar, which has resulted in two homes on our street to tear down all the trees in their front yards.
- My experience has been frustrating. Waiting 8 years for trees to be trimmed, dead trees being ignored. Needle issues from overgrown, not trimmed sugar pines.
- I think Davis's urban forest is in peril. I have seen many mature trees cut down or drastically cut back, for no apparent reason. I have seen leafy shade trees replaced with smaller trees that will never provide a generous canopy. I have seen mature trees that have been so deprived of water--by the city, the university, and large residential complexes--that their limbs give way, often leading to the tree being removed or severely cut back.
- I like the idea of planting more trees but half of the trees usually die because they do not get watered. In the end the program is a huge waste of money and I don't want to pay taxes for something that dies within weeks of being planted. You have to think about how to water these trees by expanding the city's irrigation system.
- City tree in front of house, 126 Jalisco Pl, and same next door, is overgrown and in need of trimming. Several times over last few years large limbs have fallen, damaging fence and landscaping.
- The tree canopy in older areas of the city is one of Davis' best assets. Newer areas with younger trees and smaller species of trees are less livable during the warm months.
- I have been a Davis resident for 47 years, mainly as a homeowner. Like many Davisites, I have bought and sold a number of homes in town and have lived my current home for 32 years. During all these years I have planted many trees on my lots and provided added trees to the urban forest. For the first 25 years, I think the city did a pretty good job of managing trees and shrubs. However, since then it has all been downhill. My current home has a front yard tree and the city has NEVER in 30 years come by to check on them or prune them. I have to do it. Not a surprise, as most homeowners should take care of their yards, but if the CITY REQUIRES A TREE they should do something to maintain it. That is the main issue here. On another point, it seems the city has taken a downturn for the worst on maintenance of city landscapes and trees. In our neighborhood alone the residents are now taking over planting and maintaining the plants on Denali Drive. THe city has done the following in the last 30 years. Let shrubs and trees die, let sprinklers and sprinkler lines break and not repair them - just shut them off. Then everything dies, trees included and they remove them and do not replace them. So residents are not replacing the plants, but can't do trees (obviously--too large). Our neighborhood is but one example of the terrible maintenance services provided by the city. Its a joke. We have fixed our own sprinklers and planting our plants and fighting to figure out the sprinkler timers which don't water enough or cover the areas needed. Its just stupid and sad. So to now tell me that you are going to work on a plan which seems to indicate the addition of more trees that the city CANNOT maintain, well that makes me laugh. Get your shit together on current maintenance and you will really improve the city and how it looks an keep things growning. THEN you can add more.

- I have put in service requests and have met with Tree Davis to plant a tree where 5 were removed in a greenbelt next to my house.
- I live on the North Davis greenbelt, so I walk the tree-lined paths almost every day. I appreciate the most those areas with a lot of tree cover, especially as there is more bird habitat there.
- I have watered many downtown trees that have died-back during drought using business's hose faucets. Limited number of faucets, some of which are locked, leaves many trees more difficult to keep alive. Small cut-outs in paving makes penetration difficult resulting in run-off. Perforated pvc pipes installed vertically are needed to keep crowns dry, yet permit deep watering.
- Thank you for asking. I have a strong concern over the lack of weeding, clearing, cutting back of trees, risking injury or sparking fires.
- Me and my family are outside, on our street and in the greenbelts and parks everyday. The trees provide shade, beautify our community and help the environment.
- On the website there was no tool to submit a comment so my only suggested comments along with several other neighbors is that planting of trees have an emphasis on oaks and oak varieties that were native to this landscape including Valley Oaks and blue Oaks. Even though they are slow growing they provide native and natural habitat that we desperately need throughout Davis.

Please share any experiences you have relating to the City of Davis Urban Forestry Division.

- Have a city tree in my yard. It died due to age, city planted a replacement and then never provided any of the follow up care they were supposed to provide (remove the tree stake, pruning, etc.).
- There is a group of pear trees dying along Cowell Blvd. near Sunrise Court. It took me a long time to even get the city to acknowledge they are city trees. After that a city employee did come by and remove some dead limbs. Very frustrating and disappointing.
- Not sure what this means. Seems like they do a good job and are responsive to tree needs.
- I came to a meeting to get a dead street tree taken out. I wondered why my street tree was a short lived almond tree?
- I reported low branches in Toad Hollow well over a year ago. Was finally addressed this past week. I'm not sure who the issue was reported to, but obviously not very responsive.
- None, other than watching Tree Commission meeting videos.
- It took us almost a year and several phone calls to have dead limbs from our tree pruned out and then only after the Sly Park incident when we had to remind the Forestry people that Maple lane has parents and children walking on the sidewalks twice daily during the school year. The commercial tree people were told to 'only prune out two limbs' tho there were numerous dead limbs left.
- The city came and pruned the tree between me and my neighbor's yard - I didn't even know it needed pruning. Very, very helpful.
- Trees are being neglected. I placed a request to have a tree looked at, which has branches that have died. All I got back was a response saying they are backlogged.
- Although many staff of the Urban Forestry Division are well intentioned they can not currently meet the needs of the city maintained trees including pruning, emergency response, young tree care, and enforcement of city policies. Many times urgent work is delayed and some requests take years to be completed. It is clear the program is under resourced. Also the city ordinance is not clear and difficult to interpret. For example what is the city standard for pruning and tree care? What are the standards for trees and shade cover on multi family properties? How is this

enforced if someone can just say they didn't know about the city ordinance? It seems that there is a vision for this but not enough resources or specificity to meet the vision.

- I have not had any interaction with the Division. I am aware that the previous Urban Forestry Manager left partially due to the stress of interacting with certain members of the Davis community.
- In the last 10-20 years, the leadership of the City of Davis has underfunded and under prioritized the maintenance, growth and stewardship of the urban forest in Davis. This is the fault of city council and staff. This is a problem at the top of our city's leadership, and is a cultural problem that will not change until it is changed from the top. Over a period of 5 years I have witnessed the Urban Forestry division plant new trees only to see staff from other departments on mowers damage them, thus giving them a death sentence. I have seen trees planted, and not be maintained. This requires funding, human power and a city work culture that understands the value of green infrastructure at the same level as grey infrastructure.
- The city has never provided the support to plan, plant or maintain the city trees.
- Trimming my street tree, one request languished for 6 months, second request was handled in two weeks.
- I've watched recorded Davis tree care webinars, including the benefits of tree-lined streets (cooling, extending asphalt lifespan, and having a calming effect on traffic speed and safety), yet we have wide stretches of roads in Davis that are crying for a tree-lined center divider (e.g., Cowell Blvd).
- Poor, they do not respond to requests regarding dead trees, tree trimming, needle issues from overgrown, underwatered trees.
- Have tried in past to get city tree trimmed but to no avail. Apparently, I am not allowed to hire an arborist to do the job. (I understand the tree maintenance is suppose to be on a seven year cycle -- we have been here eight plus years and no maintenance yet.) Communication with division has been lacking -- I requested removal of fallen city tree limb debris, which was done, but there as no communication that the request would be undertaken.
- I live on a street with city trees in most of the front yards. The general feeling in the neighborhood is dissatisfaction that the city does little or nothing to maintain the trees (pruning) but also prohibits homeowners from doing so themselves. The trees are old and dying, limbs are falling on cars and destroying them, and there seems to be no succession plan.
- I don't know all the silly names of all these city services. I have tried to figure out how to contact the city to help with maintenance of public street landscapes. It is a nightmare of confusion. So not sure if I ever spoke to such a department. However, the department I did talk to got me to sign up for ADOPT a PARK program to help with our landscape maintenance along Denali. But, the only thing I have been able to get from them is a delivery of mulch. Can't get sprinklers fixed or set or talk to someone about the schedule or if they even work. No idea. It is very frustrating. Here you have residents willing to give their time and labor to plant and improve neighborhood landscapes and we can get NO ONE from the city to care or help us do it. It sucks. If we have a drought (no water) and there are no landscape maintenance staff, and no money (the main excuses for not helping us), then please tell me how your Urban Forest is going to survive. Its all about maintenace. Lets solve that problem first.
- Tree Davis responded quickly to assess putting in a tree where the trees were removed. They said they would plant the tree in the fall. This has yet to happen.
- I called to suggest you irrigate stressed trees downtown, but the woman said you were sending letters to business owners asking them to water city trees. I have asked some businesses for permission to use their hose faucet to save nearby trees, with mixed results. Some were too

worried about being sued if someone tripped on the garden hose laying on sidewalk. Giving permission put them in liability. So, i stopped asking. Can City shield them from trip\fall lawsuits? Would saftey cones suffice? Can City compel access to private water sources? The pickup truck with few hundred gallon tote is not adequate nor practical for slow deep irrigating.

- Even though I have years of perspective with reference to the decline of parks paths general landscape care as was the norm in the past, even newcomers ask why the city never visits west Davis and leaving our area neglected.
- Have been generally non-responsive to tree concerns.

Please share what you would like to experience with the City's urban forest.

- Well cared for trees, not allowing program to be used to interfere with people's private property.
- More staff, continue to plant drought resistant trees, continue to work with Tree Davis to strongly encourage the public to water their trees!
- NATIVE TREE PLANTING - California Valley Oak, Elderberry, Redbud, and other native species that are adapted specifically for this climate, this ecosystem, and are most prepared for drought, flood, fire, and a changing climate. Also, the UNDERSTORY plants and water infiltration capacity (or lack thereof) contribute to the health of the trees. It makes me cringe to see giant Walnut trees encased in a slab of concrete. Trees need room, they need water, and they need cool ground in order to thrive!
- I wish that the city would use more native plants in the UF.
- Of course, we want first to be safe. Beyond that, a long-term plan with funding that serves the create beauty while contributing to carbon sequestration, healthy ecosystems (native species, cautious introduction of non-invasive species that might better respond to a changing climate), and the beauty of our city, parks, greenbelt. Please be aggressive in stopping the spread of tree of heaven and any other invasive species.
- I would like to see more native California species or, at the very least, species native to the Western US.
- Like we said above, all of the planning in the world doesn't work if there is no provision for permanent care and maintenance. The Forestry Division seems to have abandoned the older trees.
- I would like to see the shift to looking at trees that will do well in Davis in future years (this is already happening but would like to see this continue). Would also like to see trees in areas with water-wise landscaping instead of turf.
- I would like to see more trees in Davis. This is such a hot climate in the summer, shade anywhere in Davis is welcome.
- I would like to see the program be more proactive and responsive to requests for service. I understand the impacts of climate change and the need for water conservation, but there needs to be an intentional effort to care for the trees we have as well has plan for a new mix of species better suited to meet the changes in the climate.
- I would like to experience trees in appropriate places; i.e., in public parks and natural areas. I would prefer to see solar energy canopies in parking lots, both public and private.
- A healthy and growing forest stewarded and valued by city leadership and the people of the city.
- Much higher maintenance and an emphasis on establishing native trees.
- More trees...incorporate them into to islands for traffic calming on streets, to slow traffic and make the streets safer and cooler for children, pedestrians and bicyclists.

- We have no other priority with new tree planting than to use native or resilient species that DO NOT require water or care. We can't control weeds let alone ornamental trees.
- I like the direction the city is going, using a variety of trees and selecting those that are more tolerant of our current climate. I think more tree shade in all aspects of our community would be a positive.
- Retailers held accountable for the care of their tree plantings. (2) Installation of center dividers with shade trees along wide streets within Davis, e.g., Cowell Blvd.
- I would like the City to take care of existing trees in city parks - there are many dead or dying trees in Market Park and Harvest Park that need to be replaced. There is also an opportunity to plant even more trees at both these parks to improve the shade canopy.
- I am interested in actively participating in urban forest planning from an environmental justice perspective
- I would first like honesty. They say they are coming out to trim the trees and no one comes. They say they will remove the dead trees and no one come. they say they will adress the issues of the sugar pines and want community input but never return messages.
- More. More large leafy trees. More abundant shrubs. More more more.
- Forest upkeep.
- Continued planting of a variety of California native trees: various oaks, sycamore, box elder, desert olive, etc. I disagree with Tree Davis' focus on using exotic trees from other areas of the world.
- Better Maintenance programs and coordination of neighborhood groups to help with labor using something like the Adopt A Park program, but one that actually does something to help
- I would like to see more pruning and tree maintenance. Every 7 years is not enough and many branches are dangerous for people using sidewalks, parks and greenbelts.
- I would like to see more ground cover under the trees, and less lawn. This is healthier for the trees as well as reducing water use.
- I would like maintenance to be the priority. Please care for and save what we have paid for. We paid for trees, care, maintenance, pick up etc. Many services have declined as fees increase. We are noticing and we ask you please to clean up Aspen.
- Care of existing trees (watering, pruning), removal of dead trees, and planting of new trees strategically for better shade coverage (on the west side of parks for shade in the late afternoon, etc.). To provide more shade in our neighborhoods, parks and greenbelts.

What do you feel should be the highest priority focus for the City's Urban Forestry Division in the coming years?

- replacement trees planted that are water efficient
- Maintain existing trees better. Replace trees that are aging out or not healthy quickly so new trees can be growing sooner, rather than stringing along dying trees that are a nuisance and risk.
- Native trees - Valley Oaks! Now is the time to plant these in open space as well as the understory of trees reaching the end of their life spans so when the giants need to be removed or when they fall down, an established native tree will already have been growing in protected from the heat while establishing it's root system.
- Plant more native trees and plants. Is there any way to have a more water conservative ground cover for the parks and soccer fields? I do not know a low water grass substitute for grass that kids could play soccer on but perhaps there are at least some grasses that take less water?
- Safety - both personal and environmental.

- Equity in the distribution of trees in lower income neighborhoods and public safety under the aging canopy.
- Maintenance of current trees especially with the stress caused by recent drought and disease.
- Shade trees in the commercial parking lots. So often I have to park where there is no available shade, even though the city policy is 50% shade in parking lots.
- More attention to the trees and faster response to requests.
- Resources need to be provided to maintain the trees that the city is responsible for. This includes staffing (either contract or city staff) to properly maintain the trees, irrigation for existing trees even though they may not be suited for the current climate, planning for waterwise and species selections to better utilize resources and effort, and realistic look at the current work load and resources provide to meet the expectations placed this program.
- To ensure that trees planted on public property receive adequate care. Also, that the trees required of new developments are not allowed to be illegally removed or poorly trimmed, as has been pointed out by the Lorax.
- Fund the urban forest department to properly care and maintain the city's young and mature trees. Do not hire outside contractors for the cheapest price. You get what you pay for. I have seen West Coast Arborists destroy mature canopy in so many neighborhoods because of lack of workmanship. They do NOT know what they are doing and are lion-tailing all of the mature trees thus giving them an early death sentence. Planting trees is easy, caring for them requires resources. Train ALL staff on why trees are an indispensable part of the city's infrastructure.
- Number 4.
- Since I've noticed that some people are rejecting street trees on their front lawn, I think it's an additional reason to plant trees on busy wide streets, such as 12th Street where I live. Also please find out how to get trees watered...I noticed several city street trees planted in our neighborhood that have died due to negligence (not deep watering during the first several years)
- A short list of resilient trees, a firm management plan for existing urban forest and a focus on the function of trees, not a one-at-a-time replacement system as now. Identify a dedicated funding source for Urban Forest maintenance.
- My opinion isn’t based on any data but I think planting more trees in parking areas would be helpful. This would cool large tracts of area that tend to be heated pools. Of course providing for irrigation and water runoff can be challenging.
- (1) Combining the "reduce landscape watering" message with "water your trees." (2) Plant more trees in public spaces. (3) Address the conflict of interest between residential front yard trees and solar panels. This is not a "one size fits all" solution.
- Replace dead trees. Plant new trees. Monitor and care for trees that are planted.
- balancing ecology and people dimensions of urban forest management, including consideration of environmental justice and equality dimensions
- Have accountability to the citizens. Tree trimming should be done every 5 years, divide the city into 5 parts and have a team of 3 full time employees to do the job. Address the huge issue of the overgrown, dangerous, fire danger, slip danger sugar pines.
- Nurture the trees we have. Give them enough water to be healthy. Plant more trees that will provide shade. Don't let developers get away with removing trees without replacing their equivalent.
- Watering trees
- Maintenance of city trees, job number one, period. Effective
- City tree maintenance and public communications.

- Maintain our canopy and shade: keep older trees healthy and plan for new ones as needed.
- Improving what you have, prune trees, fix sprinklers, and replant bare, weed filled areas.
- Improving tree maintenance. Improve the greenbelts. They used to be beautiful and now look ugly.
- Removing lawn areas that don't need to be lawn for recreational reasons and replacing it with ground cover or underbrush that supports the trees.
- Survival of mature trees during drought. Providing irrigation.
- Clean up our greenbelts, paths, parks and recreational areas. This is what the city says it provides. But (Aspen in West Davis) the streets off Denali including the wooden bridge and the path to Patwin don't just look junky and filled with tripping debris and large branches, there are dead trees looking like they will soon fall. This happened before a few times, one tree hitting a person and causing permanent damage. One fell and wrecked a car. It's a serious concern to our neighbors.
- Care of existing trees (watering, pruning), removal of dead trees, and planting of new trees strategically for better shade coverage.

What would be some suggested key steps or actions to achieve that priority focus?

- Set clear standards for when trees should be replaced, make clear that trees have life spans and it should be expected that trees will need to periodically be replaced.
- Look for grants to get some funding behind all your efforts!
- Start planting now. Valley oaks grow best from acorns planted in the ground, but can also grow from tall forestry pots as their long tap roots are the first to develop. We need a stewardship program where after planting (fall through spring) that they are watered in the first few years, much like the programs that Tree Davis are already running.
- Research native plants. There is a native plants of CA website to use. Use more native plants in the city. Keep mantaining all of the bike paths and plants along them.
- Strict policies relating to tree planting in all new developments and particularly those that include low income housing units. Additional support for the arborists and resources for tree removal.
- A plan to access the health of current trees throughout town and to determine which trees might pose a health/safety risk.
- Enforce the policies/regulations already in place that specifies 50% shade in parking lots.
- More staffing.
- Update and make public the city maintain tree inventory in a GIS map so residents can quickly identify what trees are maintained by the city. This publicly available digital map should include the landmark trees also. This map should reintegrated its the city software system used by staff to track work completed. How can we know what resources we need if we don't have a clear picture of what is the city's responsibility? Then analyze the status of the Urban Forest health to identify where resources can be applied to improve the overall health of the canopy. I understand that due to climate change some trees will be lost, but where could be save some trees. This analysis should be consider providing equity throughout Davis. If we under resources then we need to reconsider planting more trees that the city does not have resources to maintain. Possibly redirecting the focus to encourage the public plant trees instead of investing in trees that the city must maintain. Basically scaling down to a level which the resources can maintain.

- 1) Do not require trees in private and public parking lots. (2) Acquire adequate staff resources to ensure that trees are not inappropriately removed, poorly trimmed or die due to inadequate care.
- 1. Hire in-house staff to perform young tree maintenance. 2. Hire ISA certified arborists who understand the industry and tree biology for leadership positions. 3. Educate the public about why trees are a critical part of the city's infrastructure. 4. Educate the city's staff (parks/public works) employees about why trees are a critical part of the city's infrastructure. 5. Hire trained subcontractors to perform block pruning.
- Expand city staff working on trees.
- Let the City arborist and or plan preparer use their professional knowledge, INDEPENDENT of over-arching "global warming" or "carbon capture" discussion that is not helpful to the City of Davis.
- (1) Steer clear of over-simplified messages. (2) Reach out to local residential communities regarding where the residents would like to see more trees OR assess widest community streets and move to get center dividers and trees placed. (3) Adjust City-mandated front yard tree guidelines for solar, esp. 2-story homes, which are more likely to need solar for their cooling needs.
- Assessing a map of urban tree/shade coverage of neighborhoods overlaying with social dimensions such as income/race/education.
- Stop ignoring requests from the citizens
- Think about an automated watering system since going around with trucks to water trees is not frequent enough.
- 1) Set city tree maintenance cycle plan, identify resources needed to achieve plan. 2) Establish a communications plan, how to make a maintenance request, public access to request tracking, and city tree maintenance schedule (like the yard debris pickup schedule).
- Rigor in planning and executing city tree maintenance. If staffing is or becomes a constraint, third party contracting should be undertaken to ensure maintenance schedule is achieved. Rigor is communications with public; publish city tree maintenance schedules; own and respond to maintenance requests (close loop).
- Step up pruning of city trees on right of ways in neighborhoods.
- Have council districts recruit neighborhood volunteers to develop neighborhood plans to improve existing landscaping. Then provide resources to assist these groups in getting it done. (plants, fix sprinklers, watering, mulch, etc..) Volunteers can provide labor.
- Hire more staff that are experienced or can be trained to properly prune and identify trees to keep and trees to remove.
- Assess which areas are not used recreationally, and gradually replace lawn in those areas.
- Install perforated pipes to deep water in islands.
- Please make a priority of these responses after reading this survey by placing the cleanup of this area on your work schedule. One truck came and two men did work but there was an unnoticeable change because the area had been neglected so long. Many bushes have died. Not always from broken city sprinklers, or drought, but because the city and those who they contract to do the work--do in fact not do the work. The over collected debris piled on top of the bushes, chokes or suffocates. It heartbreaking to see these plant die. It's frustrating. Rather than make a new plan--please tend to what we have.
- Neighborhood engagement and receptiveness and responsiveness by the City.

Please share any other relevant comments you have about the urban forest in Davis.

- Please start actively working towards replacing nuisance and inappropriate trees. There are a whole lot of tree types we would not plant today, we should be working to replace those incrementally now, so we have a more mixed age urban forest and we don't have whole areas of trees dying off at once.
- I would like to see the city make greater use of rain basins, curb cutting, and mulch to improve the sustainability of our tree canopy. These techniques can massively reduce water use while simultaneously increasing tree growth to get more shade. Some ways of achieving this goal: - Apply mulch to existing trees in public spaces - Plant new trees within rain basins - Cut curbs on existing streets that are adjacent to mulched basins - Free mulch distribution to Davis residents https://www.harvestingrainwater.com/resource/rain-garden-planting-zones/
- You have a big responsibility and I am encouraged that this is being looked at so seriously.
- Too many non-native trees that are going to cause a disaster in the next 50 years and leave us with a weakened canopy and weakened ecosystem. Wishing you all the best in your updated management plan!
- I love living in such a beautiful tree filled city. I appreciate all of the beautiful bike paths and walkways. It would be sad if the city did not keep them so beautiful. They enrich our lives emotionally and also our health.
- Citizens need to be educated on what their responsibilities are in regard to maintaining city trees on their property. I have heard some citizens say they will just let these trees die, so they don't have to deal with them. This is not appropriate.
- I think the city needs to take a hard look at what their resources can actually provide. An consider other options for the direction of the Urban Forestry program such as rebates to customers that maintain mature trees or plant trees. Even if we scaled back the program to focus on parks, greenbelts and open spaces, while phasing out the residential tree planting we would still have an opportunity to show the importance of tree planting in other ways that may allow residential property owners to buy into the importance of trees. My hope would be that we find resources to meet the vision that Davis has, but if we don't have the resources we must scale back the program.
- I have provided a 3-page memo describing why I believe canopy-mounted solar arrays should be a higher priority than trees in parking lots.
- Stop planting trees that are inappropriate for our changing climate.
- I would like to see the Davis Golf Course included in the city plan. Trees on the course have been long neglected. There are many areas away from golf that could be planted for ecological benefits. Others areas could be planted to increase safety - along frontage road and many others places. Many dead trees need removal and thousands could be planted for climate and other benefits.
- thank you for maintaining the forest...the more the better...I would be happy to pay additional property tax to support our urban forest, that is so necessary for maintaining diversity.
- We really need to edit some bad decisions that have been made in the last century here in Davis, Casuarina, Mulberry, etc. Old, tough farm trees that are no longer appropriate.
- I have said enough, overall frustration. If you want a city of trees you need to care for them, water and trim them!!!!!
- HELP!
- Less planning, more maintenence.

- You have asked us. I have responded. Now my wish is that you please act on this survey. Please fix sprinklers, clear and cut back our greenbelts parks and rec areas. Please stop letting parts of our town become shabbier.
- We need more tree canopy! In recent years, many large trees, such as Bradford pears, have been removed, many for good reason, but they should be replaced with other big trees that can provide shade and wildlife habitat.