

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (SPRAB)**  
**ON-LINE MEETING AGENDA**

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6003.

Individuals needing special accommodations such as sign language, foreign language interpreters or equipment for the hearing impaired must request such services at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To request accommodations or services, please call 503-588-6211 or 503-588-6003 (TTD/TTY 503-588-6439), or by e-mail at: [whitler@cityofsalem.net](mailto:whitler@cityofsalem.net) at least two business days in advance.

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This regular meeting of the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will take place online. This page will tell you how to participate in this digital format. The agenda for the meeting is on page two.

**DIGITAL MEETING INFORMATION**

The City will be using ZOOM software to host this meeting. If you are new to ZOOM, you will be able to access the meeting without downloading the application. If you wish to download the software, that option will be provided when you click on the link to the meeting.

**To access the February 10, 2022, 5:30 p.m. Zoom meeting from computer, tablet, or smartphone click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81427330746>**

**You can also view the meeting on YouTube at the following link:**  
**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQLj9RKZNHu4wfYcs\\_TC0TA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQLj9RKZNHu4wfYcs_TC0TA)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Contact Toni Whitler, Parks Planner, at [whitler@cityofsalem.net](mailto:whitler@cityofsalem.net) if you wish to provide public comment on any agenda or non-agenda item.**

Email comments: Please provide email comments **no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.**

Live, public comment: Please contact Toni Whitler **no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.**

Public comments will only be addressed during the public comment period as noted on the agenda (see Agenda on page 2) and will include comment on agenda and non-agenda items. Email comments submitted will be addressed during the comment period.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

The City of Salem and the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board thank you for your support by using the digital format. For any questions or concerns about the above information, please contact Toni Whitler, at [whitler@cityofsalem.net](mailto:whitler@cityofsalem.net) or 503-588-6211.

It is the City of Salem's policy to assure that no person shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and source of income, as provided by Salem Revised Code 97. The City of Salem also fully complies with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and related statutes and regulations, in all programs and activities.

Es la política de la Ciudad de Salem asegurar que ninguna persona será discriminada por motivos de raza, religión, color, sexo, estado civil, situación familiar, origen nacional, edad, discapacidad mental o física, orientación sexual, identidad de género, ni fuente de ingresos, de acuerdo con el Salem Revised Code Chapter 97. La Ciudad de Salem también cumple plenamente con el Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, y los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados, en todos los programas y actividades.

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**DIGITAL AGENDA**  
**February 10, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.**

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**BOARD MEMBERS, CITY STAFF &  
UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Micki Varney, Chair  
Dylan McDowell, Vice Chair  
Alan Alexander  
Woody Dukes  
Dave Fridenmaker  
Rick Hartwig  
Alan Holland  
Joan Lloyd  
Keith Norris

**CITY STAFF**

Robert Chandler, Assistant Public  
Works Director  
Mark Bechtel, Operations Division  
Manager  
Patricia Farrell, Parks and Natural  
Resources Planning Manager  
Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation  
Services Manager  
Becky George, Recreation Supervisor  
Milan Davis, City Urban Forester  
Toni Whitler, Parks Planner & Board  
Liaison

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- City Council – February 14, 2022 – @ 6:00 p.m.
- City Council February 28, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

**LINKS**

BOARD WEB PAGE:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/parks-and-recreation-advisory-board.aspx>

**AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** (5:30 p.m.)
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. MINUTES** (5:40 p.m.)
  - a. January 13, 2022
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT** (*Public Comment for agenda and non-agenda items, 3 minutes.*) (5:45 – 5:55 p.m.)
- 5. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS** (5:55 – 6:15)
  - a. Salem Community Bond Presentation – *Courtney Knox Busch, Strategic Initiatives Manager*
  - b. SPRAB Work Plan and Committees 2022
- 6. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES** (6:15 – 6:30 p.m.)
- 7. INFORMATION REPORTS – WRITTEN** (6:30 – 6:50 p.m.)
  - a. Mission Street Park Conservancy Minutes
  - b. Urban Forestry Update
  - c. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update
  - d. Parks Operations Update
  - e. Recreation Services Update
  - f. Park Damage Report
- 8. NEW BUSINESS** (6:50 – 7:00 p.m.)
- 9. NEXT MEETING**
  - a. March 10, 2022
- 10. ADJOURN**



**SALEM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**DIGITAL MEETING**  
**January 13, 2022**  
**MINUTES**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dylan McDowell  
Woody Dukes  
Paul Hartwig  
Micki Varney  
Joan Lloyd  
Alan Holland  
Keith Norris  
David Fridenmaker  
Alan Alexander

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**STAFF PRESENT**

Toni Whitler  
Milan Davis  
Anthony Gamallo  
Marc Weinstein  
Patricia Farrell  
Becky George  
Deborah Topp  
Kimberly Spivey

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**1. ROLL**

Member Alexander had technical issues at start of meeting; all other members present. Chair McDowell explained that Woody Dukes will remain on the board until another horticulturalist can be appointed. Chair welcomed new members Joan Lloyd and Alan Holland. Moving forward, Member Holland asked to be referred to as "Al" in verbal form, to avoid confusion with Member Alan Alexander. Member Alexander connected to the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Member Norris moved to accept minutes from previous meeting. Member Varney seconded. All in favor.**  
**Minutes approved with no changes.**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

One piece of public comment was received from Michael Slater regarding the Pringle Creek Connection. Chair McDowell explained that this topic will be discussed further during the presentations later in the meeting.  
**No further comment at this time.**

**4. ELECTION**

**a. Chair**

Dylan McDowell's term as Chair has come to an end. Member Varney expressed interest in serving as Chair. Dylan McDowell motioned to nominate Micki Varney to serve as Chair of SPRAB and thanked her for her continued service to the board. Member Alexander seconded. All in favor.  
**Micki Varney is appointed Chair.**

**b. Vice Chair**

Member Alexander ceded his interest in serving as Vice Chair in favor of appointing Member McDowell to this position. Chair Varney asked if there are any additional nominations for Vice Chair. No additional nominations proposed. Member Norris motioned to appoint Dylan McDowell as Vice Chair. Member Alexander seconded. All in favor.

**Dylan McDowell is appointed Vice Chair.**

**5. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS Orchard Heights & Pringle Creek Trail Grant Proposals**

**a. Orchard Heights & Pringle Creek Trail Grant Proposals - Anthony Gamallo (standing in for Julie Warncke)**

Anthony Gamallo, City Transportation Planner, explained that the City has been reviewing projects eligible to apply for SKATS funding. Two of the projects being considered involve Parks.

**Orchard Heights Park Access**

Mr. Gamallo shared a street view of the area where sidewalk would be extended to create a connection. Overall estimated cost of this project is \$1.2 million and the City will be applying for \$1 million of that funding through SKATS.

Member Holland expressed enthusiasm for the project. He asked where the extended pedestrian sidewalk would end and offered his own suggestions in reference to the visual image. Anthony replied that Member Holland's suggestions would be considered in a future grant application, but funding may not be available to extend that far during this current project.

Member McDowell inquired if the traffic data in the presented report is outdated, and whether this information should be updated to fully account for the pedestrian needs of the area. Anthony confirmed the traffic data is from 2006 and explained that the new apartment complex has caused a significant increase in pedestrian traffic.

Member Alexander expressed support for the project.

Member Norris inquired if the new apartment complex has sanctioned pedestrian access through Orchard Heights Park. He also requested more information about what SKATS is and how they operate. Anthony explained that SKATS disburses federal funding to metropolitan areas.

Member Holland answered Member Norris's question regarding pedestrian access and explained that there is a cyclone fence between the apartments and the park.

Member Varney confirmed that there is a chain link fence between the Acero apartments and the park. She inquired about a potential gateway in the fence. A gateway was considered when the apartments first opened, but the developer was not interested in installing one at the time. Member Varney expressed concern that there



should be sidewalks on both sides of Orchard Heights, and that there is a dire need for additional crosswalks in the area.

Anthony mentioned the Safer Pedestrian Crossings Program, which receives and documents requests for safety improvement projects. Member Varney asked if there is a way to see where a location or request lies on the priority list. Anthony referred the board to the website and explained that metrics are used to score each of the potential suggested locations based on needs and safety.

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/safer-pedestrian-crossings-program.aspx>

**No further comments or questions.**

**b. Pringle Creek Path Connection**

Anthony explained that this project originally had an estimated cost of \$5.6 million, but this estimate may already be outdated. He shared slides from the Power Point previously presented to SPRAB in January 2021.

Member McDowell mentioned Michael Slater's public comment, pursuing as many funds as possible for this project, and the possibility of this project being extended even further.

Member Norris asked if all of the projects being presented to SKATS are ranked. Anthony replied that the City does not rate them, but SKATS rates the projects out of the entire region. Member Norris asked if it would be beneficial for SPRAB to write an additional letter of support for this project. Anthony confirmed that another letter could be beneficial in the future.

Member Hartwig expressed wholehearted support for the project.

Member Fridenmaker asked if this project would qualify for the short-term four-year SKATS plan and what the amount of funding would be. Anthony confirmed that it would qualify for the 2024-2027 SKATS plan and that approximately \$20 million is available to apply for.

Member Alexander clarified that SKATS is a regional program and he believes Salem may be underrepresented on the SKATS board. He encourages persistence; if grants cannot be achieved for these two projects right now, Salem should keep trying.

Member Holland inquired if there are alternative funding sources available if the SKATS bid falls through, and if there is anything SPRAB can do to encourage the success of this project. Anthony replied that the previously mentioned bond measure remains an option. He encouraged SPRAB members to continue being vocal to City Council and SKATS about this project.

**Member Holland moved to have SPRAB endorse the grant applications for the Orchard Heights and Pringle Creek Path projects.** Member Norris seconded. Member McDowell clarified that this support would be in letter form. The deadline for the SKATS

application is February 24<sup>th</sup>. Member Alexander recommended writing one letter for each project application. Toni Whitler confirmed that the action sheet for submission to Council would include both projects and could therefore be provided with both applications.

Marc Weinstein explained the agendas and attachments to agendas for City Council are usually submitted two weeks before a Council meeting. If SPRAB wishes to have their letter submitted with the Council packet.

Member McDowell requested confirmation that this letter does not need to be submitted to Council; it will be submitted directly to SKATS. Anthony confirmed. The letter does not need to be finalized and submitted to Council. It needs to be finalized and submitted to SKATS before the February 24<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Member Holland clarified that his motion gives final approval of these letters to the Chair, thus not requiring a second vote from SPRAB before finalization.

**All voted in favor; motion passes.**

Chair Varney asked for a volunteer to draft the letter. Member Norris volunteered to utilize SPRAB's previous letter of support as a template to craft these new letters. Member McDowell offered to assist. The letters will be brought to SPRAB on February 10<sup>th</sup> for review.

**No further comments or questions.**

#### **TREE SURVEY – DEBORAH TOPP**

Deborah Topp, Environmental Outreach Supervisor, shared a presentation about the community tree survey. She explained that the City needs participation from the community to reach their tree canopy goals. A tree survey was performed as a random sample in October 2021, via postcards and digital means. There were 677 respondents. Approximately one third of responses came from low-canopy areas. The survey revealed that much of the community is unfamiliar with the City's tree programs and tree planting goals. Deborah explained that the results of the survey were encouraging; over 80% of responders believe trees are important and would like to see additional trees planted in their area. The City will utilize this survey information to offer additional outreach and education to the community about its tree planting programs and goals. One of the concerns the City will need to address based on survey responses is the maintenance of new trees. This could be aided by the creation of a volunteer program.

Member Holland suggested creating a volunteer program that encourages participation of school-age children.

Member McDowell mentioned that Tree City USA is currently giving away booster grants and wondered if these grants could apply to the City's tree planting goals. Suggested that replacement trees to residents who lost trees during the ice storm could be beneficial. Member McDowell also suggested providing a list of Salem-specific trees. Knowing what type of trees could be successfully planted in their area could encourage community

interest. In addition, he referenced the “Call Before You Cut” line, which has been suggested as part of the Salem Climate Action Plan, where residents could contact Public Works before they cut down a tree.

Member Norris asked if the charts presented included a complete list of incentives presented to the public. Deborah explained that there was an additional fill-in incentive option that received a lot of responses.

A PDF version of Deborah’s presentation will be provided to board members.

**No further comments or questions.**

## **6. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES**

Chair Varney participated in a tree-planting event at Highland Park with the City and Friends of Trees and expressed what a great educational experience it was. She encouraged participation in an upcoming volunteer event at Orchard Heights.

**No additional updates at this time.**

## **7. INFORMATION REPORTS – WRITTEN**

### **MISSION STREET PARK CONSERVANCY MINUTES**

Christine Chute told the board that despite the ongoing pandemic and inclement weather events, more than 3,000 volunteer hours were completed in Parks in 2021. A new project has been selected for the 2022 gardening season and information submitted about this project to the City.

**No further comments or questions.**

### **URBAN FORESTRY UPDATE**

Milan Davis introduced himself to the new board members and explained his role with the City.

**No further comments or questions.**

### **PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES PLANNING UPDATE**

Patricia Farrell introduced herself to the new board members and explained her role with the City.

Chair Varney asked if any SPRAB members would like to volunteer to be the alternate liaison for the Bailey Ridge Park Master Plan. Member Alexander volunteered.

Member Norris asked about the land donations listed in the update. He inquired about the locations of these land donations. Patricia responded that one of the donations is located at the corner of Fairview Park and will be added to the park. The second donation is separated from the park by houses and will therefore be its own natural area.

**No further comments or questions.**

#### **PARKS OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Chair Varney and Member Norris expressed concern at the large number of unsheltered still camping in City parks. Member Norris expressed particular concern that efforts to solve the camping issue will be reduced now that the emergency order allowing City-sanctioned camping is no longer in effect.

Chair Varney explained that determination for SPIF grants will be made in February. Seven neighborhood associations have applied for SPIF grants.

Member McDowell inquired when the next unsheltered update would be provided  
Gretchen Bennett.

#### **RECREATION SERVICES UPDATE**

Becky George introduced herself to the new board members and explained her role with the City.

**No further comments or questions.**

#### **PARK DAMAGE REPORT**

**No comments or questions.**

#### **8. NEW BUSINESS**

Member McDowell inquired if SPRAB will be creating their work plan for the year in February. Toni Whitler confirmed that more information about this will be sent to board members. She asked board members to review the website for the community bond project and bring potential suggestions to next month's meeting.

#### **9. NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 PM**

#### **10. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned 7:15 p.m.

Minutes: Kimberly Spivey

## Toni Whitler

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**From:** Julie Warncke  
**Sent:** Monday, January 31, 2022 2:53 PM  
**To:** Toni Whitler  
**Cc:** Patricia Farrell; Anthony Gamallo  
**Subject:** Update on SKATS grant applications

Toni,  
Please forward to SPRAB.  
- Juile

To Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members,

Thank you for your input and support for the two potential grant applications we shared with you at your January meeting (Pringle Creek Path and Orchard Heights Park access). As we indicated in our report and presentation, staff has been working to refine the list of potential applications to take to City Council on February 14<sup>th</sup>. At this time, we are not including these two projects in our recommended list of applications for Council consideration. These projects continue to address important needs, but other projects are better aligned with this funding source. Funding available from the Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) is federal. Federal funds add additional requirements and costs to a project. For this reason, and because of the limited funds available, we are focusing our applications on projects that are already being developed with federal funds. Since SKATS is a regional funding organization, we are also prioritizing projects that cross jurisdictional boundaries, including two joint projects with Marion County.

We will continue to look for opportunities to fund both of these projects. Specific to the Pringle Creek Path project, we plan to pursue funding through the next round of ODOT's Community Path Program. Pre-applications for that program are due 9/15/2022, and final applications are due 1/31/2023.

Thanks again for your time and input.

**Julie H. Warncke**  
*Transportation Planning Manager*  
City of Salem | Public Works Department  
555 Liberty St SE, Suite 325, Salem OR 97301-3515  
[jwarncke@cityofsalem.net](mailto:jwarncke@cityofsalem.net)  
Office: 503-588-6211  
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](http://CityofSalem.net)



**DRAFT Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - 2022 Work Plan Calendar**

[illegible]

## Information Reports Packet

For SPRAB Meeting February 10, 2022

1. Mission Street Parks Conservancy Minutes – Not yet available
2. Urban Forestry Report – Milan Davis, Urban Forester
  - Includes background on Heritage Tree Program and a new request for a Heritage Tree (this will be on the March agenda for a presentation)
3. Parks and Natural Resources Planning Report - Patricia Farrell, Parks and Natural Resources Planning Manager
4. Parks Operations Report – Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation Services Manager
5. Recreation Services Report– Becky George, Recreation Services Supervisor
6. Parks Damage Report – Not yet available

February 2022 Urban Forestry Report for SPRAB  
City of Salem Public Works Department  
Parks Operations

Milan Davis  
Urban Forester, Parks Supervisor III  
1460 20th St SE, Building 14 Salem, OR 97302

Reporting on work being completed by the Urban Forestry Division of Parks Operations for the month of January 2022 for the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

We continue to focus on high priority tree removals and trimming remaining from the ice storm from 11 months ago. Below is a summary of work that has been identified but not completed:

- 753 open work orders currently, with 43 scheduled to be completed over the next week
- 82 open HIGH priority work orders (12 ice storm related)
- 57 open ice storm pruning work orders, 12 of those are HIGH priority
- 8 open ice storm removal work orders, one HIGH priority remain, 5 are MEDIUM priority

In the month of January 356 work orders were completed, these could include tree removals, tree pruning, debris pickups, tree planting & stump removals

- 10 Emergency priority work orders
- 68 High priority work orders
- 151 Medium priority work orders
- 127 Low priority work orders

We recently hired Makaela Dodds a new seasonal staff to assist our crews in on our tree planting efforts. We will have at least one crew dedicated to tree planting for the rest of the winter season and into the spring. We would like to try and plant at least 300 trees before the spring.

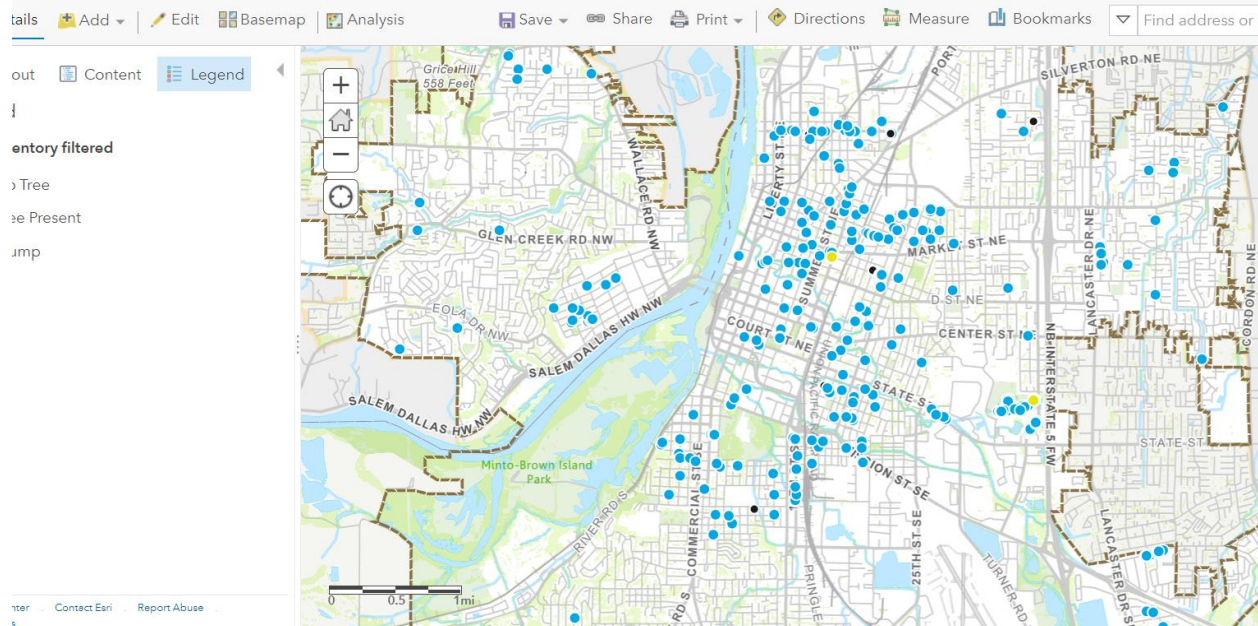
Ice storm remediation work for the 1000 plus trees removed during the ice storm has been appropriated funds by the city's insurance for up to \$721,860. We had been working on two main ideas to complete the work for remediation which includes stump removal, soil amendment, tree planting and establishment watering, which were based on using contractors or temporary city staff. After working through the details of an RFP bid for contractors and running the numbers for using internal resources and Limited Duration staff, we have decided to try and complete this work inhouse. The main driving factor for choosing to do it this way is to allow us more control over nursery stock selection, improved outreach and program accountability, and to see how feasible it would be to have a tree planting crew full time.



We are working on our Structural Pruning list for 2022 and are developing a map to track the work. This program focuses on structural pruning of trees planted 2, 5 and 8 years ago. We do this every year in hope of developing trees with good branch structure with a focus on establishing a central leader and good scaffold branching. If we are able to prune our street trees at these increments, we think we can develop good tree form and give the trees a better chance to thrive, have longevity and not have to revisit the tree until they have matured.

2022 structural pruning Urban Forestry Work Order Map

[Open in new Map View](#)



## HERITAGE TREE NOMINATION and PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

I am attaching a request I received to nominate a Heritage Tree for the city of Salem in Orchard Heights Park. Please find the nomination at the end of my report.

This would be a good opportunity for SPRAB to go over prerequisites and the nomination protocols in approving Heritage Tree nominations. I hope we can advance this program forward and update the information available to the public, growing the number of Heritage Trees receiving designation. I am also sharing information with current and past Heritage Tree locations, and other historical records that we can use to think about how we move this program forward with SPRAB in place of the Shade Tree Committee. It has been over seven years since the nomination of a Heritage Tree, so please review the documents provided for reference and we can discuss this program at our March SPRAB meeting, and see how we can best proceed. I have spoken with Woody about this as well some current staff who have knowledge on locations and record keeping. As well there used to be information on the city webpage with locations and pictures of each tree and how new trees could be nominated. Currently the only information on the city webpage is how to remove a Heritage Tree.

Below is a current list of Heritage Trees

DATE	ADDRESS	SPECIES	DIAMETER
5/18/2001	1234 COMMERCIAL ST	DOUGLAS-FIR	65
5/18/2001	787 CROSS	ELM	53
5/18/2001	NONE	PEAR	37
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	69
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	56
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	40
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	48
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	50
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	63
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	55
5/18/2001	100 HIGH ST. NE	SYCAMORE	66
5/17/2001	1630 SUMMER ST.	DEODAR CEDAR	54
5/17/2001	575 SUPERIOR ST. S	SILVER LINDEN	42
5/17/2001	1678 LIBERTY ST. SE	EUROPEAN BEECH	57
5/17/2001	545 MISSION ST. SE	OREGON WHITE OAK	68
5/17/2001	CAPITOL GROUNDS	TULIP TREE	50
5/17/2001	350 WINTER ST. NE	GINGKO	29
5/17/2001	1815 18TH ST NE	FRANKLINIA	10
7/18/2001	Union and Cottage Streets	Honeysuckle	7
7/18/2001	Waldo Park - Summer/Union	Giant Sequoia	22
7/18/2001	1467 Court Street NE	Japanese Maple	9
7/18/2001	23rd Street, South of State	Sixty Lindens	0
11/9/2015	556 23RD ST NE	Deodar Cedar	50

### Administrative process, application for Heritage Trees with new Chapter 68 (current?)

1. Letter from applicant/owner to shade tree % Jim Boling
2. Investigation and Letter of explanation of Ordinance's to applicant/owner
3. Staff report to Shade Tree
4. Shade Tree vote to recommend or not.
5. Letter to applicant/owner
6. If approved by Shade Tree, staff report to Council
7. Council approves
8. Assess fee
9. Property meets and bounds, tree located
10. Record Deed restriction with county
11. Add to list and notify Planning dept. and Historic landmark comm.
12. Present owner with cert. And copy of declaratory statement

## City of Salem Heritage Tree Program

### Timeline:

- May 1981 – City council adopted the Heritage Tree program, making changes to SRC Chapter 86 to reference Heritage Trees.
- April 1982 – First Heritage trees are designated: Liberty beech, Waldo redwood, and black walnut at 590 Cottage St NE
- October 1982 – Five additional trees/groves are designated: Courthouse sycamores, sugar maple grove at Capitol Mall, black walnut at 1350 18<sup>th</sup> St NE, pin oak at 2093 Mill St SE, and apple at 1985 Virginia St NE.
- May 1984 – The list of designated trees is updated. The list has grown to 27 trees or groups of trees.
- April 1985 – The Hager Grove pear is added as a part of that years Arbor Day celebration.
- August 1997 – The list of Heritage Trees is updated by the Shade Tree Advisory Committee (STAC). Trees that no longer exist or are in a state of severe decline are removed from the list. At this time, STAC began researching strategies for preventing indiscriminate removal of Heritage Trees.
- April 2001 – SRC Chapter 86 is revised to provide legal protection for Heritage Trees.
  - Previous to this action, letters went out November of 2000 to property owners advising them of the upcoming restrictions to their property. They were given the opportunity to renominate their trees. Many declined.
- June 2001 – Trees readpted as Heritage Trees post-ordinance change.
  - 8 trees delisted
  - 13 trees readopted
  - Note – At this time city staff was directed to develop a Heritage Tree website and outreach program; as of 2010 there was a web page with a partial list of Heritage Trees along with pictures and information for each tree mentioned. This web page is no longer available.
- August 2003 – A sequoia at 1117 3<sup>rd</sup> St. NW is added. An easement was created around the tree to increase long-term protection.
- November 2015 – A deodar Cedar at 556 23<sup>rd</sup> St NE was recommended for designation. It was presumably adopted by city council.

## **HERITAGE TREES**

**The City of Salem has long been recognized for its outstanding Shade Tree Program.**

**In 1982, the City Council passed an amendment to the Shade Tree Ordinance to make "Heritage Trees" a part of the Master Shade Tree Plan.**

**"Heritage Trees" refers to trees designated as such due to their location, size, or age of their species, botanical interest, commemorative planting or historic significance. Where desirable, Heritage Trees should be typical of their species, and relatively free of damage. The trees will be designated by the City Council through nominations from the general public. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee will review all the nominations and send recommendations to the City Council. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee is a citizen body appointed because of their knowledge and/or interest in trees with three members from the Salem Park and Recreation Advisory Board, and three citizen volunteers nominated at large.**

**If you own or know of a tree that you think should be designated as a Heritage Tree, you may nominate this tree by writing to:**

**Shade Tree Advisory Committee  
c/o Public Works  
Parks Operations Division  
1460 20<sup>TH</sup> ST. SE, Building # 14  
Salem, OR 97302**

**Nominations should be accompanied with permission from the property owner where the tree stands to enter the property. The type of tree, size, location, and reason for nomination should be included. The nomination of trees is voluntary, and the City will pay the fees for the deed recording.**

**After the tree has been designated a Heritage Tree, as per Salem Revised Code Chapter 68, someone wishing to remove a Heritage Tree can demonstrate to the Community Development, Planning Division that they meet an administrative exception, such as a hazardous or diseased tree, or an economic or hardship variance.**

**If the nominated trees are designated by Council to be Heritage Trees, the trees will be recorded on the property deed, and the owner will receive a certificate of the Designation and the data about the tree will be forwarded to the Historic Landmarks Commission and the Salem Planning Commission.**

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:

[INSERT COUNCIL MEETING  
DATE]

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AGENDA ITEM NO.:

PUBLIC WORKS FILE NO.:

[INSERT PW FILE NO.]

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TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: KACEY DUNCAN, INTERIM CITY MANAGER

FROM: PETER FERNANDEZ, P.E., PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: ADDITION OF SIGNIFICANT TREE TO CITY OF SALEM HERITAGE TREE LIST

ISSUE:

Should the City Council add to the City of Salem's Heritage Tree List a Deodar Cedar located at 556 23rd Street NE be designated as a Salem Heritage Tree?

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the recommendation of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee (STAC) to add the Deodar Cedar to the City of Salem's Heritage Tree List.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:

On November 16, 1981, the Salem City Council determined that an historic or heritage tree identification program should be undertaken in order for such trees to be recognized. The responsibility for the reviewing, evaluating, and recommending to Council for action regarding Heritage trees was given to the STAC.

Trees on the list have been accepted because of their historical significance, age, size, or commemorative planting. Designation of a Heritage tree is voluntary and does not limit the owner's property rights in relationship to the treatment or disposition of the tree. The purpose of the Heritage Tree Program is designed to identify and acknowledge Salem's significant trees.

From 1982 to 1985 several trees were designated as Heritage trees. Early in 1997, the STAC, with the assistance of staff, began an evaluation of the Heritage Tree Program. As a result of that evaluation, the STAC sent to City Council a revised list which removed trees that had been lost due to removals by property owners, or trees whose removal by city forces was necessitated by decline in the overall health of the trees.

On August 4, 1997, City Council adopted the changes to the list. Since then, the STAC has solicited new additions to the City of Salem Heritage Tree List.

## **FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

The City addresses requests for Heritage Tree designation from the public in the Salem Revised Code: Chapter 86.010(b): **Definitions.**

“Heritage Trees means trees designated as such due to their location, size, or age of their species, botanical interest, commemorative planting, or historic significance.”  
and

Chapter 86.115(e): **Master Street Tree Plan.** “Provide for the preservation of those trees that are determined by the shade tree committee to be heritage trees.”

Attached is the letter of nomination from Lisa Griffith dated October 6, 2014. Ms. Griffith requested that the Deodar Cedar located at her home 556 23<sup>rd</sup> Street N.E., be placed on the Heritage Tree List.

At the meeting of February 5, 2015, the STAC determined that the nominated tree met the requirements for placement on the Heritage Tree List. This Deodar Cedar meets the required criteria by being in excellent condition and form, without damage, and fits into the category of being very large for its species.

The Deodar Cedar tree in front of Ms. Griffith’s residence is as follows:

It has grown to 49.5” DBH, 90’ tall, with an 80’ crown spread. It can be found in USDA hardiness zones 7 through 9A: generally the southern states and the west coast.

Its native range extends from Afghanistan Mountains to Nepal and parts of China where it can grow to 160’ tall. In addition, some consider it to be a divine tree. The wood is used in construction and its essential oil is used in medicine and pesticides.

The National and State Big Tree Registry do not have a listing for Deodar Cedar. However, this tree’s height and circumference is comparable with the largest of its kind outside its natural range.

Staff concurs with the STAC’s recommendation.

---

[INSERT SIGNER’S NAME]  
[INSERT SIGNER’S TITLE]

[TYPIST/PROOFREADER INITIALS]:Document2

Attachments:

1. Letter from Lisa Griffith dated October 6, 2014

Ward 2

[INSERT CURRENT DATE]

April 8, 2014

Lisa Griffith  
556 23<sup>rd</sup> Street NE  
Salem OR 97301

**SUBJECT: Heritage Tree Nomination Process**

Dear Ms. Griffith:

Thank you for your interest in preserving trees that make Salem such a great city to live in. I have enclosed a copy of the nomination process. Please provide the following information:

1. The address where the tree resides
2. The location of the tree on the property
3. Describe what makes this tree special; include any background information as to its history
  - a. Suggestion – speak with older neighbors
  - b. Your neighborhood association may have someone who knows local history
4. Permission for City staff to enter on to the property to examine the tree

Once the nomination is submitted, staff will write an accompany report which will be reviewed by the Shade Tree Advisory Committee (STAC). You will be invited attend the STAC meeting and be provided an opportunity to speak about your tree. The STAC may determine to forward your request on to Salem City Council for their vote to include your tree on the Heritage Tree list.

If the tree is designated as a Heritage Tree, a deed restriction shall be recorded on the property at the owner's expense. Current and future owners of said property will need to obtain City Council approval to remove any Heritage Tree. Please note that the City does not provide funds or maintenance service to Heritage Trees on private property.

Please contact me at [jstaszewski@cityofsalem.net](mailto:jstaszewski@cityofsalem.net) or by phone at 503-588-6336 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jan Staszewski  
Urban Forester

JS/JDS/RR:G:\PARKS\ShadeTree\Heritage Trees\23rdStNE556.docx

Enclosure: Heritage Trees



Copied 1/26/21  
FOR MEETING: 8/4/97  
AGENDA ITEM NO.: 7.2

THRU: LARRY WACKER, CITY MANAGER

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 7.2.3

EDWARD L. JOCHUMS, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

presumably Council  
approved these changes  
to Heritage Tree list.

FROM: SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CHANGES TO HERITAGE TREE LIST

**ISSUE:**

Should the City Council approve changes to the Heritage Tree List to reflect current conditions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Shade Tree Advisory Committee recommends that City Council adopt the changes reflected in the attached list of Heritage Trees.

**BACKGROUND:**

On November 16, 1981, the City Council approved a voluntary Heritage Tree program for the identification of "special" trees in Salem. Trees on the list have been accepted because of their historical significance, age, size or they represent a unique species. From 1982 through 1985 several trees were designated as Heritage trees. Since 1985, no trees have been removed or placed on the list. The responsibility for the review, evaluation and recommending Council action regarding Heritage Trees, was given to the Shade Tree Advisory Committee.

Over the past several months, the Shade Tree Advisory Committee has been working with staff to update the Heritage Tree List in anticipation of a renewed effort to solicit new applications for inclusion to the city's Heritage Tree List. Working with staff, the Committee has reconfirmed ownership of each Heritage tree, and new owners have confirmed that they want the tree to continue to be listed. Each tree's condition has been evaluated and weighed against the Heritage Tree listing criteria.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

Some of the Heritage Trees evaluated had declined to a state of being hazardous which resulted in their removal. Some of the trees were removed because of construction activities; ie, Capitol Mall, while others were removed by property owners. At this time the only Heritage Tree's being officially recommended for elimination from the list, are those which have been physically removed, or are in such a state of decline that they are no longer indicative of their species. Several other trees, however, are declining and may in the future be recommended for removal from the Heritage Tree List.

As indicated earlier, the Shade Tree Advisory Committee is planning to solicit new applications for Heritage Trees. Additionally, the Committee is also reviewing strategies to identify Heritage Trees in order to prevent their indiscriminate removal.

City Council action is required to remove or place trees on the Heritage Tree List.

The Shade Tree Advisory Committee, at their June 17, 1997 meeting, voted to send the list as amended to City Council for their approval.

Attachment: Heritage Tree list



copy 1/25/21

List updated  
Aug. 1997

**TO:** MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
**THROUGH:** LARRY WACKER, CITY MANAGER  
**THROUGH:** EDWARD L. JOCHUMS, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
**FROM:** SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
**SUBJECT:** PROPOSED CHANGES TO HERITAGE TREE LIST

**ISSUE:**

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**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

# CITY OF SALEM HERITAGE TREES

On November 16, 1981, Salem City Council determined that a historic or heritage tree identification program should be undertaken so that such trees could be recognized. Following is a listing of trees so designated by City Council. This list updated August 4, 1997 by Council action.

TYPE OF TREE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	OWNER	DATE
Black Walnut	590 Cottage St. NE	According to Maynard Drawson, this tree was planted from a nut brought by a pioneer named LaFollett.	Rockwood Enterprises	04/82
European Beech	1678 Liberty ST. SE	Planted in 1902 by Jacob Amstler. The seeds for this tree were sent to Amstler by relatives in Switzerland. Supplemental data from Marion County Historical Society available.	Dr. Mark Rogers	04/82
Giant Sequoia	Waldo Park Summer & Union St.	Judge William Waldo planted this tree in 1872. Waldo made efforts during his lifetime to preserve this tree and, although the street system has grown around the tree, it has been preserved. The tree has been a City park since 1936. Supplemental information available.	City of Salem	04/82
Sycamore	Marion County Courthouse	These trees were part of a planting by Lord and Schuyvers done in the 1930's and are still a dominant downtown landmark.	Marion County	10/82
Pin Oak	2093 Mill St. SE	This tree was planted by Mrs. George W. Eyre approximately 50 years ago. The tree is a particularly good example of the natural growth habits of Pin Oaks.	Loscuttoff, Elizabeth	10/82

TYPE OF TREE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	OWNER	DATE
Lindens	23rd Street, from State St. south to the railroad tracks.	This group of approximately 60 trees provides a very nice arbor effect for several blocks, which has become a neighborhood landmark.	City of Salem.	12/82
Silver Linden	575 Superior St. South	This tree is a very large, beautiful specimen at the end of Superior Street.	Kleth Bauer & Madge Hastings	12/82
American Elm	787 Cross Street. SE	This tree was planted by pioneer Mr. Hoffer, in 1890. The tree is a very good specimen.	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Hadley	12/82
Douglas Fir	1234 Commercial St. SE	Although this tree is in a parking lot, it merits consideration due to its size.	Physicians' Building Inc.	12/82
European Birch	1599 State Street	Possibly the largest Birch tree in Salem.	Eric Olson	12/82
Monkey Puzzle	1065 Electric St. SE	This type of tree is native in Chile (South America), but large ones are fairly rare in the NW United States.	Roberta Marker	12/82
Japanese Maple	1467 Court Street SE	This tree is fairly large for its species and is very spectacular in the fall.	City of Salem	12/82
Oregon White Oak	545 Mission St. SE	A very good example of the native White Oak, both in shape and size. Well over 300 years old.	Sylvia Strand, Trustee	12/82
Franklinia	1815 18th St. NE	This is a very rare tree and unusual because of its spectacular blooms. According to research, there are no further Franklinia growing wild in their native Appalachian habitat.	Julie L. Reed	02/83
Honeysuckle	Union & Cottage St.	This tree is the last remaining tree of a planting done in the latter part of the 19th century, as part of a federal beautification program.	City of Salem	02/83

TYPE OF TREE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	OWNER	DATE
Lace Leaf Japanese Maple	1675 Fir Street South	This is probably the largest example of this variety in Salem.	Charles & Ann Elliott	02/83
Golden Rain Tree	Behind Willamette Law School	China (Golden Rain) tree behind Willamette Law School; obvious efforts have been made to preserve this tree during development. This is an uncommon tree with spectacular panicles of yellow flowers in the summer months.	Willamette University	04/83
European Beech Trees	YWCA, State Street	Two purple leafed European Beech trees in front of the YWCA on State Street. These two trees stand in the yard of the old city library (a Carnegie library).	YWCA	04/83
Ginkgo	Center St. side of State Labor and Industries Building	This is a very good specimen. According to Maynard Drawson, this tree was saved by Governor Hatfield when the State built the building on the old McNary estate.	State of Oregon	04/84
Tulip Tree	Corner of Court and Waverly	This tree is a landmark between the Capitol grounds and The Commerce building. Tulip trees are the largest growing deciduous trees in the United States.	State of Oregon	04/84
Decidur Cedar	2370 Cherry Ave. NE	This is a very good specimen of this tree.	Yuri & Ludmila Gekelman	04/84
Hager Family Pear Tree	Highway 22 & NE corner of I-5	This tree was planted in 1852 from seed brought in a basket by covered wagon and is located on the original family donation land claim.	State of Oregon	04/85

2-1-gmwy-janfebfeb07/1A4



2/4/22 Nomination will send as pdf in March SPRAB meeting

Jenny L. Ammon  
2450 Reindeer Ave NW  
Salem, OR 97304

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to nominate the Oregon White Oak tree located in Orchard Heights Park as a Heritage Tree. This oak tree provides stately presence in a popular West Salem Park.

The tree is sprawling, full of life, and provides the most amazing natural playscape for children (adult children too). I have witnessed Brown creepers, Acorn woodpeckers, Flickers, Coopers Hawks utilize this tree as habitat. My children and I have enjoyed the cooling shade in the summer, the hidden insect homes in the fallen oak leaves in the fall and winter, and the life springing forth this time of year.

Oregon White Oak habitats have been shrinking since settlement in the Willamette Valley. These trees are drought tolerant, have mighty seeds that mature in one season, provide vast species with habitat throughout the year, and hold our life-giving soil in place with massive root structures.

We hope to share this treasured tree long into the future and would love to enlist the help of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee and Salem City Council in this worthy goal.

If you would like additional information about this nomination please call, 563-580-5272.

Respectfully,



Jenny L. Ammon

Shade Tree Advisory Committee  
c/o Department of Community Services Parks Operations Division  
1460 20th St. SE, Building #14  
Salem, OR 97302.



Orchard Heights Park Heritage Tree Nomination 2/4/22

**Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Parks and Natural Resources Planning Update – February 2022**

**Bailey Ridge Park Master Plan** –The first meeting was held on Zoom January 26. Twenty-two people attended and 25 have watched the YouTube recording. The first survey is open until February 9. Next meeting will be March 16 and there will be different options for the park presented, followed by another survey.

**Geer Community Park Master Plan Update/Phase 2 Development** - *Skate Park Design - Preliminary Concepts*: Evergreen has delivered two initial skate park design concepts and City staff is reviewing. Greenworks is upgrading the graphics. Next public meeting (Zoom) and online survey in March.

**Geer Park Land trade** between City and State in which City land known as the “Geer Line” that runs next to the Oregon State Penitentiary is exchanged for City ownership of Geer Park, a section of Park Avenue NE PVT, and a public access easement for pedestrian access to Geer Park through the State Hospital campus. This transaction will take 2-3 years to complete due to 12 property line adjustments.

**Brown Road Park** – Drafting OPRD Local Government Grant for Brown Road Park and are currently developing a graphic of the first phase of development. We will bring this information to the Board at the March 10 meeting in the form of a staff report requesting endorsement and recommendation to City Council (March 14) to approve and accept grant funds, and a letter of support for the grant application. Application is due April 1.

**Bill Riegel Park** –Engineering is developing construction plans and bid package. Park will be under construction in summer of 2022. (No change.)

**Woodmansee Park Phase 1 Improvements** – Engineering is developing construction plans and bid package. Park will be under construction summer of 2022. (no change.)

**Park Usage and Permitting Recommendations** – Toni is lead on incorporating the recommendations into the Parks, Streets, and Public Open Spaces Administrative Rule. Some of the recommendations have complexities that may take some time to work through. She is working with Jennifer Kellar, Becky George and her staff in this process. (No change.)

**Fairview Land Donation** — The Woods at Fairview — A piece of land, known as the “Fairview Woods” property, will be donated to the City. This property is approximately 14 acres and extensively wooded. It has old asphalt roads through part of it, as it once was the location of Fairview Training Center employee housing.

**Climate Action Plan** –At the February 14 City Council meeting, Councilor Andersen intends to ask for a future public hearing. Original plan was to discuss implementation recommendations however there was some public push back. The Final Draft plan has been posted and public comment period is still open. Council received an informational report on December 6.

**Tree Planting** – Highland Park and Columbia Street planting occurred January 8. Twenty-one (21) trees were planted in the park and 25 along Columbia Street. The Pilot private front yard tree project kicked off in NOLA February 5 however response was very low (only 4 trees). However, 25 street trees were planted in the neighborhood. Next year we will need to re-vamp outreach and expand opportunity area for front yard trees.

**2021 Annual Tree Report** has been completed and is attached to this report. 2021 was the year of the destructive ice storm in February and much of Urban Forestry’s work focused on clean up and tree inventory. The report will go to Council March 28 as an informational report along with Arbor Month and Mayor’s Monarch Pledge Proclamations.

**Beaver Dam Operational Plan.** Draft plan being prepared and reviewed. Comments from stakeholders and agencies are being incorporated into final draft. It will come back to SPRAB and then go to Council after that as an informational report. (No change.)

**Patricia is retiring** – May 3 is her last day. March will be her last SPRAB meeting as taking vacation time in April.



## **Parks Operations Update – February 2022**

### **Unsheltered Population Clean-Up Update**

Local social service agencies will conduct a three-day census count, called the Point-in-Time Count, of the homeless population in the State of Oregon beginning on 1/25/2022 through 1/27/2022. We have been asked to not relocate any homeless campers two weeks prior to the count to stabilize the population and about a week after the count to allow for follow-up. Given this, police will not post any campsites or crews/staff will not relocate, or disturb any campers from their campsites beginning 1/13/2022 and continuing to 2/2/2022. The only exception to the “do not disturb” direction is if a homeless campsite is in immediate danger or creating a danger (such as blocking traffic, along a river/creek about to rise, in a sensitive security area, etc.).

Below is the TENTATIVE Homeless Camp Cleaning Schedule for February and March 2022:

2/10/2022	Claggett Creek Natural Area
2/17/2022	Geer Park
2/24/2022	Marion Square Park
3/3/2022	Cascades Gateway Park
3/10/2022	Wallace Marine Park
3/17/2022	Wallace Marine Park
3/24/2022	Wallace Marine Park
3/31/2022	Cascades Gateway Park

The schedule is dependent upon the availability of Salem Police Officers to post and clear campsites of campers with the exception of Claggett Creek Natural Area which continues to be clear of campers.

Below are Calendar Year (CY) 2021 statistics that were shared with City Council relative to clean-up activity that utilized City of Salem Parks Operations and Operations Division staff, code enforcement and Salem Police, and Service Master/Gliss Labor services:

### **Total Clean-up Days incorporating Service Master/Gliss Labor Services: CY 2021**

Date	Location	Estimated Cubic Yards Removed
12/16/2021	Claggett Creek Natural Area	114
12/9/2021	Marion Square Park/Bridgehead	18
12/2/2021	Wallace Marine Park	130
11/18/2021	Wallace Marine Park	80
11/4/2021	Marion Square Park/Bridgehead/Rite Aid	10
10/21/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	102
10/14/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	100
10/7/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	165
9/30/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	120
9/23/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	195
9/16/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	410
9/9/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	260
9/2/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	180
8/26/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	40
8/19/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	230
8/5/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	40
7/29/2021	Claggett Creek Natural Area	60
7/8/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	40
7/1/2021	Wallace Marine Park	108
6/17/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	80

6/10/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	156
6/3/2021	Wallace Marine Park	123
5/27/2021	Wallace Marine Park	45
5/20/2021	Wallace Marine Park	84
5/13/2021	Wallace Marine Park	70
5/6/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	60
4/29/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	30
4/15/2021	Willamette Slough (East Bank)	53
4/8/2021	High Street Bridge over Pringle Creek	18
3/26/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	30
3/12/2021	Wallace Marine Park	60
2/24/2021	Cascades Gateway Park	30
1/29/2021	Wallace Marine Park	70
1/15/2021	Wallace Marine Park	90
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,300</b>
<b>Eq. 275 12-yd Dump Truck Loads</b>		

Park Location	Number of Clean-ups	Total Est. Cubic Yards
Wallace Marine Park	10	860
Cascades Gateway Park	18	2,167
Claggett Creek Natural Area	2	174
Marion Square Park/Bridgehead/Rite Aid	2	28
Willamette Slough (East Bank)	1	53
High Street SE Bridge over Pringle Creek	1	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3,300</b>

### Additional Garbage Collection Services – CY 2021 Using Republic Services

#### Description:

Parks Operations had the following garbage services provided by Republic Services during 2021:

#### Wallace Marine Park

(2) 5-yard Dumpsters, emptied three times per week for 26 weeks

(3) 5-yard Dumpsters, emptied three times per week for 26 weeks

*(Does not include normal garbage from Softball Complex)*

#### Cascades Gateway Park

(2) 5-yard Dumpsters, emptied three times per week for 52 weeks

#### Marion Square Park

(1) 5-yard Dumpster, emptied 2 times per week for 3 weeks

Park Location	Estimated Cubic Yards
Wallace Marine Park	1,950
Cascades Gateway Park	1,560
Marion Square Park	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,540</b>

### Total Garbage Collected from Selected Locations – CY 2021

Park Location	Major Clean-ups	Dumpsters	Total
Wallace Marine Park	860	1,950	2,810

Cascades Gateway Park	2,167	1,560	3,727
Claggett Creek Natural Area	174		174
Marion Square Park/Bridgehead/Rite Aid	28	30	58
Willamette Slough	53		53
High Street SE Bridge over Pringle Creek	18		18
Street Rights-of-Way & Misc. Clean-ups (estimated)	360		360
<b>Total (Estimated cubic yards)</b>	<b>3,660</b>	<b>3,540</b>	<b>7,200</b>

7,200 cubic yards is equivalent to 600 12-yard dump truck loads

Imagine 600 dump trucks lined up nose-to-tail in a line 3 miles long on the Salem Parkway from Broadway to the overpass at Chemawa Road NE in Keizer

### Total Costs for Contracted Garbage Removal Services – CY 2021

**Service Master Inc.** for 34 scheduled large clean-ups

January 2021 – December 2021                \$220,480

**ServPro Inc.** for half the cost of a shared clean-up at Market Street/I-5 Interchange

Occurred in November 2020 but invoiced in CY 2021.     \$4,750

**Total Contracted Cleaning Services:        \$225,230**

### Public Works Operations Staff and Resources for Major Clean-ups – CY 2021

#### Average commitment of Public Works staff resources:

<u>Clean-up Day</u>	<u>Posting Day</u>
- Public Works Operations Manager	Public Works Operations Manager
- Parks Operations Field Supervisor	Signs & markings Project Leader
- Garbage Truck Driver/Operator	Signs & Markings Utility Worker
- Metals Recycling Truck Driver	
- Lumber Truck Driver	
- UTV Driver #1	
- UTV Driver #2 or Skidsteer Loader Operator	

#### By Work Unit

<u>Clean-up Day</u>	<u>Posting Day</u>
- Public Works Operations Admin.        1        (8 hrs.)	(2 hours)
- Parks Operations Group                    4        (36 hours)	
- Utility Operations Group                    1        (8 hours)	
- Streets Maintenance Group                1        (8 hours)	(3 hours)
Total of 60 hours per Clean-up Day        Total 5 hours on	
Posting Day	

Total staffing commitment for major, scheduled clean-ups is equal to at least an estimated 2210 hours per year

Probably half as many hours spent on smaller clean-ups, leading AIC crews doing clean-ups, etc. (~1100 hours)

Total staff commitment in reality is about 3,310 hours

#### Average Service Master Crew Size

- Service Master Field Supervisor
- Service Master Asst. Supervisor

- 6 to 12 Day Laborers from Gliss Labor Services

**Security Staffing:**

- Salem Police Department CAU Team of 2 to 5 officers including leadership on clean-up days and 2 officers on posting day
- Code Compliance – Park Ranger on clean-up days

**PROJECTS**

Memorial Benches, Small SPIF Projects, and Training: Parks staff are working to install several memorial benches and to complete some smaller SPIF projects as part of their winter work. Staff is also entering an equipment maintenance and training cycle in preparation for upcoming spring and summer work.

Maintenance of Minto-Brown Island Trails and Dog Park Parking Lot: In response to public concerns, staff have hauled several truckloads of wood chips from the stockpile at the Waste Processing Site to Minto-Brown Island Park to be placed on the trails to reduce muddy conditions. About 12 yards of gravel was brought in to improve the condition of the gravel parking lot at the Dog Park. The Dog Park is heavily used, especially with the dog park at Cascades Gateway Park unusable.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

New Weekend Project Coordinator Selected: Congratulations to Jackie Rogers, who was promoted from a Parks Maintenance Operator to the Weekend Project Coordinator, and will oversee Parks Operations during the weekends. Jackie began her new role on Monday, January 31, 2022.

**Mission Street Parks Conservancy (MSPC) 2022 Work Goals**

Attached are the Mission Street Parks Conservancy 2022 Work Goals, which have been reviewed and approved by the City of Salem Parks Operations and Parks Planning Managers. As required in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between MSPC and the City of Salem, MSPC provides the upcoming year's work goals annually to City of Salem for their review and approval, forwarding to SPRAB for their information.



MISSION STREET PARKS  
CONSERVANCY

## 2022 Work Goals

### MAINTENANCE

- March, April – Install new trees, shrubs, and other plant material
- March thru November – Continue weekly volunteer gardening work in landscape beds with focus on edging, mulching, weeding, and hand watering as needed
- April, May – Help dig out tulips; help replant with summer annuals as needed
- April thru June, after bloom time – Help Park staff prune spring-flowering shrubs (Camellias, Rhododendrons, Pieris, lilac, Deutzia, forsythia, azalea, etc.) as needed.
- May, June – Clean up Nursery Garden
- June, July – Consult with City Horticulturist to order 2022 spring tulips
- July, August – Provide input to City Horticulturalist and Urban Forester on health of trees in the Orchard and northwest corner of BPP
- September, November – Install new trees, shrubs, and other plant material
- October – help Park staff prune climbing roses as needed; work in Old Rose Collection
- October, November – Help dig out summer annuals and plant tulips
- November thru February 2023 – Provide input to City Horticulturalist and Urban Forester on new tree plantings in the Orchard and northwest corner of BPP

### PROJECTS

- January – Work on development and implementation of urgently needed preservation plan for the Oregon White Oaks in the lower field area as outlined in the Cultural Landscape Management Plan (CLMP)
- January or February – Select first project(s) to work through CLMP flow chart and associated City approval processes
- January thru May – Continue rehabilitation of the Tartar Old Rose Collection, including new plants and new plant labels
- January thru March – Rehabilitate kidney bed in Tartar Old Rose Collection
- February – Take scion wood from crab trees and cherries (Orchard) to grow replacement trees
- February or March -- Replant roses in focal point of Tarter Old Rose Collection
- March thru October -- Offer first Saturday free garden tours with partner Bush House Museum
- March through December – Work the selected project(s) through CLMP flow chart and associated City approval processes.
- Fall – Partner with City to ‘raise’ more rose beds in the Hybrid Tea/Floribunda collection (This is an annual activity.)
- On-going – Continue to accession new plant material in the NW corner of the park
- On-going – Continue identifying Tarter Old Rose collection roses, accession, and install labels

## **EVENTS**

- About April 22-23 – Spring plant sale
- About May 15 – Organize and host garden party for MSPC donors
- Mid-June – Organize and host Rose Garden Open House and celebration of focal point project
- About June 18 – Partner with Bush House Museum in Exploration Day
- About July 15-17 – Summer plant sale
- About Sunday, December 4 – Annual volunteer appreciation dinner

## **OTHER**

- Attend and report to SPRAB quarterly in January, April, July, and October.
- Advocate for the development of a formal City of Salem management plan or management policies for Oregon White Oaks.
- Advocate for the development of formal City of Salem policies that allow for nature play.
- Develop a strategy to participate in and contribute to preservation and improvement of natural landscapes in the riparian area and lower oak grove in Bush's Pasture Park.

**Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Recreation Update –February 2022**

**1. Events/Facility Use**

- The first round of interviews for the new Limited Duration (18 months or less) position managing the Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater have been completed. We are hopeful the new staff person will begin before the end of the month.
- Recreation staff are busy planning the 2022 Movies in the Park series, after a two-year hiatus due to COVID. Dates have been selected, and are as follows: July 16, July 30, August 6, August 13. The decision to move the event to the new Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater has also been made. In the coming months, Parks and Recreation staff will work together to install tie down/anchors in the new facility.
- The first planning meeting for Ironman Oregon was held on January 20. Initial communication from Ironman representatives indicate a desire to keep the same route as 2021, except instead of finishing on the vendor area in the south end of the park, they will use the Gerry Frank I Salem Rotary Amphitheater. The 2022 event is scheduled for Sunday, July 10, 2022.

**2. Youth Recreation Programs**

- We are working diligently on the 2022 program offerings. COVID is still a consideration but in addition to last year's programs, we are hoping to bring back the Kids Relays in May and the All Comer Track Meets in July. Since we use other entities (Willamette University and Sale-Keizer School District) facilities for these two events, and COVID is still a concern, there are details we are still working on.
- The Park Ranger is looking forward to continuing to offer Owl Prowls and the summer Jr. Ranger program. We are also looking into developing a new program for students to learn a bit more about local wildlife.
- As we move closer to Spring Break, the end of March, positions for summer recreation staff will open. Our tentative schedule is for summer staff training to occur the week of June 20 and for summer programs to start on June 27.

**3. Softball and Kickball Leagues/Tournaments**

- Staff just attended the USA Softball Region 9 Annual Meeting where we bid on, and were awarded, the 10B and 12B Western National Championship Tournaments for 2024!
- The 2022 tournament schedule (weekends April through September) is complete/full, and nearly all reservations are paid for.
- Our league schedule/line-up has been set with registration opening for all leagues on Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- We will be closing our Rec IV PTE (lead staff) recruitment next Monday, February 7 and plan to start the interview process for that position soon after. Our seasonal Rec I-III position will be opening later in February.





CITY OF *Salem*  
AT YOUR SERVICE



**Salem Tree Report** January 2022

# 2021 Summary of Public Works Tree Projects





# Salem Tree Report January 2021

## 2020 Summary of Public Works Tree Projects

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*Figure 1: Trees reduce urban heat islands.*

# THE URBAN TREE CANOPY

## Introduction

Salem's urban tree canopy experienced a particularly hard year in 2021. In February an ice storm hit the area and damaged thousands of trees, often so extensively the trees had to be removed. Clean-up from the ice damage occupied much of the year and cost millions of dollars. Spring planting by City staff was reduced due to the need for tree pruning and removals due to ice damage. Salem's tree contractors, including Friends of Trees and Treecology, continued to plant trees in Salem; however, the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic reduced the use of volunteers in the Friends of Trees events. In late June the area experienced several days of intense heat, with temperatures over 100 degrees. Coupled with drought conditions this put particular stress on young trees and conifers. All in all, 2021 was a tough year for our trees.





## Benefits of Trees

Extensive research has been done over the last decade on the multiple economic, environmental, and social benefits that trees provide. Some of these benefits can be quantified monetarily, such as in stormwater reduction, air quality improvement, and carbon sequestration that helps reduce greenhouse gases. Trees also help reduce the urban heat island effect by providing shade and reducing temperatures. They provide “green infrastructure” that grows and increases in value over time. The environmental benefits of Salem’s tree canopy were calculated in the 2019 tree canopy assessment report. According to the report, Salem’s trees provide \$80 million in total annual benefits, including air quality, stormwater, and carbon sequestration.

Trees also provide less easily quantified but equally important benefits such as natural beauty, a sense of place and identity, increased social interaction, reduced crime, and habitat and food for birds and other animals. Trees make cities more livable, improve business, and encourage people to walk and get outside. Healthy cities have healthy tree canopies. Healthy tree canopies can improve the health of cities both environmentally and socially.

## Significant Trees and Heritage Trees

Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*), is a signature tree of Salem and has a special place in Salem’s history. Large Oregon white oaks were particularly hard hit by the ice storm as their large diameter branches accumulated heavy loads of ice, resulting in massive limb breakage and whole trees keeling over.

Larger diameter (24-inch or greater diameter at breast height) Oregon white oaks are classified as “Significant Trees” and are given special protection under Salem’s Tree and Vegetation Preservation Code, Uniform Development Code (UDC) Chapter 808, which is administered by the Community Development Department. In addition to Oregon white oaks, other trees located along riparian areas (streamside areas) are also protected under this code.

In 2021 Community Development began updates to UDC Chapter 808 and proposed to expand the definition of “significant tree” to include, in addition to 24-inch diameter Oregon white oaks, all trees over 30-inch diameter at breast height (dbh). Invasive non-native trees are excluded from this designation. In addition, new tree root zone protections were proposed. A public hearing was

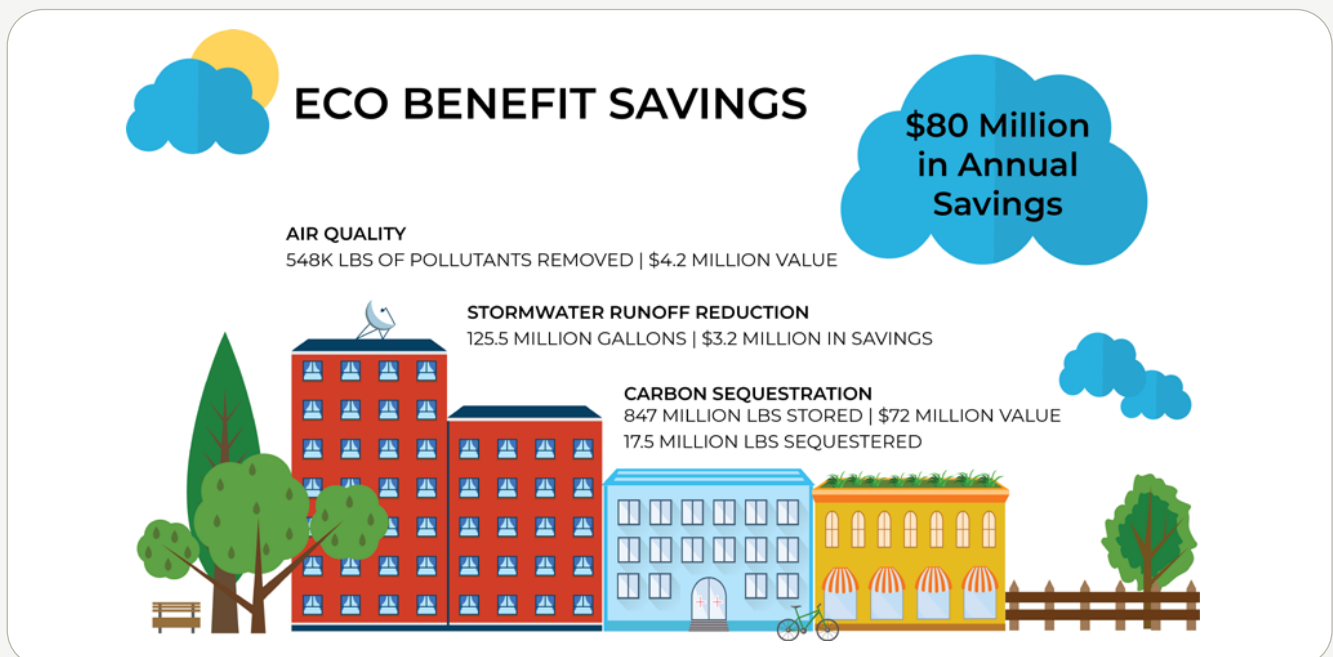


Figure 2. Estimated 2019 Eco Benefits provided by Salem’s tree canopy.



held on December 6, 2021, however the hearing was continued until 2022 .

Trees can be designated as “Heritage Trees” under UDC Chapter 808. Heritage trees must be nominated by the property owner and approved by resolution of the City Council. Heritage trees are so recognized due to their location, size, age, botanical interest, commemorative planting, or historic significance. Once designated, heritage trees receive protection under UDC Chapter 808.

### Community Forestry Strategic Plan

In 2013, Council adopted the *Community Forestry Strategic Plan*. This plan provides specific goals and actions to protect and increase Salem’s urban tree canopy. See the [Community Forestry Strategic Plan](#) for additional information. The six goals of the Strategic Plan are:

- Goal 1:** Protect, increase, and enhance Salem’s tree canopy;
- Goal 2:** Increase education and outreach about tree benefits, community forestry program, tree regulations, and incentives;
- Goal 3:** Develop support at political, management, and public levels;
- Goal 4:** Improve City coordination, communication, and codes related to trees;
- Goal 5:** Develop and implement a Community Forestry Management Plan; and
- Goal 6:** Establish a stable funding for the Community Forestry Program.

In March 2021 Council was provided, along with the 2020 Annual Tree Report, a summary of actions taken to-date towards meeting the goals and tasks outlined in the Community Forestry Strategic Plan. A copy of the summary is included in Appendix A. Staff continues to work towards the goals and objectives of the Community Forestry Strategic Plan.

### Urban Tree Canopy Assessment/ Tree Canopy Impact Assessment

Typically, the City conducts a full urban tree canopy assessment every 10 years. The last assessment was completed in 2019 and found that Salem had 24 percent tree canopy coverage, exceeding our goal of 23 percent. In 2020 a new canopy goal of 28 percent was set.

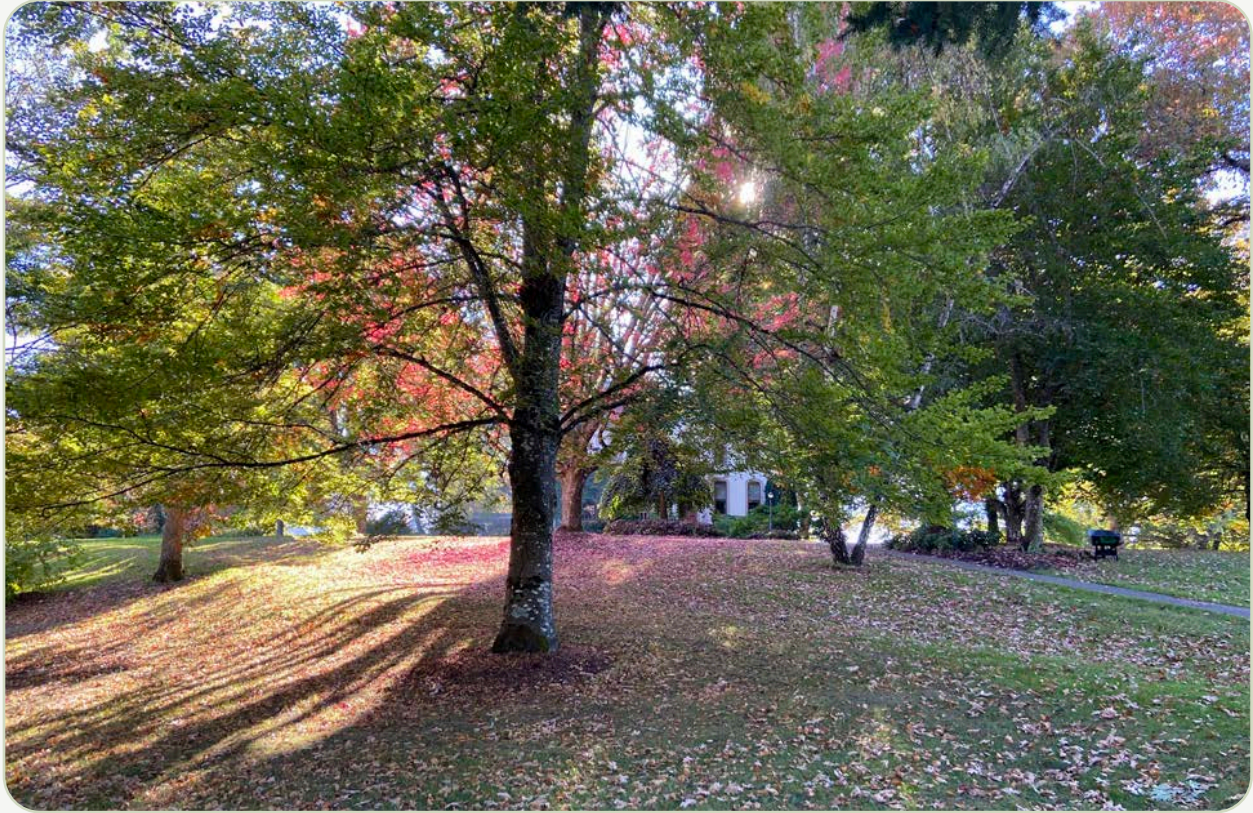
Due to the extensive damage and loss to the tree canopy as a result of the February 2021 ice storm, Public Works conducted an interim tree canopy impact assessment. The purpose of the 2021 Tree Canopy Impact Assessment was to attempt to quantify the amount of tree canopy lost and to better understand how the ice storm affected the tree canopy in different areas of interest (AOIs) within the City, including within City council wards, City parks, public rights of way, and stream corridors.

The City-wide statistical analysis showed a 17.6% canopy loss across the City during the time period studied, with approximately 10 acres of canopy lost to development and over 1,000 acres lost due to the ice storm or other factors. Camera angle, seasonal variation in canopy, and pruning or tree removals for other reasons likely account for some portion of this observed change; therefore, it is



*Figure 3. Ice covered tree February 2021*





*Figure 4. Trees provide aesthetic beauty in urban environment*

not possible to quantitatively discern the exact amount of damage incurred as a direct result of the ice storm. It is clear however that a large percentage of the canopy loss is attributable to the ice storm. A copy of the report is included in Appendix B.

### 2021 Program Participation

Salem participates in a variety of programs and initiatives that promote and enhance our urban tree canopy. Initiatives such as “Tree City USA” and “Cities4Forests” connect Salem with national and international municipalities and experts.

### TREE CITY USA

The City of Salem has been a Tree City USA for 45 years. Arbor Day in the U.S. was started in Nebraska in 1872 “to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate

trees.” Tree City USA is a program from the Arbor Day Foundation that began in 1976.

The City of Salem is proud to be one of only 17 cities in the country to be a charter participant in the Tree City USA program. In 2021 Salem celebrated 45 consecutive years of participation. In 2015 Salem became a “Sterling City,” having received 10 Arbor Day Foundation “Growth Awards” in recognition of innovative and/or increased program participation. Salem continues to excel and receive “Sterling City” status.

The Tree City USA program recognizes and guides achievement in four core standards of sound urban forestry management: 1) maintaining a tree advisory board; 2) having a community tree ordinance; 3) spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry; and 4) celebrating Arbor Day and having an Arbor Day Proclamation.







To meet these requirements the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (SPRAB) has a tree committee that serves in an advisory capacity, and also hears tree removal permit appeals. The City also has a tree ordinance, spent \$7.86 per capita on the urban forest in 2021, and had the annual Arbor Month proclamation at City Council on March 22, 2021. Oregon now celebrates Arbor Month in April, instead of Arbor Day.

Each year as part of the Tree City USA requirements, Salem hosts an Arbor Day tree planting event with community volunteers that improves Salem's urban tree canopy. In recent years, the Arbor Day planting event has been coordinated by Friends of Trees, an Oregon-based nonprofit hired by the City of Salem Public Works Department to organize volunteer tree planting events.

Unfortunately, the 2021 Arbor Day planting at Northgate Park was a small event because of COVID-19 safety precautions. The trees were planted by Friends of Trees staff and Salem tree crew leaders .

As part of the City's celebration of 45 years as a Tree City USA, six new TCUSA signs were ordered

and will be placed at key entrances to the City. These signs will be posted on existing posts and conform to Oregon Department of Transportation requirements.

In addition, the City initiated three online outreach events about trees, including a tree poster contest, a "poetree" contest, and a tree trivia contest.

## CITIES4FORESTS

In 2018, the City of Salem signed on as a founding member of Cities4Forests, a new initiative that focuses on the value and benefits of trees in cities and forests across the globe. It is an international effort spearheaded by the World Resources Institute. It aims to cultivate awareness and stimulate action on the part of urban residents to recognize the importance of trees and forests to human well-being. In urban areas, the "inner forest" is a critical component of a healthy city. City trees improve public health, reduce air pollution, protect water quality, store carbon, and help a city become climate resilient. Cities4Forests has a goal of integrating trees into city growth and development, and of harnessing the value of trees to meet multiple objectives, such as: improving public health; protecting drinking water supplies; and providing benefits for air quality, water quality, and heat island mitigation.

Membership in Cities4Forests complements the City's current urban forestry programs. Cities4Forests is a voluntary coalition involving mayors' offices from around the world. Salem was

**Figure 6** [wri.org/our-work/project/cities4forests](https://www.wri.org/our-work/project/cities4forests)

among the 50 founding cities worldwide. Salem staff attended Cities4Forests-hosted information sharing events such as international webcasts and conference calls to share urban forestry information between cities around the world.



**Figure 5.** Volunteer crew members and FOT Crew Leader stand by a Tulip Tree planted at Northgate Park, 4/3/21.



## STREET TREE INVENTORY

Since 2018, the City has been surveying streets in Salem to build an inventory of street trees. The objective of street tree inventory has been to gain a more detailed understanding of Salem's urban forest structure. By knowing the location, species, condition, and size of existing street trees, the City can implement more effective practices for planting and maintaining healthy trees in the future.

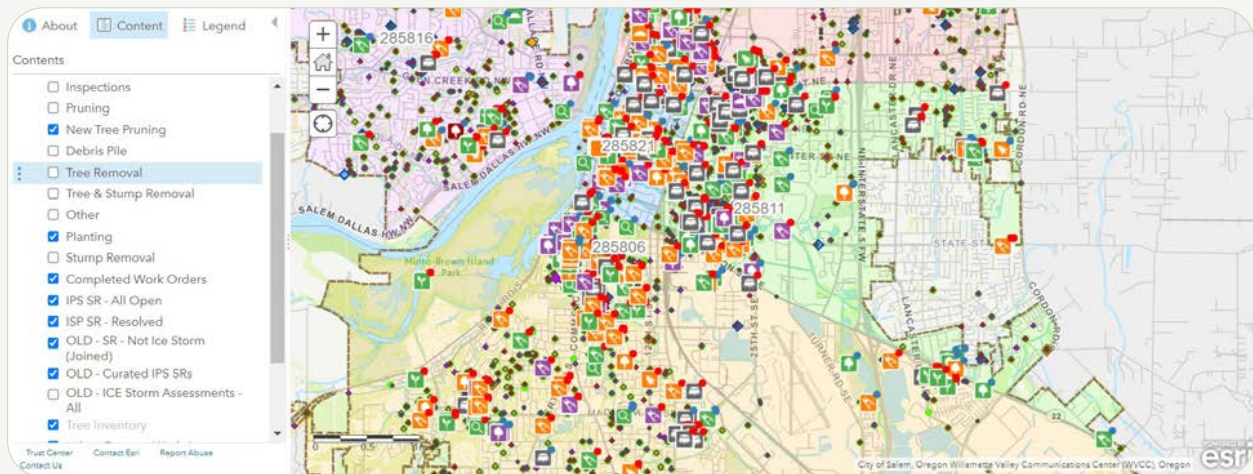
General inventory work uses the ArcGIS Collector app connected to the city GIS Salem Maps Online, and forestry staff use iPhones and iPads to update existing tree and proposed tree locations. The inventory collects a species key, an individual GIS ID number/ Object ID, Unit ID, address, tree species, cultivar, dbh, health rating, planting space size, space ownership, utilities present, comments, user ID and last edited date for each tree. With this current data, we can identify dead trees and trees that are in poor condition to monitor for removal. All in all, over 23,000 trees have been inventoried and over 4,000 new locations identified where street trees can be planted. With new Lidar imagery the City of Salem GIS team has found there are over 300,000 trees on City-owned property. The imagery locates 150,000 city park trees and over 150,000 right-of-way trees. The specific number of "street trees" has not been identified yet but will be tallied in 2022.

Having an inventory with better data allows us to manage the Urban Forestry program more effectively and efficiently. The inventory is used along with a GIS asset management system that includes ArcGIS Field Maps, ArcGIS Workforce and Survey 123 to create, track and manage all tree-related work orders including tree plantings, removals, pruning and inspections that are directly tied to the trees. Trees will continue to be surveyed and added to the inventory until it is complete. This database has already proved useful for documenting unpermitted tree removals as well as for health appraisals. Since the tree canopy is constantly changing, the Urban Forestry Division will continue to update the inventory even after



*Figure 6. New Street Trees*





**Figure 7. Urban Forestry Work Order Map**

completion to help manage and promote the urban tree canopy of Salem.

The inventory data that has already been collected shows that the street tree population in Salem has limited diversity and is dominated by maples, oaks, sweetgums, ornamental pears, and ash. Non-native maples alone compose over 27% of the current inventory. Because of this the City has deferred planting non-native maples for a period of time in order to focus on increasing diversity. Ash, sweetgum, and pears have also been removed from the planting list. Ash were removed because of the potential onset of Emerald Ash Borer to the region, and pears and sweetgums were removed as nuisance trees. The Parks Planning team worked with the Urban Forestry Division to establish a new Recommended Street Tree List and will focus on selecting the right tree for the right place in the coming years. This includes species selection based on heat tolerance, available soil volume, overhead wires, and drought tolerance as well as a focus on regionally and locally native species. This will increase species diversity (of both trees and the wildlife that use them) and reduce our urban forest's vulnerability to pests, disease, and climate change impacts.


### City Tree Protection and Policy

The City of Salem Public Works is responsible for administering SRC 86 Trees on City Owned

Property and uses an Administrative Rule of the same name, 109-500-002, to accomplish the goals of that code chapter. Public Works changed how it administers these rules in 2020, coinciding with the hiring of a new Urban Forester. The change became an opportunity to re-establish the protections and guidelines put in place with SRC 86. Monies taken in for City-owned tree violations are placed into a fund dedicated to street tree plantings by Urban Forestry.

The Public Works Department is in the process of revising SRC Chapter 86 to clarify the protections in place for City street trees, how violations are assessed and resolved, and to update the associated administrative rule, including the City's street tree list.

Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (SPRAB), as part of its purview, hears appeals to tree code violations. In 2021 there were no hearings on appeals to tree violations.

In 2021 Parks Planning completed a Cultural Landscape Management Plan for Bush and Deepwood. This management plan focuses extensively on recognizing the cultural significance of the Oregon white oaks and recommends specific management actions to be undertaken to protect and enhance the oak groves, as well as the Pringle Creek riparian area, wildflowers, and historic areas of the two City-owned properties. 



# TREE PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE

## 2021 Overview

Trees on City-owned property are managed by the City's Urban Forestry Division, in the Parks Operations of Public Works. Tree planting and maintenance of City-owned trees in 2021 was performed primarily by three groups: Salem Urban Forestry, Friends of Trees, and Treecology. Tree maintenance also includes tree trimming and tree removal. Trees are trimmed for health and structure, vision or access clearance, or because of damage. Tree removals occur due to development, sidewalk repairs, damage, hazard risk, or disease.

To supplement the work of Urban Forestry, Public Works has contracted over the last nine years with Friends of Trees, a nonprofit organization, for community tree planting events, primarily in parks. Friends of Trees' mission is to bring people

together to plant, care for, and learn about trees in communities across the Pacific Northwest. This important work engages Salem's residents and local volunteer groups who actively participate in planting trees in low tree canopy neighborhoods and along streams with limited shade. Planting locations are selected each year and focus on low canopy areas of the City and along streams that lack shade. The continued public safety concerns due to COVID-19 put a damper on the ability to have large volunteer events in early 2021, but small volunteer events (~30 volunteers per event) were able to resume in late 2021. Nevertheless, trees were planted in all the locations proposed, most often by Friends of Trees staff, local tree crew leaders, and the City's Urban Forestry staff.



*Figure 8. Tree crew work post ice storm.*





Recognizing the limitations of working with volunteers and the need to plant more trees along City streets, Public Works began contracting in 2018 with a private arboriculture company, Treecology. Treecology is an experienced tree service and restoration contractor that has been performing similar contract tree planting work for the City of Portland. Through this renewable contract, approximately 150 trees are planted each planting season in City rights-of-way, and three years of watering and tree care is provided. This ensures that new trees get off to a good start. After the initial three-year establishment period, Salem's Urban Forestry will take over maintenance of the trees. The goal of this contract is to increase our street tree planting capability to grow the overall canopy and increase species diversity.

Contracts with nonprofits and contractors such as Friends of Trees and Treecology expand our planting capacity while also providing outreach, education, and volunteer opportunities.

Due to the ice storm, additional contractors were enlisted to assist in the cleanup. Contracts with local arboricultural companies, such as Mountain View Tree Service and Buena Vista Arbor Care, helped with tree removals in the right of way and in city parks. Mountain View assisted the Urban Forestry Division with larger projects, specialized arbor care, and collaboration on some City projects where their expertise was required. These contractors were critical in supplementing City crews with tree removals and cleanup following the February ice storm. A total of 10 contractor crews were utilized for this effort.

## Urban Forestry

Street trees, trees in parks, and trees on other City-owned properties in Salem are maintained by the Urban Forestry Division in Public Works. The Urban Forestry Division operates under the direction of the City's Urban Forester, Milan Davis. Currently there are seven full-time employees and one seasonal staff, three of which are ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) Certified

Arborists who inspect all tree-related permits and Public Works-generated service requests.

Urban Forestry Division responsibilities include tree removal, pruning, stump grinding, planting and all tree-related work in the City rights-of-way and on City-owned properties. They also provide 24-hour response for removing fallen trees or branches obstructing traffic, and work to keep all streets, sidewalks, paths, and bike lanes clear. Most of their work supports City projects or is in response to requests from other public agencies or Public Works divisions. The Division's staff continues to improve with new training and certifications. Three of the seven full-time staff are now certified by ISA: Milan Davis is an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist and Tom Bradley and Don Gunther have both obtained TRAQ (Tree Risk Assessment Qualification) credentials from the ISA.

The Urban Forestry Division supports other tree projects and programs in the City with their expertise and experience. Staff are tasked with reviewing all plans and construction documents regarding tree-related work that affects City-owned trees to ensure compliance with City standards and current codes. Utilizing the experience and expertise of ISA-certified arborists within Urban Forestry to consult on Public Works tree-related projects ensures that we are planting and preserving a healthy urban canopy and utilizing the most current best management practices. The Urban Forestry Division also supports the Salem Planning Department and Community Development in tree-related inspections and consultation. The Urban Forestry Division reviews all Significant Tree Removal Permit requests for the Planning Department and works with code compliance on tree-related issues.

Much of the work in 2021 focused on cleanup and assessments related to the ice storm. It is estimated that over 10,000 trees were severely damaged. Over 3,000 service requests for trees came in between February 12 and March 30. Due to the large number of tree-related issues a triage



*Figure 9. Urban Forestry Division at work.*

system was established to conduct work in this order:

- Address emergency situations: trees on houses, trees on cars, uprooted trees causing gas leaks, trees blocking roads and driveways, etc.;
- Clear downed trees and debris for emergency vehicle access to Salem Hospital;
- Judgement calls on priority trees: only cutting enough to make it safe to move on to the next location, and not wasting time doing non-emergency work;
- Map out logistics for contract crews to clear streets of trees and debris using historical snow routes, with a goal of having arterial roads open and cleared of debris

and dangerous limbs, followed by collector streets, and finally working through the neighborhoods;

- Work in high-use parks to clear trails and assess damage.

Urban Forestry has worked hard to find efficiency and improvement through cooperation with other workgroups and agencies, such as Marion County. These relationships proved critical during the ice storm response. Due to the ice storm damage vast quantities of wood was generated from tree removals and trimmings. Much of the wood was donated to Marion County Juvenile Department for firewood and crafts. Large wood from tree removals is collected by Marion County Youth Services and is either cut to serve their “firewood for the needy” program or milled into





**Figure 10. Firewood at Marion County Juvenile Dept.**

saleable lumber. This partnership benefits the youth program with free materials and saves Urban Forestry the burden of dealing with the logs themselves for an additional annual savings of \$15,000 .

Smaller pieces of woody debris were chipped. In addition to City-generated debris, property owners were allowed to bring their debris to designated locations and also to pick up free wood chips. This created a huge workload burden on staff to manage the sites and disperse the chips. As usual, the City uses woodchips for landscape mulching and trails in parks, and this saves the City around \$15,000 per year in material costs; however, these savings were offset by the large volume of chips and the management of the drop-off and pick-up sites.

The City spent nearly \$6,500,000 in ice storm related cleanup and work continued well into the summer. On the positive side, staff made huge advancements in using technology to map and prioritize work, asset management, and tracking of time and expenditures. In June a presentation was given at the Oregon Community Trees conference that highlights the ice storm response. The presentation is included in Appendix C. Table 1 summarizes the work done by Urban Forestry in 2021.

<b>Trees Inventoried</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>Trees Planted</b>	<b>147</b>
<b>Trees Removed</b>	<b>1,218*</b>
<b>Trees Pruned</b>	<b>5,132</b>

*\*over 1,000 trees removed on City property due to ice storm*

**Table 1. Summary of Work by Urban Forestry in 2021.**



## Friends of Trees

Nine years ago, the City of Salem contracted with Friends of Trees and began working together to enhance the City's urban tree canopy and to restore its streambanks and riparian areas.

In 2021 the City and Friends of Trees organized tree planting events at Bill Riegel Park, McKay School Park, Hammond School Park, Lansing Park and neighborhood, and Northgate Park and neighborhood. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on public gatherings, public participation was cancelled, and Friends of Trees staff and crew leaders and Urban Forestry staff completed the work.

Friends of Trees planted 183 large stock trees in 2021 in Salem parks and street rights of way. Friends of Trees planted an additional 2,014 small stock trees, shrubs, and smaller native plants in Salem riparian and natural areas.

To help facilitate the events, Friends of Trees has trained local crew leaders. These individuals receive additional training on tree planting, tree care, and how to conduct volunteer events. In 2021, these 94 local crew leaders helped fill the gap caused by the pandemic restrictions. With the

help of the crew leaders, City staff, and Friends of Trees staff the City was able to complete all planned Friends of Trees planting projects in 2021.

A summary of the 2021 Friends of Trees' events is available in Table 2.

Friends of Trees will continue to work with the City, beginning in early 2022 with plantings in Highland Park and along Columbia Street, McKay School Park, the North Lancaster neighborhood, and an Arbor Day planting at Brown Road Park. The full calendar of planting events is in Appendix D. Planting sites for later in 2022 are being assessed using information from our 2019 canopy study and the street tree inventory. Efforts continue to focus on prioritizing neighborhoods with low tree canopy.

Beginning in the 2021/22 planting season, Public Works is funding a pilot program aimed at getting more trees planted on private property, specifically in front yards in the North Lancaster Neighborhood Association (NOLA) area. The goal is to provide trees, at significant savings and at sliding financial scales, to interested property owners in a low canopy area of the City. Friends of Friends of Trees has run a similar program in

Date	Site	Trees (large stock)	Small stock trees and shrubs
1/9/2021	McKay School Park	35	0
2/13/2021	Lansing Park & Neighborhood	38	0
3/6/2021	McKay School Park	0	700
3/20/2021	Hammond School Park	29	0
4/4/2021	Northgate Park & Neighborhood	37	0
10/30/2021	West Salem (Crew Leader Training)	4	34
11/13/2021*	Orchard Heights Park	0	1280
12/11/2021*	McKay School Park	40	0
<b>2021 Total</b>		<b>183</b>	<b>2,014</b>

\* volunteer planting event.

\*\*planned volunteer planting event canceled due to severe weather.

**Table 2: Summary of 2021 Friends of Trees Events in Salem**





Portland and other cities, so we have been able to utilize many aspects of their system, including outreach postcards, online sign-ups, tree selection information, tree ordering, and watering reminders. Friends of Trees and City staff will assist volunteers in planting and mulching both street trees and yard trees at the February planting event.



Figure 11. Mulching new plants at McKay Park.

## Treecology

In 2021, 92 trees were planted by Treecology along streets in Salem. Planting occurred in January through April and then resumed in December.

This contract has identified opportunities where large unused right-of-way spaces are available to plant uncommon and large canopy street tree species. By planting less common tree species, the diversity of our street tree population is increased, which adds interest and increases resilience for future pests and disease.

Plantings by Treecology in 2021 occurred along Campbell Drive SE and Salem Parkway. 🌳

# EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

In 2021, as part of the effort to increase tree planting on private properties, the City developed a survey to assess incentives and barriers to tree plantings. The survey was first a random sample across the City targeting low canopy areas, followed by a survey for the general public on the City's website. The City will use survey findings to help build programs and policies that are responsive to residents' needs and concerns and help increase the tree canopy in these areas to meet the tree canopy goal of 28 percent by 2030.

The survey results generally showed a positive response to trees, recognizing their importance to neighborhoods and a desire to have more trees. Responses also highlighted that many people are not aware of the City's tree planting programs and canopy goals. This indicates that more education and outreach is needed. A copy of the survey summary report is in Appendix E.

The City continues to work with Willamette University students on individual projects and hired two seasonal positions to assist in tree inventory field work, mapping, and data entry in 2021. 🌳





# SUMMARY

Salem is involved in a variety of projects, programs, and initiatives that are working to achieve the goals of the Community Forestry Strategic Plan. Community outreach and planting events, primarily in partnership with Friends of Trees, spread the message of tree benefits and give an opportunity for the community to be involved with growing the urban forest. Programs like Tree City USA and Cities4Forests provide opportunities for Salem to be recognized for our urban canopy work and to keep informed of innovative urban forestry programs around the world.

The Urban Forestry Division works daily to maintain, promote, and increase the tree canopy through high standards in work practices and safety. Staff responds to all weather emergencies and helps keep city streets and the rights-of-way safe 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. With a limited full-time City staff, it is important to have contractors like Mountain View Tree Service for tree removals, and contractors like Treecology and Friends of Trees for expanding our tree planting capabilities.

Despite the unique challenges faced in 2021 due to COVID and the February ice storm, a total of 425 trees were planted. The urban canopy should continue to grow as Urban Forestry Division takes an increasingly active role in managing existing trees and putting money from fines and permits towards new plantings. Table 3 summarizes all tree work done by the City in 2021.

Salem Public Works will continue to promote tree planting efforts to enhance the City's tree canopy, increase education and outreach about the urban forest, and improve the level of expertise in staff. Urban Forestry's 2022 Work Plan calls for developing an Urban Forestry Management Plan and seeking program accreditation through Society of Municipal Arborists. 🌳



	City Urban Forestry	Friends of Trees	Treecology
<b>Trees/Locations Inventoried</b>	5,500	-	-
<b>Trees Planted</b>	147	183	92
<b>Trees Removed</b>	1,218*	-	-
<b>Trees Pruned</b>	5,132	-	-
<b>Shrub/Small Container Trees Planted</b>	-	2,014	-

\*over 1,000 trees removed on City property due to ice storm. Includes work by contractors.

**Table 3. Summary of Tree Work on City Owned Trees in 2021.**



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## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

SALEM COMMUNITY FORESTRY STRATEGIC PLAN-IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2021		
	Actions	Status
<b>GOAL 1</b>	<b>Protect, Increase, and Enhance Salem's Tree Canopy</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Preserve Existing Wooded Parks and Natural Areas; plant trees in parks, natural areas and other public open spaces to improve overall tree canopy</b>	
1	Set future canopy goal with Tree Board, Citizens and/or Technical Advisory Committees and public involvement- establish process and framework.	COMPLETED. Canopy Goal set at 23% in 2015. Updated to 28% in 2020.
2	Develop specific canopy goals for parks, natural areas, and public open space at the neighborhood level.	
3	Incorporate existing trees, groves, and canopy goals into parks masterplans.	On-Going
4	Prioritize potential property acquisition, planting opportunities, and outreach using a prioritization methodology and baseline information for all City owned properties.	For Parks Acquisition
5	Develop natural area management plans to maximize tree canopy and ecosystem services.	IPM in process, on-going
6	For new park design projects, include canopy targets on the park master planning process. Encourage incorporation of tree planting as a funded element in first phase park construction.	On-Going
7	Retrofit existing parks and public spaces by planting trees and shrubs, using native vegetation where appropriate, in riparian areas and hard to mow or underutilized grassy areas.	Ongoing: Two- three yearly plantings events with FOT through Clean Streams program
8	Allow for planting of "memorial" trees and tree groves that could be purchased for installation by City with care by donor.	
9	Partner with other public agencies (e.g. State of Oregon DAS, ODOT, DOC) for tree canopy preservation, enhancement, and tree plantings on other publicly owned properties	ODOT IGA for 2020 Salem Parkway tree planting with Treecology
10	Work collaboratively with utility companies to ensure health and safety of public trees in utility right of ways (e.g. PGE, Salem Electric, NW Natural Gas)	



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	Actions	Status
11	Upgrade City-owned parking lots by planting trees to maximize shade and minimize runoff.	
<b>1.2</b>	<b>Promote tree preservation and tree planting to maximize future canopy while recognizing infrastructure and site limitations.</b>	
1	Establish stakeholder advisory committee to consider setting a canopy goal and to draft a strategic plan.	COMPLETED (2015)
2	Use Urban Tree Canopy analyses and stakeholder advisory committee to assist in framing tree canopy goal discussions.	COMPLETED (2015)
3	Establish a citywide canopy goal, with accompanying targets by land use type and neighborhoods.	City-wide goal set 2015 (23%) and 2020 (28%).
4	Develop a tree planting campaign to reach a goal.	
5	Recruit neighborhood associations for tree planting projects and outreach.	NESCA, Lansing, Morningside, SCAN, SESNA have all done tree planting projects.
6	Do a neighborhood association competition/challenge to meet tree canopy goal.	
7	Enlist a non-profit group to spearhead a tree planting campaign (e.g. Friends of Trees).	Ongoing. FOT contract with Salem beginning 2013. Currently, 7-8 events occur annually in parks and along streams on City property.
8	Use canopy analyses to prioritize low canopy neighborhoods for tree outreach and plantings.	Ongoing. Tree plantings focused on low canopy neighborhoods and streets.
9	Use strategic planting along public Right of Ways to reduce future conflicts (safety, signs, visibility, ice).	Ongoing. Treecology and Urban Forestry.
10	Plant publicly owned vacant lands for canopy benefit, while recognizing potential future site development.	Ongoing. Perimeters of undeveloped parks (e.g. Fisher Road Park) planted with trees prior to park development.
11	Implement a pilot project at a block or neighborhood level. Develop prioritization criteria for selecting project locations.	Ongoing. Using tree inventory and tree plotter maps to prioritize plantable areas.
12	Work with Oregon Department of Transportation and local utility companies for site specific tree planting strategies and locations.	2019 IGA/2020 planting with ODOT for planting along Salem Parkway.



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
13	Encourage planting of conifers in appropriate areas for species diversity and stormwater benefits	Conifers being planted through Treecology contract for ROW.
14	Contact churches and schools for tree planting opportunities as they often have large lots.	Morningside Elementary, Hoover, McKay HS on Hollywood planted with FOT.
15	Prevent unnecessary tree removal on residential lots through property owner education.	Tree benefit brochure 2020 and 2021 tree questionnaire about barriers and incentives for trees on private property.
16	Continue and increase programs to plant trees throughout the City.	Enhanced Street Tree planting begun 2018. Contract with Treecology. \$\$ from Salem Tree Fund to plant street trees. Watershed Grant program can be used for tree-planting projects. Reinstated Free Tree Program in FY 2019/20.
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Develop and offer incentives to encourage the preservation and planting of trees and tree groves on private property</b>	
1	Increase awareness of existing City grant programs that could be used for tree plantings (e.g. Salem Parks Improvement Fund, Watershed Protection Grant, Neighborhood Enhancement Fund)	Ongoing. SPIF grants allowed for tree plantings in parks. Watershed Grant program is promoted annually and is available for tree-planting programs.
2	Bolster the Heritage Tree program for more nominations and recognition of program	Urban Forestry updating this process.
3	Establish another tree category for "Special" or "Trees of Interest" with nominations from the public	
4	Develop a recognition award for tree preservation, tree planting, tree champion. Coordinate award with Arbor Day events.	Several Salem people have received Oregon Community Tree Awards.
5	Continue and expand free tree and street tree programs to meet canopy goals	Treecology contract begun 2018 for 5 years. Riparian free tree program was reinstated in FY 2019/20 after 10 years of absence. Additionally, 20 streamside property owners in low to moderate shaded areas are provided additional outreach each year.
6	Provide coupons or discounts for pruning, not removing trees	



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	Actions	Status
7	Provide tax breaks for high percent tree cover	
8	Investigate funding opportunities for tree preservation and planting incentives	
9	Develop opportunities for applying for larger grants at community or neighborhood level	
10	Partner with a non-profit/non governmental organization for tree planting or outreach (e.g. Friends of Trees or Friends group)	Ongoing: FOT contracted by Salem 2013.
11	Set up tree fund that is designated for tree plantings. Fund through grants, donations, etc. Investigate whether donations can be tax deductible.	COMPLETED- Tree Preservation Fund set up in CD. Violation payments going into dedicated Salem Tree Fund.
12	Have approved geographic areas for tree plantings using the tree fund, preferably within same watershed or neighborhood.	UF inventory documenting potential planting locations.
13	Identify barriers to tree canopy expansion on industrial properties. Develop best management practices to mitigate for these barriers. Develop pilot project with industrial partnership.	
1.4	<b>Promote street tree plantings to maximize future tree canopy coverage while recognizing infrastructure limitations</b>	
1	Use canopy analysis to identify street tree planting opportunities. Verify locations on ground to ensure appropriate species and minimize future infrastructure conflicts.	Tree Plotter mapping tool being used to prioritize areas. Street tree inventory identifying plantable spots.
2	Update and distribute a street tree selection guide and interactive website.	Street Tree list update in 2020. Administrative Rule update in 2021.
3	Work with neighborhood associations or other groups to conduct volunteer neighborhood tree plantings. Encourage low canopy neighborhoods to participate.	FOT projects target low canopy neighborhoods. Outreach sent to surrounding neighbors.
4	Develop street profiles that create more tree planting opportunities in the right of way.	
5	Work with local tree nurseries to expand street tree selection.	
6	Engage volunteers in care of newly planted street trees.	Urban Forestry working on outreach to adjacent owners of new street trees.





## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	Actions	Status
<b>GOAL 2</b>	<b>Increase education and outreach about tree benefits, community forestry program, tree regulations, and incentives.</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	<b>Develop outreach and education material for website, articles, events, workshops etc.</b>	
1	Provide educational materials about tree codes and regulations to reduce ambiguity about tree requirements.	Door hangers developed regarding tree work and where to find information about City trees and regulations. Stream temperature information on city website for TMIDL.
2	Develop information about the value and benefits of trees, tree valuation, ecosystem services, value of big trees.	New tree brochure (English and Spanish) in 2020.
3	Increase the public knowledge about: the benefits of trees, the Salem tree canopy studies, the Riparian Action Plan, the Community Forestry Program, and how trees can help the City meet its obligations under the Clean Water Act.	First Annual Tree Report in 2018 provided to Council. Annual report. Council work session about trees October 2020. Conducted a year of Tree City USA events for 40th to increase awareness about the special award and the benefits of trees. 2021=TCUSA 45th year events planned.
4	Develop information about trees and Salem's community forestry program in a "welcome packet" for new property owners and residents in newly annexed areas.	SPRAB tree committee action area
5	Educate about how to manage trees for health and reduced risk (e.g. No Topping, Right Tree/Right Place, watering, proper pruning techniques). Provide information about how to manage and care for trees (pruning, watering, selection etc.).	
6	Educate public and tree grove owners about benefits of groves.	
7	Provide a planting template for different size lots to engage property owners of all size properties to plant trees.	
8	Use a software program such as "Community Viz" as outreach tool to help people to visualize their street/neighborhood/lot with trees and canopy growth over time.	





## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
9	Provide a variety of ways for public to access information about trees (e.g. Statesman Journal/Salem Weekly press releases and articles about trees, website, social media, podcasts, U-Tube, utility inserts, events, CCTV, KMUZ 1230).	Treemail and Facebook updates. Tree brochure 2020.
10	Improve and increase website presence – add more links to information, more interactive maps and activities. Develop a visual presentation about what work is being done in City on trees, benefits of trees, “Community Viz” etc. Use on CCTV, You Tube, Facebook.	Draft ArcGIS Online for interactive map being developed 2020.
11	Investigate potential partnership with Oregon Dept. of Forestry and their urban forestry program. Increase exposure of Arbor Day/week/month activities.	Arbor Week Proclamation each April. Arbor Day Booster grant in 2020.
12	Conduct a post-strategic plan online survey to gauge public preferences, knowledge and interest in trees and response to the community forest strategic plan	City survey in FY20/21.
13	Institute a tree photo challenge with online voting for favorites through city website or Statesman Journal (“Special places and special trees”).	Tree photo contest as part of TCUSA 40 year celebration 2016.
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Utilize other programs, events, and festivals for outreach and education about Salem’s community forest</b>	
1	Establish an award event for tree champions to be awarded during volunteer recognition event.	
2	Host an art event that emphasizes trees	40th TCUSA poster contest.
3	Develop “Tree walk” information for downtown or neighborhoods (virtual or real)	Willson Park tree walk with ODF as part of 40th TCUSA events.
4	Have a tree booth at local events with handouts about tree benefits and forestry programs (e.g. Public Works Day, Farmers Market)	FOT at PW Day 2014-2020.
5	Encourage local college programs specializing in horticulture, natural resources, environmental science, or landscape architecture to conduct site assessment and inventories of street trees, natural areas or tree groves.	Willamette U seniors theses on NESCA street trees and determining significance of groves.
6	Encourage continued training of volunteers and public in conjunction with other existing events (e.g. Chamber of Commerce events)	Ongoing: FOT Crew Leader training in Salem each year. 37 as of 2020.



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Provide opportunities for volunteer involvement</b>	
1	Provide opportunities for tree planting, tree care, and neighborhood tree planting through combination of city programs, non profits, and other community organizations.	Ongoing: In progress with FOT since 2013.
2	Enlist and train neighborhood volunteers do a street level inventory with consistent and basic information, assist in research, outreach and public involvement.	Straub Environmental Learning Center street tree inventory citizen science class Summer 2014.
3	Use school science classes to monitor, inventory, plant, maintain, photo-document and identify trees.	
4	Create a tree maintenance program involving Americorps, students, and property owners for summer watering and tree care (i.e. "Adopt a Tree").	
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Promote Professional development opportunities</b>	
1	Coordinate specific workshops for targeted stakeholders related to tree management, health, site design (e.g. landscapers, developers, engineers).	
2	Develop a tree steward program and provide training/education as a prerequisite (e.g. Neighborhoods, Friends of Trees programs).	Ongoing: FOT Crew Leader training in Salem each year. 37 as of 2020.
3	Host or support workshops/webinars for Continuing Education Credits for professionals.	Silva Cell workshop for City Engineers 2016.



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	Actions	Status
<b>GOAL 3</b>	<b>Develop Support at political, management, and public levels</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Engage City Council and Community leaders in support of Community Forest Strategic Plan</b>	
1	Adopt citywide tree canopy goal through adoption of a strategic plan by City Council.	23% Adopted in 2012. New goal set in 2020 for 28% by 2030.
2	Inform City Council and other decision makers of the Community Forestry Strategic Plan, benefits of trees, and state of the City's community forest.	Annual tree report begun in 2018. Council Work Session October 2020.
3	Provide updates to department heads and City Council at key milestones and regular intervals.	First Annual Tree Report to Council in 2018.
4	Expand participation and recognition of Tree City USA activities.	Documented in annual tree reports. Received 2020 Arbor Day Booster grant from Oregon Community Trees.
5	Provide opportunities for community leaders and decision makers to be involved in tree events (e.g. Arbor Day event or neighborhood planting.)	Councilors Hoy and Andersen have participated in tree planting events. Annual Mayor's Proclamation.
6	Recognize work of individuals and groups towards preserving, increasing and enhancing the city tree canopy.	
7	Work with Polk and Marion Counties to manage for tree preservation in future annexations into city limits.	
8	Use Neighborhood Associations as means to communicate with decision makers.	
9	Invite decision makers to meetings about trees (e.g. neighborhood association, tree advisory committee meetings)	
10	Utilize industry print publications and presentations to increase awareness of Salem's urban trees (e.g. HBA, Chamber of Commerce, Business Weekly, SEDCOR, Realtors, Nurseries, tree services, landscapers, Rotary, other service organizations, Salem/Keizer School District, Habitat for Humanity, Health Care professionals).	



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	Actions	Status
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Continue as Tree City USA</b>	
1	Continue meeting the Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA requirements.	Ongoing. 2021 is 45 years as TCUSA.
2	Work towards "Sterling City" designation by achieving 10 Growth Awards.	<b>Achieved and ongoing:</b> Salem is a "Sterling" TCUSA. 2020 will be 13th award.
3	Provide and encourage professional training opportunities for forestry staff and volunteers to meet Tree City USA criteria.	Ongoing. Now 4 ISA certified arborists on staff.
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Develop a Community Forestry Outreach Plan</b>	
1	Develop specific outreach presentations, methods, and materials for a variety of audiences (e.g. Neighborhood Associations, schools, Chamber of Commerce, Spanish speakers, and other interest organizations).	
2	Develop specific outreach for neighborhoods and schools. Assess each neighborhood and school's plantable area.	
3	Develop "branding" of tree planting campaign for program recognition.	Completed: Benefits of trees logo developed. Stickers, pint glasses, and tote bags printed with logo.
4	Establish potential partnerships with other stakeholder organizations or groups.	SELC, Boys and Girls Club.
5	Support a K-12 tree curriculum.	



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	Actions	Status
<b>GOAL 4</b>	<b>Improve city coordination, communication, and codes related to trees</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Promote tree friendly development and land use practices</b>	
1	Develop a Community Forestry Strategic Plan.	Completed first version in 2015.
2	Evaluate tree and vegetation codes to reduce ambiguity and streamline review and application process. (e.g. tree planting requirements are unclear to developers, responsibility for replacement trees, etc.)	SRC 86 Revised.
3	Assess if further revisions to Salem Revised Code are warranted to increase urban canopy (e.g. more protection for tree groves, reduce ambiguity about street tree requirements, equitable tree replacement formula, fee in lieu fund). Propose revisions to code if warranted after Unified Development Code adopted.	SRC 86 Revisions pending in 2021 related to violations, assessments of fees, and mitigation plans.
4	Increase protection for significant tree groves. Look to acquire significant groves.	Parks acquired Fisher Road Park addition with grove in 2020.
5	Explore the use of alternative sidewalk materials, structural soil cells, root paths and structural soils where appropriate to reduce conflicts between trees and sidewalks.	
6	In partnership with Public Works, develop street profiles that create more opportunities for tree planting in the public right of way. Evaluate and adopt design standards and specifications for best practices regarding tree protection, tree pit and soil volumes, plant and planting specs etc., according to ANSI standards. Include innovative standards to provide adequate soil volumes to enable successful tree planting and long term tree health while minimizing interference with utilities/infrastructure.	Administrative Rule adopted in 2016. To be revised in 2021 for new references to ANSI standards.
7	Assess new utility line placement to minimize impacts to trees. Encourage root tunneling in lieu of utility trenching in areas of existing tree plantings unless impacts to tree roots are minimal, does not result in an increase in public safety hazard, and appropriate post construction mitigation is provided.	Incorporated into Administrative Rules.



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
8	Ensure earliest review of proposed development plans to promote tree preservation in site development. Increase thoroughness of tree plan review.	Staff trained to review Bluebeam applications for impacts to city trees.
9	Encourage the development community to design for tree preservation, as opposed to on site or off site mitigation, as the preferred alternative. Explore the use of development credits or transferable right to facilitate tree preservation. Allow for payment into Tree Fund for mitigation (to be used to preserve/acquire existing groves or enhancing canopy) inside the Urban Growth Boundary. Have a payment in lieu process for tree replacements.	Payment in lieu program allowed. Money goes to Salem Tree Fund.
10	Review tree planting plans for species selection, biological diversity, and largest species appropriate for the planting location to maximize tree benefits.	Street tree plans now being reviewed as part of Development Services review process.
11	Train City inspectors in tree protection and tree installation reviews.	
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Incorporate Tree Canopy Goals into City Projects, Initiatives, Plans, and Policies</b>	
1	Continue City Tree Team and include members of Public Works, Community Development, Urban Development, and others as needed.	Ongoing. Natural Resource Work Group meeting quarterly.
2	Use the Tree Team to promote tree programs and reach other City goals (e.g. City's Environmental Action Plan, Riparian Action Plan, MS4 permit).	On going. Natural Resource Work Group meeting quarterly.
3	Consider revisions to roles and responsibilities of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee to allow for sub-committees when needed.	STAC discontinued. SPRAB-initiated tree subcommittee in 2019.
4	Incorporate tree canopy goal, tree preservation, and tree planting into other city master plans, Capital Improvement and urban development projects, and Low Impact Development guidelines. Include tree goals in next Comprehensive Plan and neighborhood plan updates. Encourage substantial tree planting as a funded element in first phase park construction.	Canopy goal included in Comprehensive Plan update 20/21.



## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
5	Assess park properties and other city lands to prioritize tree planting sites in terms of greatest demand for additional vegetation and lowest existing canopy coverage. Increase tree and shrub planting on city-owned properties as appropriate within the context of current/intended use of each site.	On going. Trees added to parks through master plans and FOT work.
6	Assess and retrofit existing parks and public spaces by planting trees and shrubs in hard to mow or under-utilized grassy areas as a means to reduce long term maintenance cost while expanding canopy coverage. Encourage the use of native plants in these areas.	Mayors Monarch pledge and pollinator habitat program.
7	Use Community Forestry program actions as means of meeting existing regulatory requirements. Consider how it may address future requirements (e.g. air quality). Integrate tree canopy goals into City's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System and Total Maximum Daily Load permit compliance strategies	In next MS4 permit renewal. To be included in Climate Action Plan.
8	Protect trees in street Right of Ways to maximum extent feasible (e.g. "bumpouts", meandering sidewalk, etc).	Alternatives analysis required under Administrative Rules
9	Review plans to ensure new tree plantings are appropriate location and species ("right plant, right place") to minimize future infrastructure conflicts and maximize canopy coverage.	Plan review now done at Development Services & Urban Forestry.
10	Coordinate with Public Works and Community Development to identify and address tree related infrastructure conflicts through code and/or design standards and specifications.	Part of Administrative Rules. Alternatives analysis.
11	Establish a system and database to improve tracking of tree removal and tree planting for City projects and tree planting by volunteers.	UF inventory input into GIS Salem Maps online system 2020.
12	Identify approved geographic areas for tree plantings to be used to mitigate for tree loss within same watershed or neighborhood.	
13	Establish permanent easements to protect tree plantings where feasible.	
14	Promote inter and intra-departmental staff training and education for common understanding of tree issues and management practices	
15	Include City trees in asset management database for potential Capital Improvement Project funding.	UF inventory input into GIS Salem Maps online system 2020.





## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
16	Investigate funding opportunities for tree preservation and planting incentives.	Survey on tree planting incentives in FY 20/21.
17	Improve public notification of proposed street tree removals, tree advisory board meetings and results of board decisions (similar to traffic change notification process).	On going. Posting of street tree removals part of Administrative Rules and SRC 86.
18	Determine process for establishing viable Tree Canopy Preservation Fund or other donation fund specifically for trees. (Tree Mitigation Fund)	Tree Preservation Fund established in CD for donations.
19	Use tree planting for neighborhood enhancement. Focus limited street tree planting resources toward low and moderate income neighborhood, accessing Community Development Block Grants if available/appropriate.	On going. Tree plantings focused on low canopy neighborhoods and streets.
20	Conduct a demonstration/pilot project, implementing a variety of green infrastructure practices and provide public education opportunities	

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>GOAL 5</b>	<b>Develop and implement a Community Forestry Management Plan</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Develop a Community Forestry Management Plan to promote long term enhancement of canopy, tree maintenance, and hazard reduction.</b>	
1	Establish a sub-committee under the Shade Tree Advisory Committee to assist in developing and vetting a comprehensive Community Forestry Management Plan with the Urban Forester.	Staff to begin UF Management Plan in 2021.
2	Use the Management Plan to establish industry appropriate best management practices, standards, and protocols for tree care, risk and hazard reduction, and storm/hazard tree response, removal and replanting.	
3	Develop criteria and definition of "significant grove".	
4	Update the Community Forestry Management Plan on a regular periodic basis or as needed to adjust to changing circumstances.	

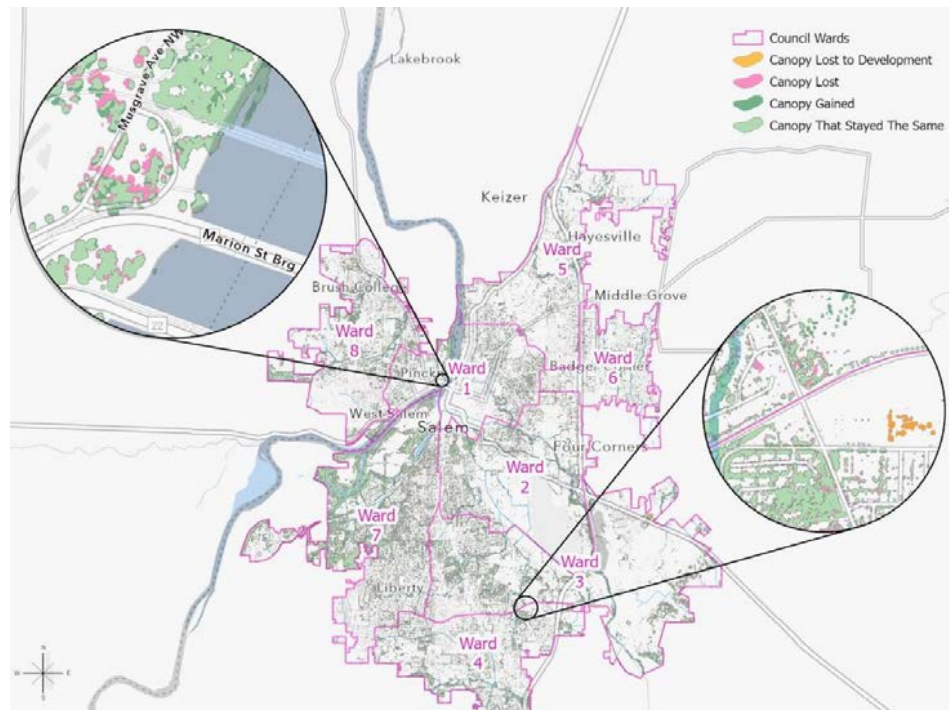


## Community Forestry Strategic Plan Summary

5.2	Implement data management and data analysis to better understand the composition, character and health of the urban forest.	
1	Develop GIS tools for tracking canopy over time. Conduct a GIS canopy analysis at least every census year using comparable method to previous studies.	Tree Plotter software 2020. New canopy study 2019. UF staff inventory data into GIS Salem Maps Online.
2	Reevaluate canopy goals after each canopy analysis to reflect changes in canopy coverage. Consider conducting analysis on a 5-year basis.	2019 canopy assessment completed. New canopy goal of 28% by 2030 set.
3	Assess tree inventory software applications and develop data collection protocol to maximize efficiency and accuracy (e.g. "TreeWorks" software)	
4	Establish data needs, gaps, and updates for use in program development (e.g. street tree inventory, canopy updates, underground utilities GIS layers).	Street tree inventory begun in 2018 and 2019 (sample) and continued by UF 2020.
5	Enhance species and age diversity of urban forest. Encourage the planting of broad canopy deciduous and coniferous trees where possible to maximize diversity, shade, and stormwater interception benefits.	On going. Part of Treecology's contract. Draft update to Street Tree list in 2020. Changes to Admin. Rule in 2021.
6	Adopt and utilize a tracking system to evaluate number of trees approved for removal and planting through development process.	IPS system being implemented to include tree assets 2021.
7	Review and revise current approved list of street trees, incorporating, where appropriate, additional large canopy, evergreen, and native trees.	Draft update to Street Tree list in 2020. Changes to Admin. Rule in 2021.
8	Update GIS layers to include Heritage trees, significant trees, groves etc.	



# 2021 TREE CANOPY IMPACT ASSESSMENT



Nov 2021

A Comparison of Salem's Tree Canopy Before  
& After the February 2021 Ice Storm

CITY OF *Salem*  
AT YOUR SERVICE  
Public Works Department



## Canopy Impact Assessment

### PURPOSE

The City of Salem experienced an ice storm in February 2021 that resulted in extensive damage to our urban forest. Throughout the City, trees fell and branches buckled under the weight of the ice, leaving thousands of residents without power for days, blocking streets, and causing severe damage to many buildings and vehicles. Based on the magnitude of the clean-up efforts alone, which is still ongoing, it was clear that the City had lost tree canopy, but the full extent and distribution of canopy loss was not understood. The purpose of the 2021 Tree Canopy Impact Assessment was to attempt to quantify the amount of tree canopy lost and to better understand how the ice storm affected the tree canopy in different areas of interest (AOIs) within the City, including within City council wards, City parks, public rights of way, and stream corridors.



*Figure 1. One of many trees lost to the February 2021 ice storm.*

### METHODOLOGY

This study utilized remote sensing technology and artificial intelligence (AI) derived tree canopy layers (AI feature extraction) to compare tree canopy using pre-ice storm, August 18, 2020, satellite imagery and post ice-storm, May 13, 2021, satellite imagery. Each aerial acquisition was gathered at 7.5cm resolution





## Canopy Impact Assessment

and 15cm horizontal accuracy in Red Green Blue (RGP) natural color. Both nadir and oblique angles were collected to produce a 3D reconstruction using photogrammetric processes. Next, a segment of artificial intelligence technology called computer vision (trained in detecting tree canopy) “looked” at the imagery and 3D models (pre and post) and created GIS polygon features where tree canopy was “seen” (Figure 2). This process is called instance segmentation. These two resulting GIS polygon layers were intersected, analyzed, and compared for different areas of interest, including all city owned property, riparian corridors, council wards, and rights of way.



Figure 2. Tree canopy polygons (panels 1 & 2) were derived from high resolution imagery and 3D models using artificial intelligence technology, which then were intersected, analyzed, and compared (panel 3) to identify where canopy was lost, gained, and remained the same (panel 4).

Overlapping polygon features between the two datasets indicated common tree canopy (or no change). Canopy polygon features which were only observed in the pre-ice storm imagery could be inferred as “lost” or not present after the ice storm. And finally, polygon features that were only observed in the



## Canopy Impact Assessment

post-ice storm imagery could be understood as “gained” or new canopy. In addition, areas of known development were included and categorized separately as “canopy lost to development” as these are areas of canopy loss, but not due to the ice storm. Statistics were calculated for each AOI, including percent of canopy lost, acres of canopy lost, acres of canopy lost to development, acres of canopy gained, and acres of unchanged canopy.

## RESULTS

The product of this assessment is a publicly accessible online interactive dashboard that allows users to display and interact with the results of the analysis at different scales, on different basemaps, and for different areas of interest. An AOI selector at the top of the dashboard allows users to easily select a desired council ward or park (Figure 3), but the user also has the option to zoom and pan to a desired location. Upon opening the dashboard, summary statistics (acres of canopy lost, lost to development, gained, and unchanged) for the whole city are displayed as a bar chart to the right of the map and as a table beneath that if the “Statistics” tab at the bottom of the page is selected. These statistics are updated automatically as the AOI changes, and they can be filtered to display changes within a specific council ward or park, as well as within the ROW or Stream Corridor of a selected AOI (Figure 4).

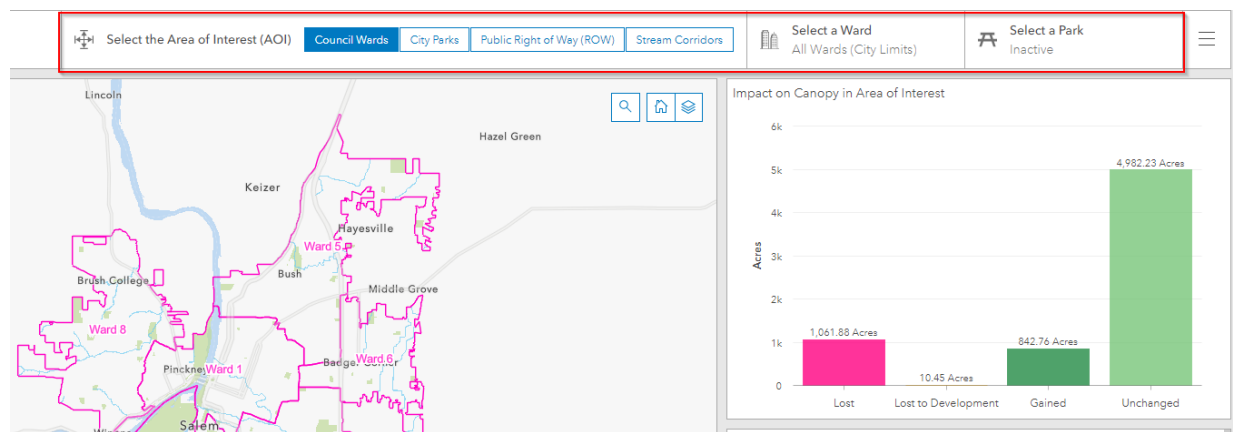


Figure 3. The interactive dashboard allows users to select an AOI, such as Council Wards or Parks. With the “Council Wards” button selected, the chart shows the statistics for all Council Wards and the “Select a Ward” drop down list is activated. If the “City Parks” button is selected, the chart will change to show the statistics for all City Parks and the drop down list of City Parks will be activated.



## Canopy Impact Assessment

Because of the number of polygon features within the derived tree canopy layers, the map must be zoomed in to a scale of 600 feet or lower in order for the tree canopy layers to display; however, statistics are displayed and updated at any scale.

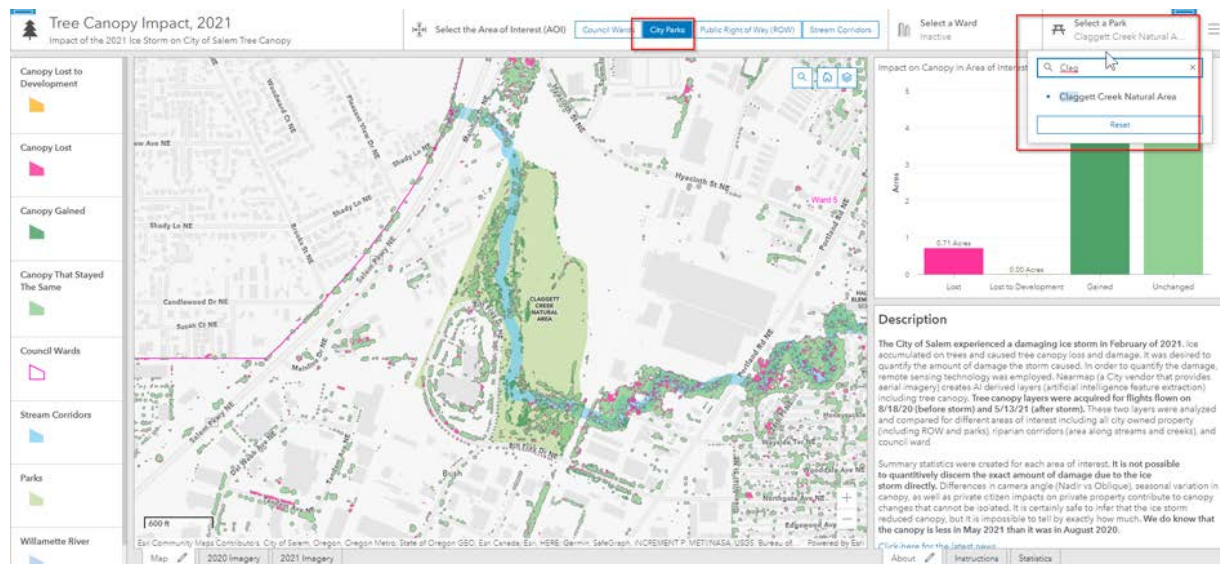


Figure 4. When a City Park or Council Ward is selected from the drop-down list, the map automatically zooms to that location and statistics displayed are updated to reflect only the change in the selected AOI.

Additional guidance for using the interactive dashboard is available by clicking on the “Instructions” tab at the bottom of the dashboard.

## CONCLUSION

The City-wide statistical analysis showed a 17.6% canopy loss across the City during the time period studied, with approximately 10 acres of canopy lost to development and over 1,000 acres lost due to the ice storm or other factors. Camera angle, seasonal variation in canopy, and pruning or tree removals for other reasons likely account for some portion of this observed change; therefore, it is not possible to quantitatively discern the exact amount of damage incurred as a direct result of the ice storm. It is clear however that a large percentage of the 1,000+ acres of canopy loss is attributable to the ice storm. Comparing the AI derived canopy loss data with the Urban Forest Work Order Map, which tracks tree related ice-storm clean-up efforts overseen by the City’s Urban Forester, as well as a review of the City’s Tree Inventory pre- and post-storm, could assist in refining the statistics. Regardless, the canopy loss assessment and interactive dashboard are useful tools that will assist the City in identifying areas to focus replanting efforts in order to rebuild canopy along streams and across the City.





## Canopy Impact Assessment

### INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD URL

The interactive dashboard can be accessed using the URL below or by going to DataSalem and exploring the City's Environment WebApps (Figure 5). The application is completely open to the public. No registration or account creation is required to use the application.

<https://salem.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/92066fd3c39a431c86ff5a55755fbdd0>

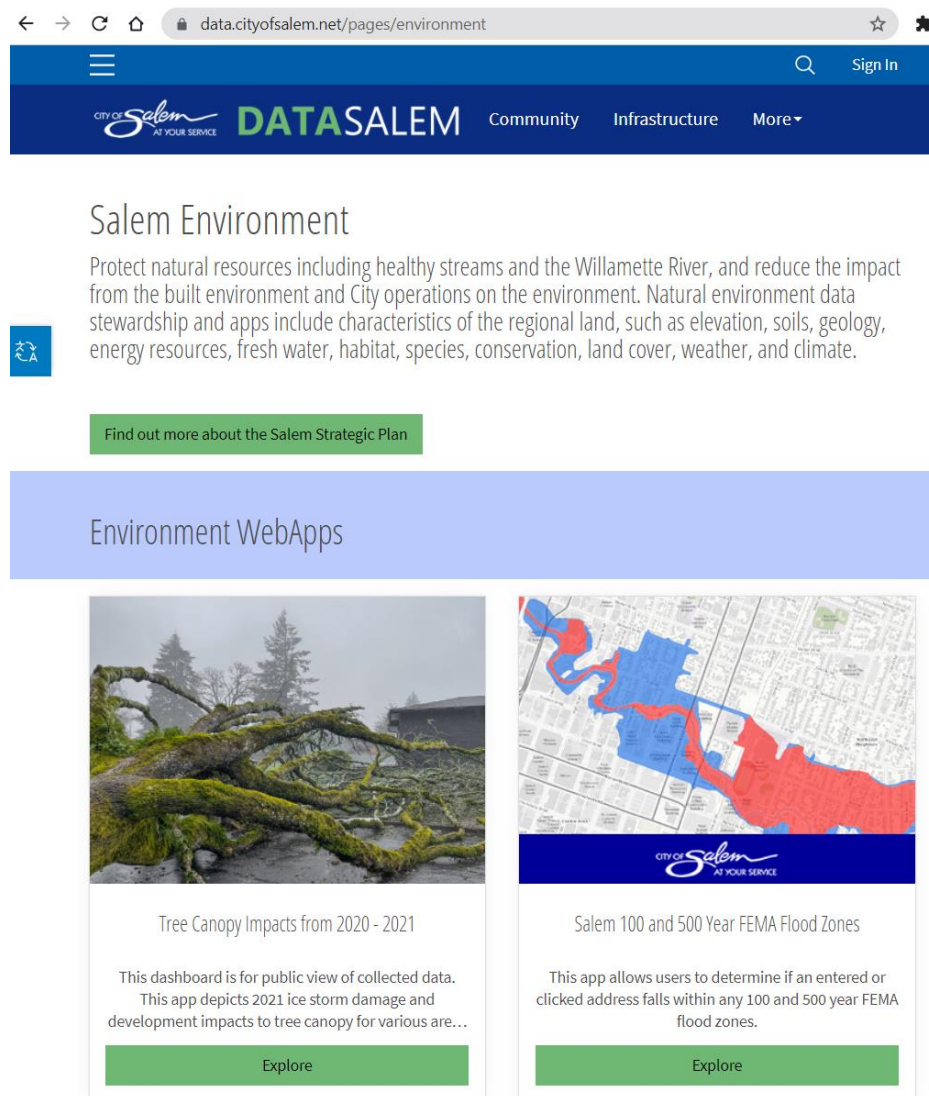


Figure 5. The Tree Canopy Impacts dashboard is available on DataSalem under the Environment WebApps.



## Ice Storm Response

# Ice Storm Emergency Management

City of Salem Urban Forestry Division

February 12, 2021, Ice Storm Response



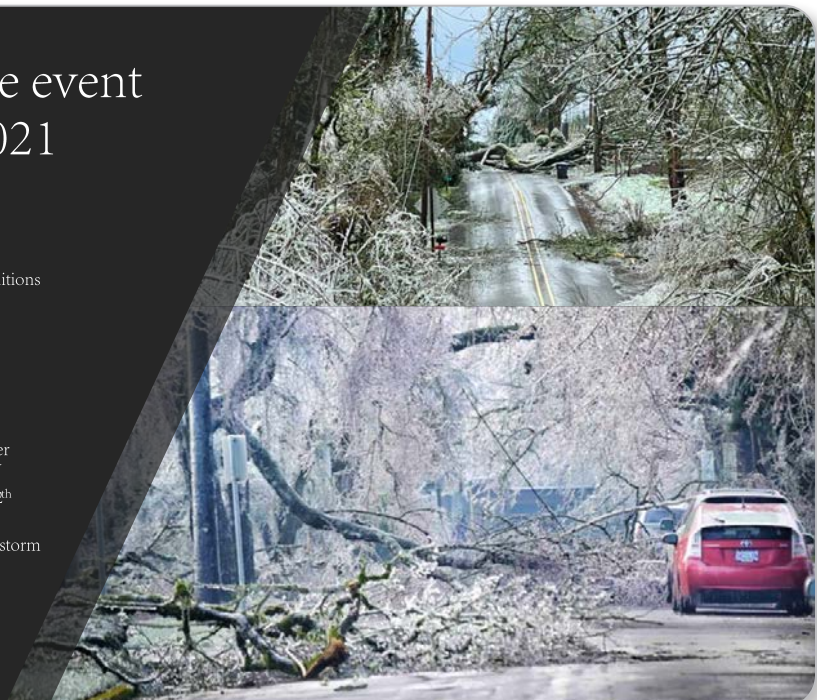
## Salem 40-year ice event February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### WORKING THE STORM

- Crews worked 18hr shift expecting to work through the night if necessary
- Freezing rain and nighttime hazardous conditions were a cause for concern
- Managing calls from Dispatch center

### UNEXPECTED SEVERE CONDITIONS

- Multiple storms overlapping
- Ice accumulation over 1"
- Estimated 10,000 trees severely damaged over 1000 trees removed on city owned property
- Over 3000 service requests from February 12<sup>th</sup> thru March 30<sup>th</sup>
- City of Salem spent nearly \$6,500,000 in ice storm related clean up
- 90,000+ total power outages in Salem





## Ice Storm Response

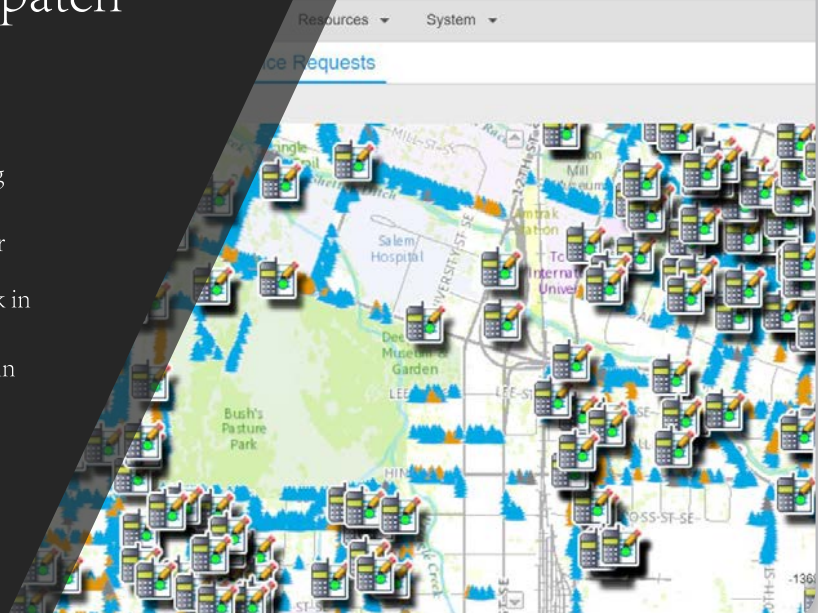
### Ice Storm Preparation & Expectations URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION

- Staying up to date on weather predictions
- Crews assigned on-call for standby
- Expecting the worse and being ready for extreme conditions
- Having a management plan in place
- Understanding Emergency protocols and EOC function and limitations
- Workforce delegation, logistics, communication and documentation
- Using technology to be more efficient in planning and developing strategies to complete the work
- Knowing your crew limitations and staying true to standard SOPs
- Working safely during severe weather events



### Emergency Dispatch 24hr Response

- Infor Public Secorv11.1 service request management system along with Hansen/311 call center
- Direct calls to the urban forester who distributed work to crews via radios & cell phones, closing work in the system as it was completed
- Closed 78 service requests within the first night and had a plan for Saturday morning







## Ice Storm Response

### Post 24hr Response and Plan 2/13/21

- City of Salem PW EOC mobilization and delegation of responsibilities
- Parks Operations power outage for 7 days
- Started morning and afternoon EOC meetings with Incident Commander, Asst PW Director Mark Becktel
- Staffing and equipment needs, used city Radios & cell phones to communicate with crews
- Governor declares State of Emergency
- Tree Service Contractor of record, agree to terms of service and compensation during State of Emergency
- IPS inform system overload and collapsed due to volume of incoming requests, use the city 311 system to track and manage high priority work
- Implement push and go method with heavy equipment to open streets blocked by downed trees & debris with PW operations

Public Works Departmental Operating Center (DOC) Assignments by Incident Type and Shift  
January 17, 2021

Shift B Second 12 Hours of an Incident						
Assignment	Name	Full Activation	Flood	Windstorm	Water Quality/Supply	Traffic/Civil Unrest
DOC Incident Commander	Dwayne Barnes					
Deputy DOC Incident Commander	Vicent					
Stormwater Watch & Warning	Arletta Panko					
Stormwater Operations	Brandon DeVries					
Wastewater Collections	Jerry Smith					
Water Quality & Distribution	Doug Priest					
Pumps & Controls/SCADA	Gerardo Arredondo					
Street Maintenance	Rock Meriari					
Signs & Sweeping	Cody Wilkman					
Traffic Engineering Operations	Tony Martin					
Traffic Signal Operations	Eric Desbrial					
Parks Operations	Jacob Snell					
Urban Forestry - Tree Response	Mitch Davis					
Technical GIS/Wastewater Flow Support	Audrey Kiloran					
Additional Technical GIS Support	Michael Medina					
Administrative Support	Allen Macias					
Customer Service/Dispatch	Cody King					
Public Information Officer	Deborah Topp					
311 Log Operator	Vanessa Strode					
DOC Scribe	Helen Nager					

#### Winter Snow and Ice Response

Response shifts are 12-hour shifts beginning/ending at 1200 hours and 2400 hours and primarily involve Streets Maintenance, Signs & Sweeping, Public Information Officer, Administrative Support, and Customer Service/Dispatch staff. Operations Division Manager takes overall leadership role.

#### Full DOC Activation Incidents

The types of incidents that would automatically result in a full activation of the Public Works DOC would include Earthquake, Volcanic Eruption, Major In-town Configuration Widespread, Solar Eclipses, or other natural or manmade event that would impact all infrastructure systems.

#### DOC Location

Public Works Shops, Building #2, Training Room - COVID-19 Restrictions may result in full or partial virtual DOC - situation dependent



Photo by Jacob Rybloom

## State of Emergency

SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>

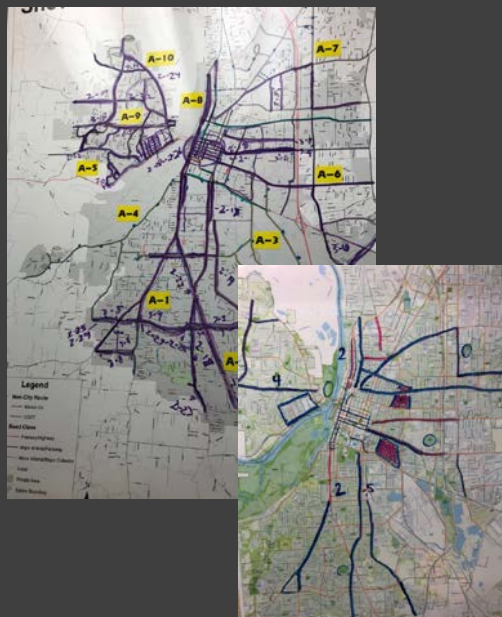
- Respond to emergency situations; trees on houses, trees on cars, uprooted trees causing gas leaks, etc. trees blocking roads & driveways
- Clear downed trees and debris for emergency vehicle access to Salem Hospital, had calls from Ambulance drivers to Dispatch that they could not reach the ER
- Judgement calls on priority trees only cutting enough to make safe to move on to the next location, not wasting time doing non-emergency work
- Manage crew assignments and understand limitations based on experience and workload
- Work with Police, Fire, Public Works Operations and contract tree crews to have all the necessary equipment available to assist
- Work safety SOPs for downed power lines and hazardous situations



## Ice Storm Response

### Week One- Week Four: Strategic Planning, Introducing new Technology and Managing Risk

- Work with senior staff to map out logistics for contract crews to clear streets of trees and debris using historical snow routes, with a goal of having arterial roads open and cleared of debris and dangerous limbs, followed by collector streets and finally working through the neighborhoods
- All hands-on deck for Public Work crews and 10 contract tree crews and city tree crews with oversight by city crew leaders; documenting work, establishing traffic control plans and traffic setup with assistance from PW traffic crews on Arterial roads
- Categorize work in the 311 system that is high risk so we can prioritize work
- Meet with City of Salem GIS and IT staff with goal to develop an asset management system to track and document work more effectively and provide work that could be documented for insurance and FEMA records
- Train staff on using GIS asset management cell phone technology
- Work with PGE and Salem electric to restore power
- Three emergency response tree crews available for high priority work, including experienced climbers, rigging specialists, high lift and heavy equipment operators
- Establish wood waste, log and debris management and agreements with Marion Co



### Long-Term Planning Storm Work

- Use of 10 contract tree crews and Urban Forestry city crews to shift focus from groundwork to Aerial bucket work to mitigate hazards on arterial streets then eventually work block by block in neighborhoods using Survey 123 to document damage and Workforce to identify hazard locations
- Continue using Urban Forestry crew and two experienced contract tree crews to focus on high priority trees
- Once streets are cleared shift contract tree crews to assist Parks operations cleanup efforts in high use park areas

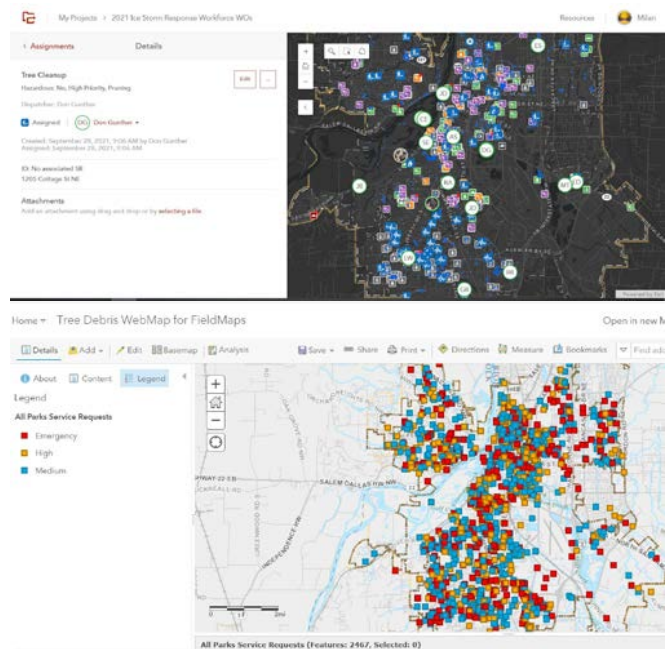




## Ice Storm Response

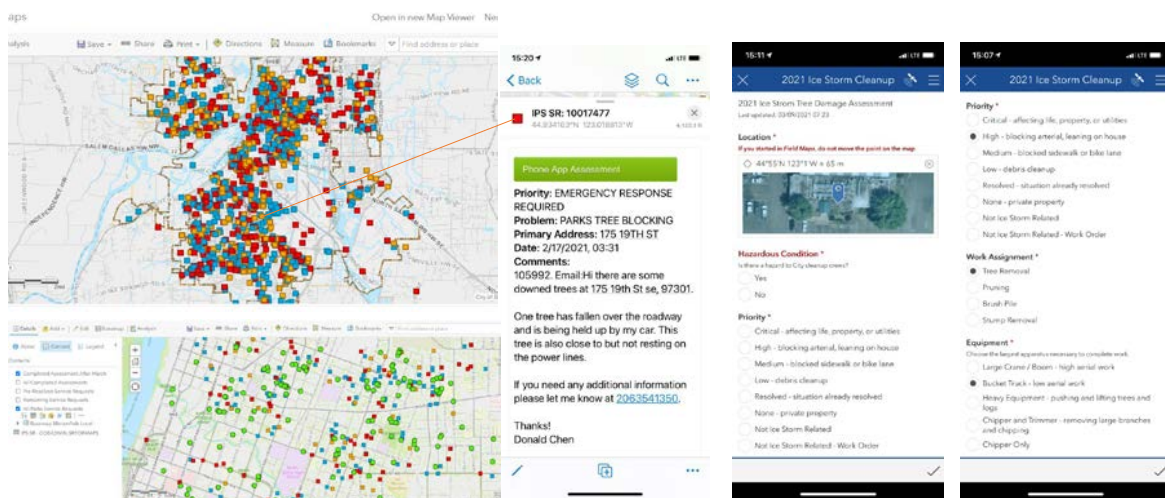
### GIS FieldMaps, Survey 123 & Workforce

- By week two over 2000 Ice Storm related Urban Forestry service requests were in the 311 system, and without the use of the IPS system, we were in desperate need of assistance in tracking, documenting and understanding where ice storm damage remained after the initial cleanup.
- Working with the City of Salem GIS & IT Departments along with city management staff, a GIS based asset management
- By using cell phone/tablets in ArcGIS Survey 123 App and Workforce App as well as web-based version to manage this work remotely through the City of Salem Maps homepage.
- Using this technology, we were able to start documenting for FEMA and insurance providers the level of damage that existed at each location and could attach that work to Service Requests with Subsequent work orders that could be managed by the urban forester.
- Photo documentation of work before and after as well as documenting equipment used while work was ongoing was essential in recording for FEMA



### Service Requests on web-based GIS FieldMaps

- Service Requests were updated to show priority as High, Medium, Low by city dispatch staff
- Once locations are assessed they are updated with pictures and description of job with equipment needs and priority listed, Service requests change icons once they have been assessed



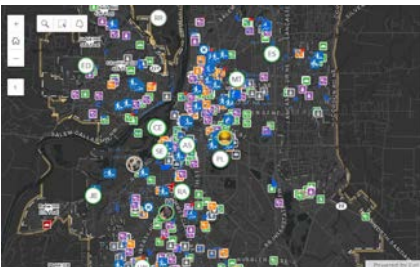
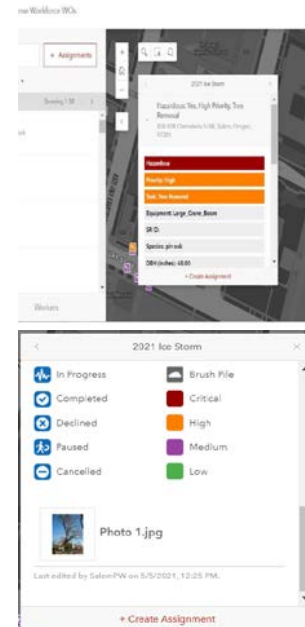
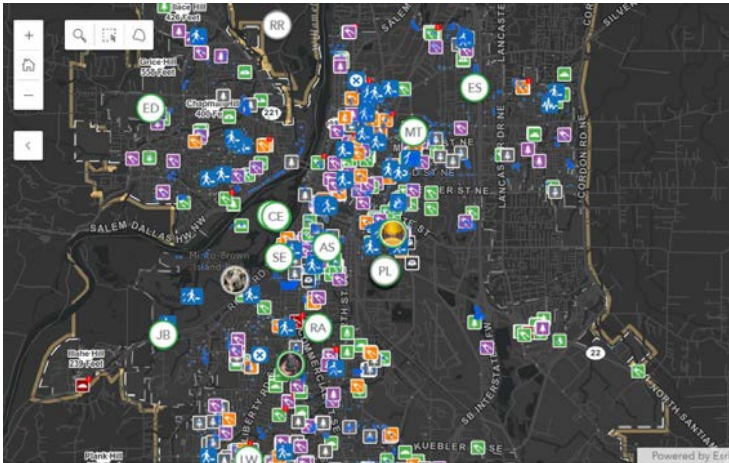




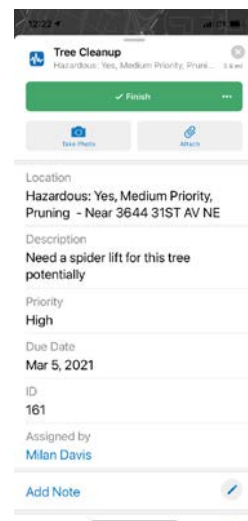
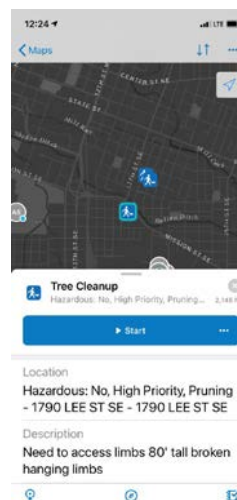
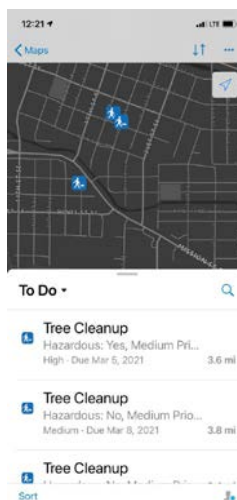
## Ice Storm Response

### Workforce Ice Storm Map

- Service Requests from the FieldMap and Survey 123 assessments are geo-located on the Workforce map.
- They can be assigned to individuals and can be closed in the field. Photos can be taken, and equipment recorded for each job
- Dispatcher/supervisor web-based map for assigning work orders



Smartphones & tablets used in the field by work crews

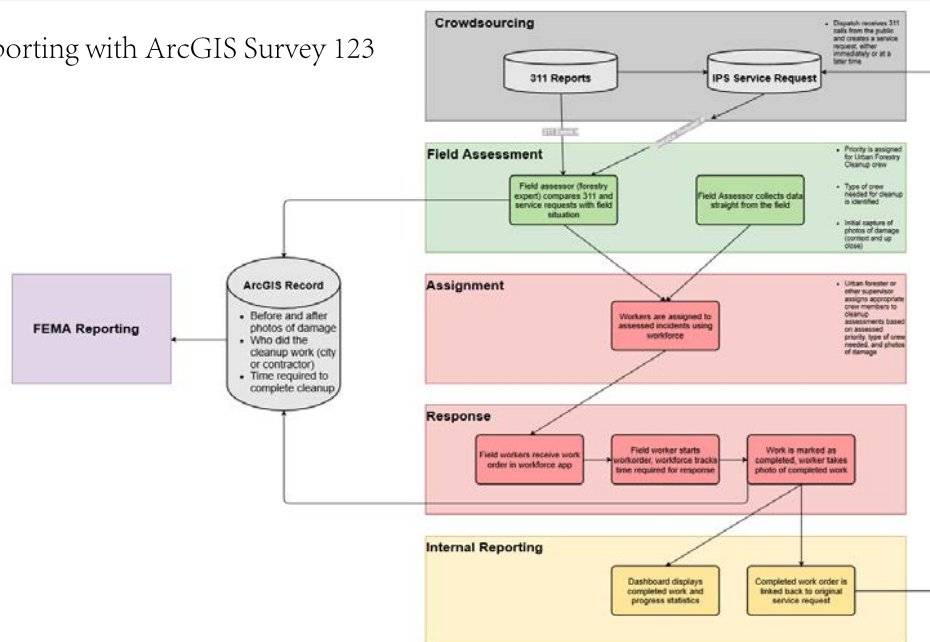




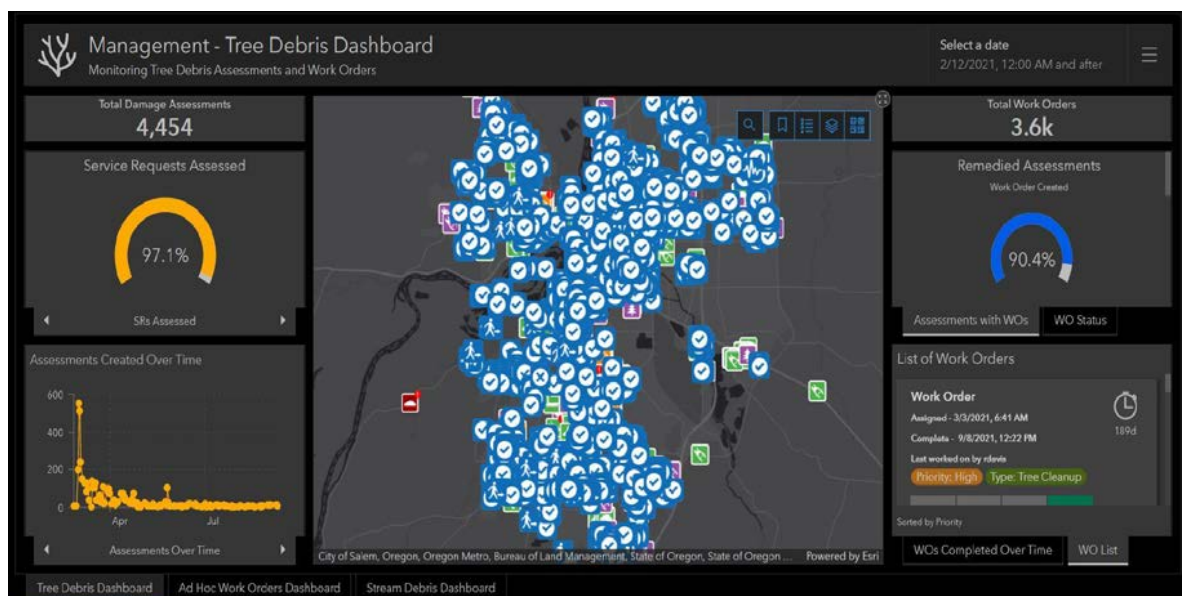


## Ice Storm Response

## FEMA Reporting with ArcGIS Survey 123



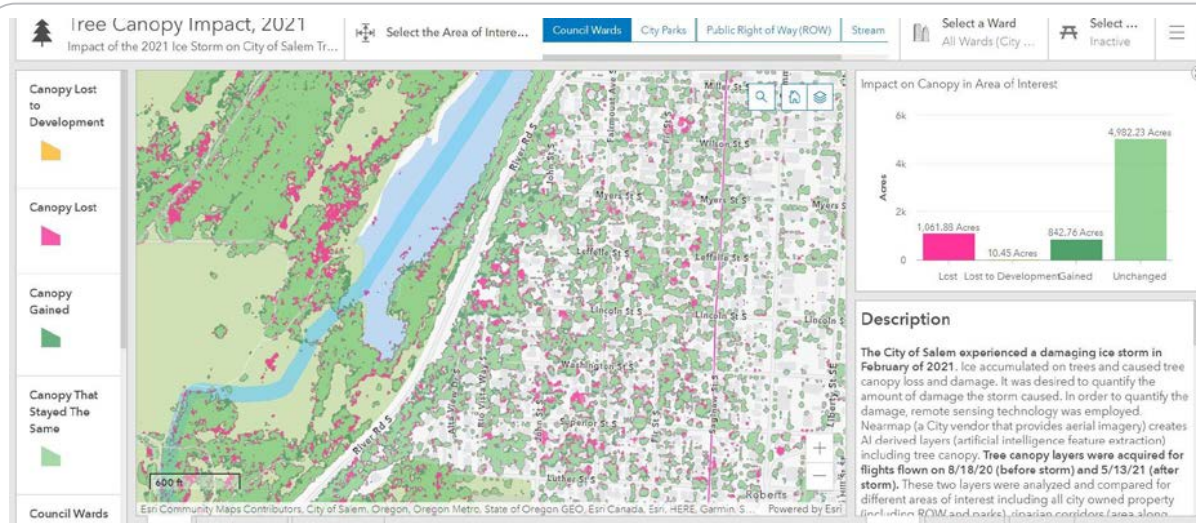
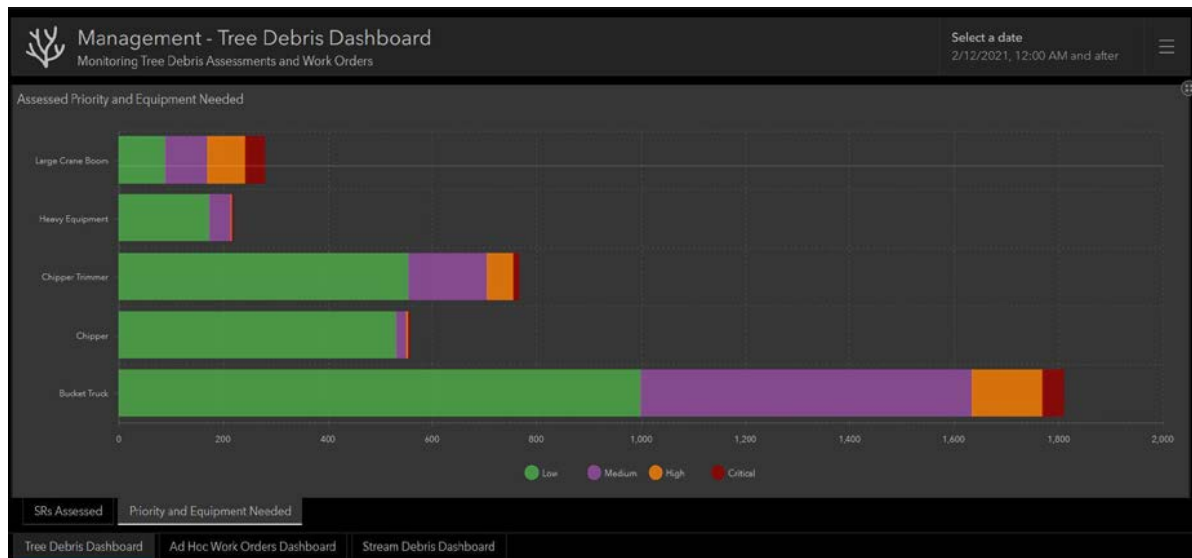
## Workforce Management Dashboard to track completed work





## Ice Storm Response

## Workforce Management Dashboard



## GIS Tree Canopy Analysis

The City of Salem experienced a damaging ice storm in February of 2021. Ice accumulated on trees and caused tree canopy loss and damage. It was desired to quantify the amount of damage the storm caused. In order to quantify the damage, remote sensing technology was employed. Nearmap (a City vendor that provides aerial imagery) creates AI derived layers (artificial intelligence feature extraction) including tree canopy. Tree canopy layers were acquired for flights flown on 8/18/20 (before storm) and 5/13/21 (after storm). These two layers were analyzed and compared for different areas of interest including all city owned property (including ROW and parks), riparian corridors (area along streams and creeks), and council wards.

Summary statistics were created for each area of interest. It is not possible to quantitatively discern the exact amount of damage due to the ice storm directly. Differences in camera angle (Nadir vs Oblique), seasonal variation in canopy, as well as private citizen impacts on private property contribute to canopy changes that cannot be isolated. It is certainly safe to infer that the ice storm reduced canopy, but it is impossible to tell by exactly how much. We do know that the canopy is less in May 2021 than it was in August 2020.



## Ice Storm Response

### Storm Debris Collection

- As part of a larger effort with the PW Operations Division debris was collected from city streets and drop off sites were created by the EOC
- Up to four dump sites were created to allow residents to dump off any tree debris during the peak of the cleanup this was a major undertaking. Pictured right is the Woodmansee Park debris pile
- An agreement with Marion Co allowed City of Salem to dump any woody debris at Browns Island Dump for over a month
- Marion Co Juvenile Department took all large wood to be processed for milling or firewood to support their program
- Next two slides highlight wood reuse by Marion Co Juvenile Department



Marion County Juvenile Department firewood & log splitting operation





## Ice Storm Response



Ice Storm Wood waste Marion Co Juvenile Facility

### Woodchip collection sites

- Multiple locations were established to create wood chip drop locations for tree crews
- Through discussions in the EOC some of these sites were opened to the public with great success
- Woodchip management was a heavy burden on city staff and is an issue we are still dealing with currently
- Woodchips are being used on city trails, in parks planting beds, for tree mulch rings and for roadbeds in some natural areas
- There were fire hazards over the high index heat days and lessons learned from how to properly store properly





## Ice Storm Response

### Ice Storm Remediation Future planning and foresight

- Stump removal and site preparation
- Currently working on a contract for bid
- Selecting trees
  - Improved storm resiliency
  - Consider drought tolerant, extreme heat tolerant species
  - Native trees/ Western trees for added ecological benefits
- Methods for water conservation and soil building



### Collaboration & Teamwork

Using the resources available within COS Public Work Department and working closely with contractors to complete work we could not do without assistance.



City of Salem PW Stormwater Crew assisting with their Gradal machine and dump trucks







## Ice Storm Response



Pictured L to R Parks operations assisting in log clean up and drop off. Mt View tree service assisting in tree work over 80+ with the use of their track lift.







## Ice Storm Response

### Total assessments by Parks and PW staff using GIS tracking technology:

5010 ice storm related assessments of damage

4127 work orders created

3686 plus work orders completed

1000+ trees removed and counting



### Thru June 1st totals kept for FEMA purposes:

During the storm event over 18,500 tons of storm debris were removed from the city streets by contractor crews and Parks and PW staff.

Wood chip debris hauled by contact crews- 3900 tons

Wood chip debris hauled by city tree crew- 753 tons

Woody debris hauled by city tree crews - 3553 tons

Woody debris hauled by Parks staff- 1729 tons

Woody debris hauled by PW staff- 4303 tons

Woody debris hauled by Stormwater staff- 3400 tons



### Current Urban Forestry Tree Crew staff:

Milan Davis- Urban Forester, Supervisor

Tom Bradley- Project Coordinator, ISA certified arborist, TRAQ certified, inspections on field map

Don Gunther- CDL Tree Trimmer, ISA certified arborist, TRAQ certified, inspections on field map, directing contract crews in Workforce

Jacob Downer- CDL, Tree Trimmer, rigging specialist, TA 67ft high lift operator, directing crews using Workforce

Evan Doney- CDL, Tree trimmer, rigging, climber, bucket operator, directing crews using Workforce

Mike Tyler- CDL, Tree Trimmer, 54ft boom truck operator, climber

Cesar Estrada - PMO , ground support, smartphone inspections, updating Workforce

### Current Parks staff assisting in ice storm cleanup

Dan Silberstein- Project Coordinator, CDL, heavy equipment operator, rigging and tree removal

Jeff Ball- PMO CDL driver, Chip truck and 14k dump trailer

Sam Welsh- PMO, heavy equipment operator, skid steer and Vermeer log grapple

Jason Bailey PMO ground support / driver

Priscilla Lopez, Project Coordinator, directing contract crews using Workforce

### Seasonal Staff assisting in tree cleanup

David Kahawai Jr- ground support/ dump bed driver, assisting crew with Workforce

Jacob Rybloom- ground support/ dump bed driver, assisting crew with Workforce



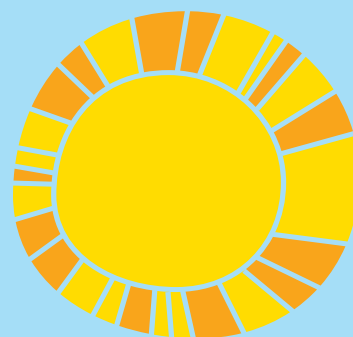


## Ice Storm Response





# Plant Trees in Salem



Individuals and families are  
invited to plant trees for a healthier Salem!  
Saturday mornings, November 2020 - May 2021, 9am-1pm  
Social Distancing and Masks Required, for more information on  
how Friends of Trees is Following COVID-19 guidelines  
visit: [Friendsoftrees.org/covid](https://friendsoftrees.org/covid)

For more information about events please visit:  
[FriendsofTrees.org/Salem](https://FriendsofTrees.org/Salem)

NOV  
DEC  
JAN  
FEB

- 11/14/20  
McKay School Park  
Arbor Day Event  
NE Salem
- 12/5/20  
Fisher Road Park  
NE Salem
- 1/9/21  
McKay School Park  
NE Salem
- 2/13/21  
Lansing Park  
NE Salem

MAR  
APR  
MAY

- 3/6/21  
McKay School Park  
NE Salem
- 3/20/21  
Hammond School Park  
NE Salem
- 4/3/21  
Northgate Park  
Arbor Day Event  
NE Salem
- 5/1/21  
McKay School Park  
Tree Care Event  
NE Salem







# COMMUNITY TREE SURVEY RESULTS 2021

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DECEMBER 2021

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**CITY OF SALEM**

**Prepared by EnviroIssues**

CITY OF *Salem*  
AT YOUR SERVICE  
**Public Works Department**  
APWA ACCREDITED AGENCY





## Salem Tree Survey Summary

### Background

The City of Salem contracted with EnviroIssues to conduct a community tree survey. The purpose of the survey was to better understand residents' relationships with trees – primarily in low-canopy areas –, specifically related to barriers that might keep property owners from planting more trees, and incentives or information that might encourage them to plant trees.

Salem has been working to increase its tree canopy through various tree plantings in parks, in schools, and along streets and streams. The City provides limited planting on private lands. To reach the shade canopy goal, the City is considering assisting homeowners with tree planting opportunities on their properties. The City will use survey findings to help build programs and policies that are responsive to residents' needs and concerns and help increase the tree canopy in these areas to meet the tree canopy goal of 28 percent by 2030.

### Methodology

As Salem seeks to increase its tree canopy, reaching out to property owners in the low-canopy areas of town was of primary importance for a number of reasons, including equity, environmental justice, and the urban heat island effect in low canopy areas. Low canopy for this survey is defined as any area below the City's goal of 28 percent canopy using Census block groups.

The survey was distributed specifically to property owners in low-canopy areas via mailed postcards. To boost the total number of responses, the survey was also distributed to the general public online. Having data from the general public also provided a comparison point to see if responses from low-canopy areas differed significantly from the wider population.

The survey was available for low-canopy respondents from October 1 – October 25, 2021 and to the general public online from October 11 – October 25, 2021. The survey was available in English and Spanish.

### Identifying low-canopy respondents

The survey aimed to gather responses from two main groups within low-canopy areas:

- Homeowners and property owners in low-canopy areas of the City whose properties also include enough room for a mature tree.
- Homeowners and property owners with large lots that have less than 28 percent canopy. These individual properties may also be outside of the designated 'low-canopy' block groups.

A database of 15,313 properties that met these criteria was provided by the City. Specific parameters included:

- Areas with less than 28 percent canopy cover by census block group.
- Parcels with Potential Planting areas of over 700 square feet.
- Residential zoning (RD, RH, RA).

The goal was to receive a total of 600 responses from this group which would have yielded a 4 percent margin of error. Estimating a response rate of about 10 percent, a random sample of 6,092 addresses was selected from the full database. These addresses received a postcard invitation to take the survey.



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

Respondents could access the survey through a QR code or URL link printed on the postcard. A gift card incentive was also publicized on the postcards to encourage participation. Ten \$50 Visa gift cards were distributed to randomly selected participants who had opted in for the raffle after the survey had concluded.

A total of 232 confirmed postcard responses were received equaling a response rate of 3.8 percent. For a population of 15,313 in the original database, a sample size of 232 yielded a 6.4 percent margin of error with a 95 percent confidence level. This means that if the survey were to be repeated, results would fall within plus or minus 6.4 percent of the original survey results 95 percent of the time.

To enable comparison of data across the city's geography, postcard addresses were segmented using a customized distribution link and QR code for each U.S. Census block group that was included in the random sample. Out of a total of 64 block groups in the original database, 60 were included in the random sample. Having data available by block group will allow the City the flexibility to map and compare responses by neighborhood and/or geographic area.

A summary of results for both quantitative and qualitative survey questions is included in this report.

### Online engagement

To increase the total survey responses, another unique distribution survey link was posted and publicized online for the general public to participate. This survey link was posted to the City of Salem's Facebook account, distributed via the City's electronic newsletter, and to community partners and leaders.

The City's Facebook post received 62 reactions, 46 comments, and was shared 27 times. A total of 249 confirmed online responses to the survey were received.

In addition to several people taking the online survey via the online link, the comments from the Facebook post also provided useful information. Unlike the survey where respondents were asked to comment about trees on their private property, users on Facebook volunteered general information about City-owned trees. The themes of responses below are ranked from most common to least common with the last seven items receiving one comment each.

- Lack of maintenance for city trees
- Property damage from trees
- Wrong or nuisance trees
- Love planting trees
- More fruit trees
- Wants to plant trees, but City has not responded
- Update City tree policy to lessen risks
- Stop the massive cut downs for houses and apartments
- Safety concerns
- Water shortage, no new plantings

### Additional responses

In addition to the confirmed low-canopy responses generated by the postcard mailing and responses from online engagement, 196 responses came from unknown sources. These responses still include valid



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

and valuable survey data; however, it is not known if the responses came from either the postcard or online outreach. This is likely due to adblockers on individual's browsers that strip source metadata from the survey.

Survey data from these responses is included in the "General public" category in the Results section of this report.



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

### Results

Table 1 shows the response rate for the different sources of survey data. Of the total 677 responses received, 232 were from confirmed low-canopy areas, 249 were from the online outreach, and 196 could not be confirmed due to the stripped metadata.

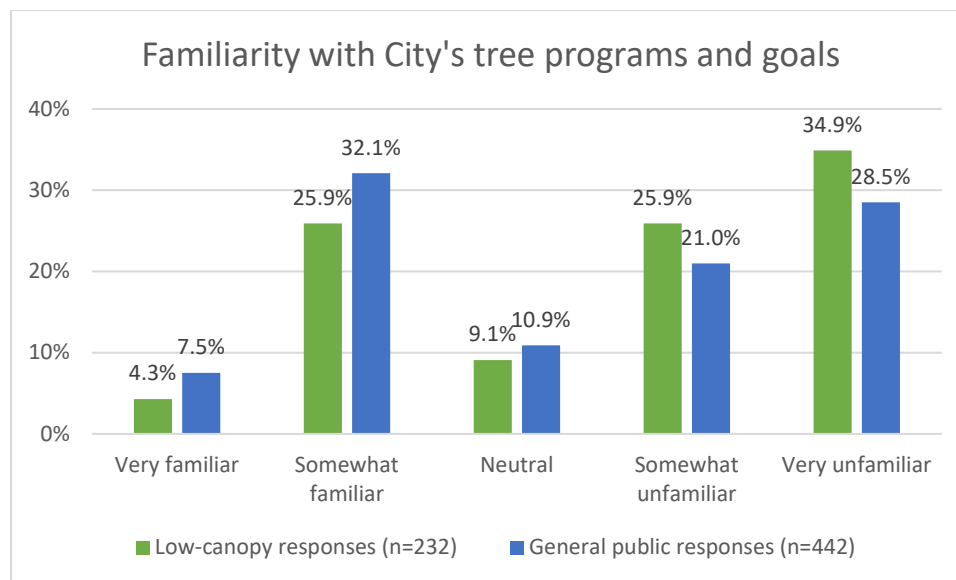
Table 1. Survey responses by source.

Response source	Responses	Percentage of total responses
Confirmed low-canopy responses	232	34.3 percent
Confirmed online responses	249	36.8 percent
Additional responses	196	29.0 percent
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>677</b>	

### Tree-related questions

The following graphs represent two sections of the population surveyed: 1. The low-canopy area, and 2. the general public responses. The exceptions are for the two open-ended questions where only the responses from the low-canopy participants are noted due to budget constraints limiting the time that could be spent on the manual categorization of written comments.

Question 1 - How familiar are you with the City's tree programs and goals to increase tree canopy?



30.2 percent of low-canopy respondents were very familiar or somewhat familiar with the City's tree programs and goals to increase the tree canopy. 60.8 percent were somewhat unfamiliar or very unfamiliar.

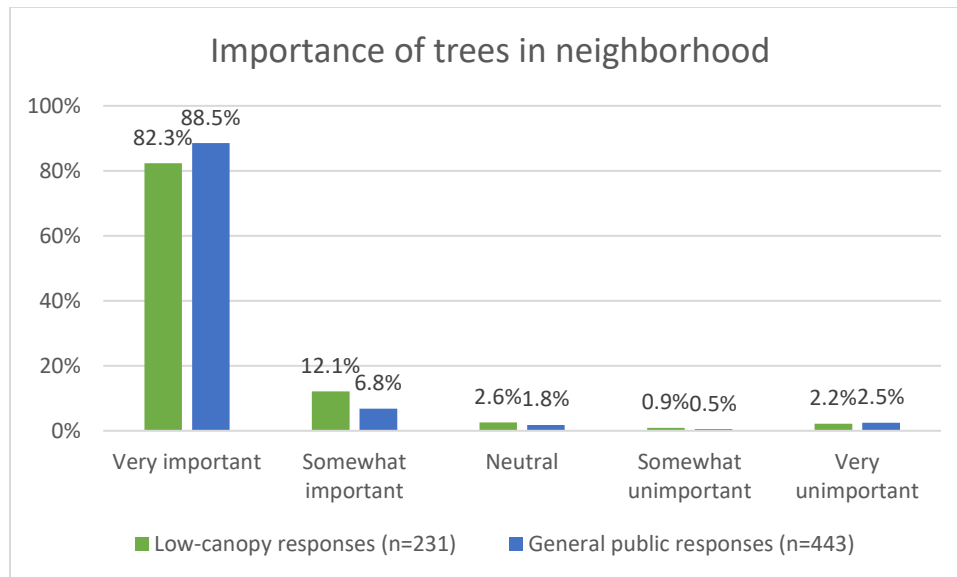
General public respondents were slightly more familiar, but 49.5 percent were still unfamiliar with tree programs and goals.





## Salem Tree Survey Summary

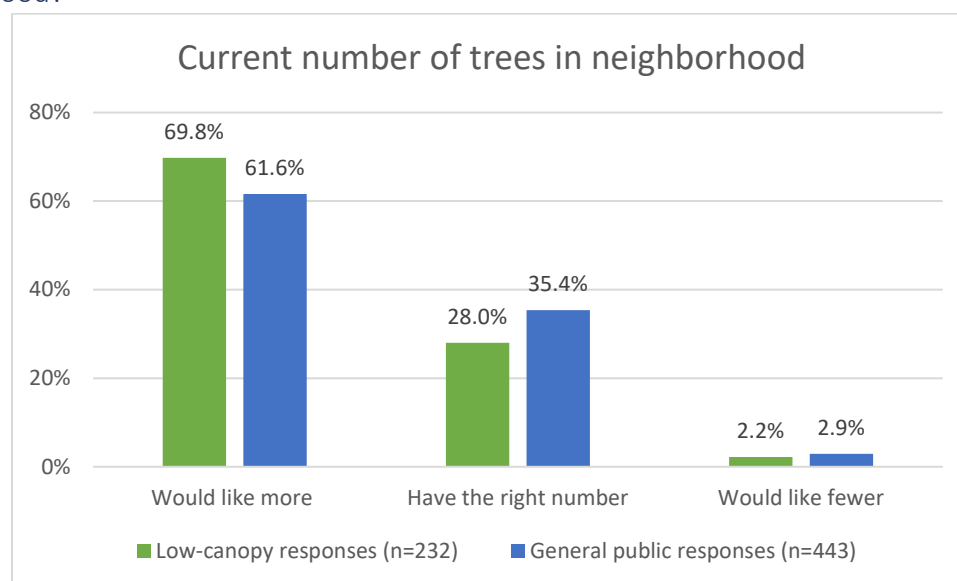
### Question 2 - How important is it to have trees in your neighborhood?



The large majority of low-canopy respondents, 94.4 percent, said that having trees in their neighborhoods was very important or somewhat important.

General public responses were similar. 95.3 percent of general public respondents said that having trees in their neighborhoods was very important or somewhat important.

### Question 3 - What do you think about the number of trees that are currently in your neighborhood?



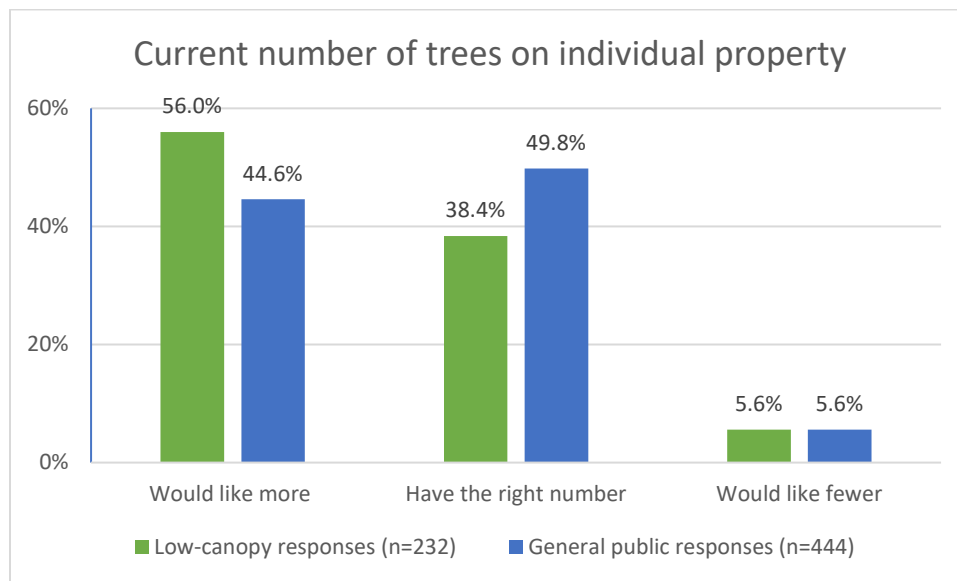


## Salem Tree Survey Summary

The majority of low-canopy respondents, 69.8 percent, said that they would like more trees in their neighborhoods. 28.0 percent said they had the right number and 2.2 percent said they would like fewer trees.

General public responses were similar. Slightly fewer, 61.6 percent, said they would like more trees in their neighborhoods. Slightly more, 35.4 percent, said they had the right amount and about the same number of respondents, 2.9 percent, said they would like fewer trees.

### Question 4 - What do you think about the number of trees on your specific property?



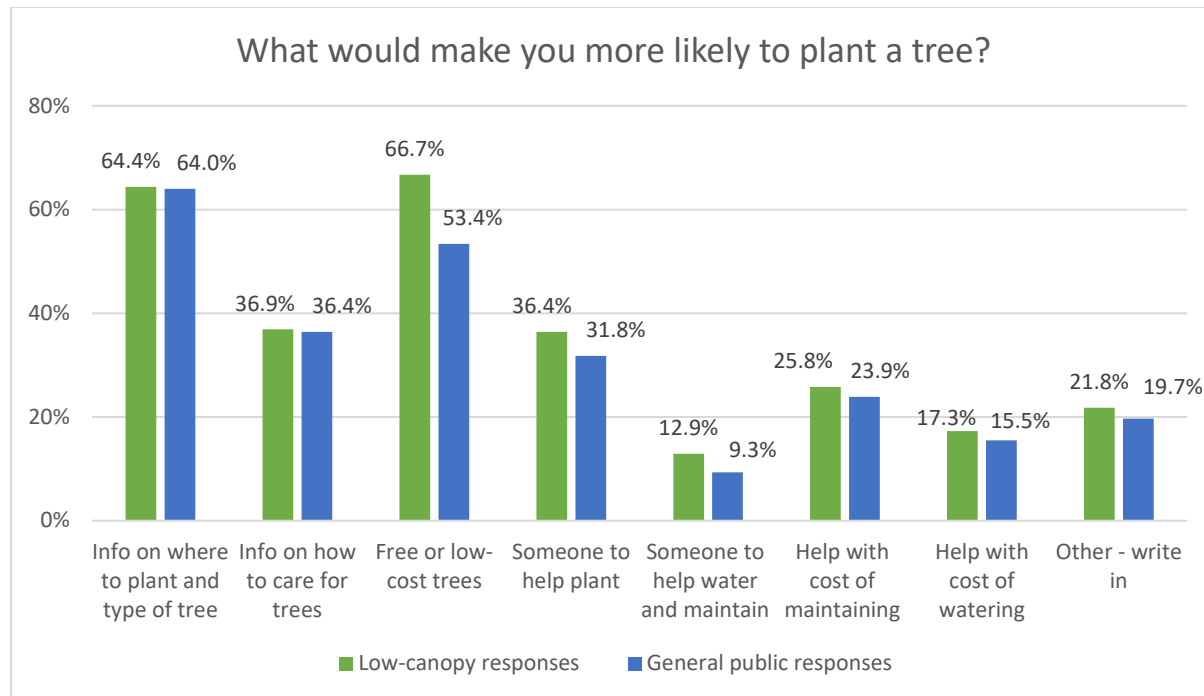
Over half of low-canopy respondents, 56.0 percent, said they would like more trees on their specific properties. 38.4 percent said they had the right number and 5.6 percent said they would like fewer trees.

General public responses were similar, however, slightly fewer, 44.6 percent, said they would like more trees on their properties. Slightly more, 49.8 percent, said they had the right amount and about the same number of respondents, 5.6 percent, said they would like fewer trees.



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

Question 5 - What would make you more likely to plant one or more trees on your property?



The top two selections for low-canopy respondents about what would make them more likely to plant one or more trees on their properties were free or low-cost trees and information on where to plant and what kind of trees would work best. The third and fourth options were information on how to care for trees and someone to help plant the trees.

General public respondents selected the same top four options; however, their top two selections were switched compared to low-canopy respondents. They selected information on where to plant and what kind of trees as their first option followed by free or low-cost trees.

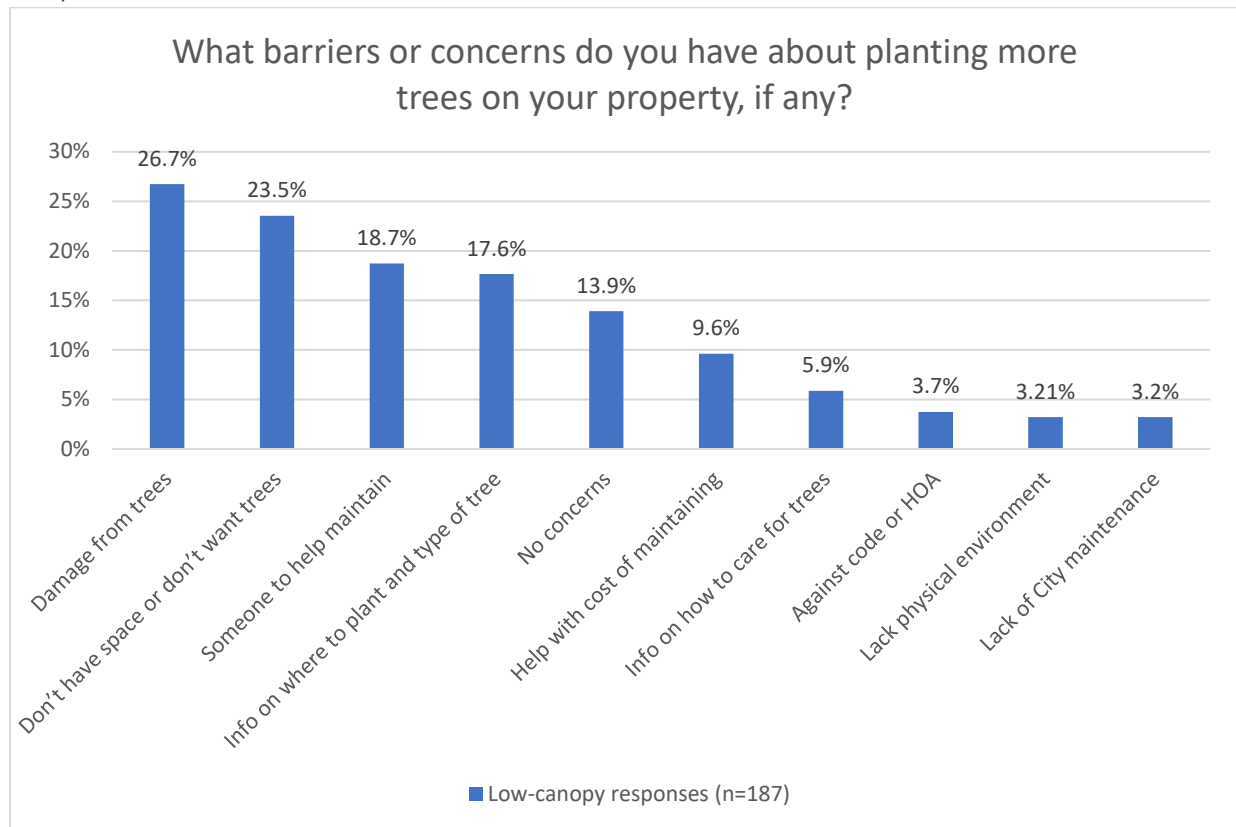
Other – write in (Low-canopy responses only):

- No space for trees.
- Help maintaining trees.
- Multiple respondents specifically wanted edible trees such as fruit or nuts to also provide food.
- Some called for the City to better manage street trees when they cause damage to sidewalks, become overgrown or are damaged.
- Some asked for information on how to care for existing trees.
- One person specifically asked for a rebate program.
- One person noted they would like to have consensus with their neighbors since street trees will affect them all once grown.



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

Question 6 - What barriers or concerns do you have about planting more trees on your property, if any?



Only low-canopy responses were categorized for this summary due to budget considerations limiting the time that could be spent on the manual categorization of written comments. The most common concerns were related to damage associated with trees, lack of space or adequate conditions for trees, and the amount of ongoing maintenance for the trees.

In order of most to least common:

- **Damage from trees:** concerns about trees damaging sidewalks, utilities, homes etc.
- **Don't have space or don't want trees:** concerns about not having space for a tree or didn't want one because it would block sunlight to other plants or for aesthetic reasons.
- **Someone to help maintain:** concerns about the amount of maintenance required like raking leaves and trimming.
  - Some noted they are physically disabled and unable to maintain or plant a tree.
- **Info on where to plant and type of tree:** concerns about not knowing the best kind of tree to choose or the best location to plant one.
  - Some specifically wanted more information on choosing native trees.
- **No concerns:** Had no concerns.
- **Help with cost of maintaining:** concerns with the cost of the tree itself and cost of maintaining.
- **Info on how to care for trees:** concerns about having a lack of knowledge about how to maintain a tree, i.e. trimming, fertilizing and what to do about pests.
- **Against code or HOA:** concerns for going against city codes or HOA rules.

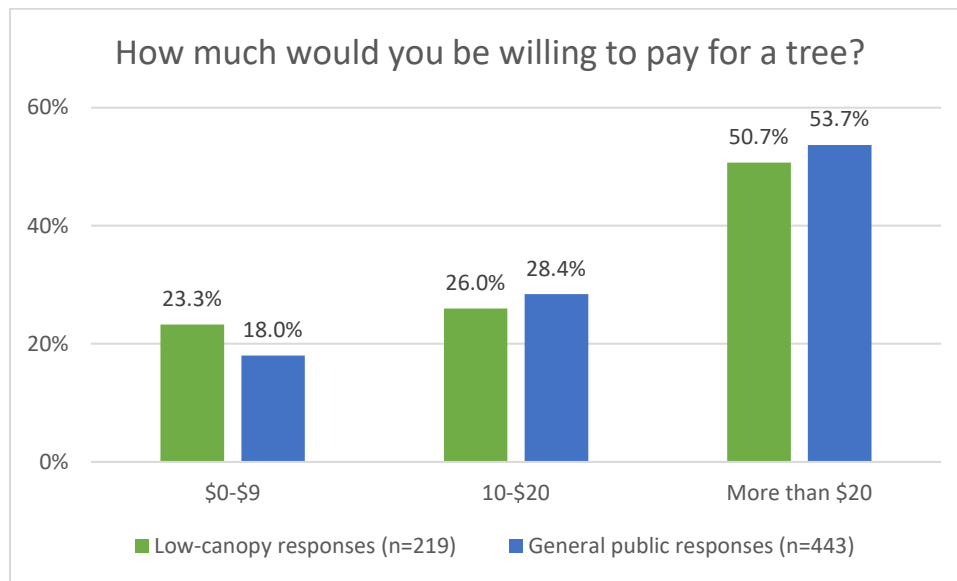




## Salem Tree Survey Summary

- **Lack physical environment:** concerns that their property doesn't have the proper physical environment for a tree to survive, i.e. amount of sunlight, drainage or soil quality.
- **Lack of City maintenance:** concerns that the City is not doing its part to care for current trees and fixing the damage they can cause.

Question 7 – How much would you be willing to pay for a new tree on your property?



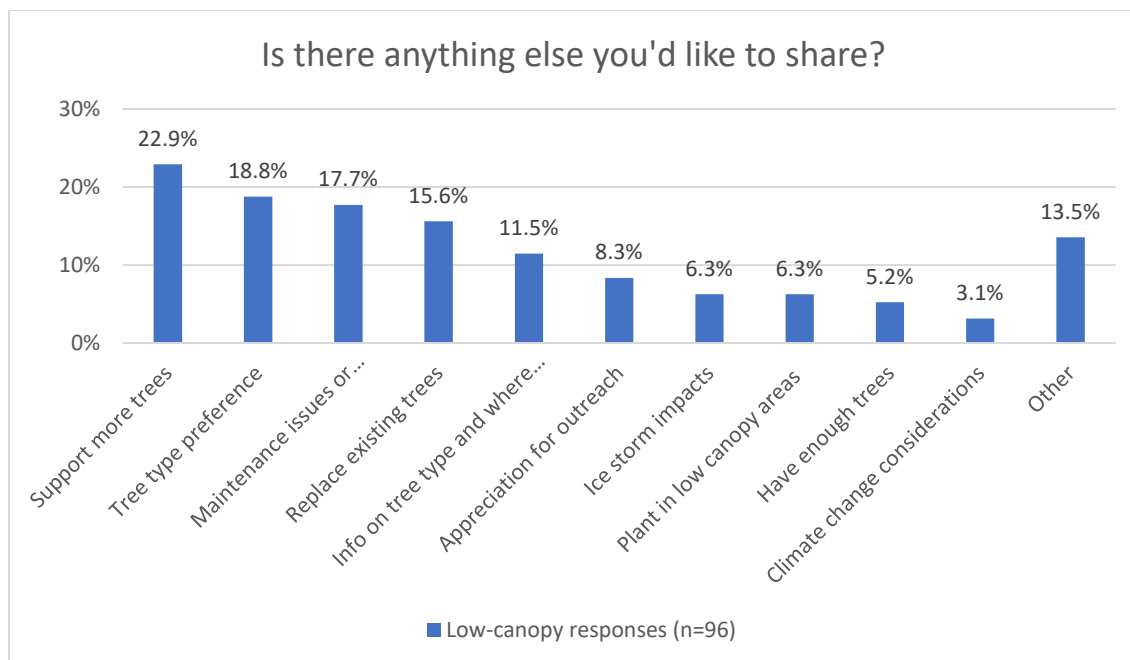
About half of low-canopy respondents, 50.7 percent, said they would be willing to pay more than \$20 for a tree. 26.0 percent said they'd be willing to pay between \$10-\$20 and 23.3 percent said they'd pay between \$0-\$9.

General public responses were very similar. Slightly more respondents, 53.7 percent, said they would be willing to pay more than \$20 for a tree. 28.4 percent said they'd be willing to pay between \$10-\$20 and 18.0 percent said they'd pay between \$0-\$9.



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

Question 8 - Is there anything else you would like to share with us?



Only low-canopy responses were categorized for this summary due to budget considerations limiting the time that could be spent on the manual categorization of written comments. The most common comments expressed general support for more trees, preferences for specific types of trees, and concerns or suggestions around maintenance issues.

In order of most to least common:

- **Support more trees:** general support for more trees, both on personal properties and city-owned property.
- **Tree type preference:** requests for specific types of trees, primarily fruit trees. Some requests for deciduous and colorful trees.
- **Maintenance issues or suggestions:** concerns about trees causing damage to sidewalks, trimming, and proximity to powerlines. Requests for the City to ensure that new trees do not cause more issues.
- **Replace existing trees:** requests for information about or help with replacing aging or dead trees on their properties.
- **Info on tree type and where to plant:** requests for additional information about types of trees and where to plant them.
- **Appreciation for outreach:** gratitude for the information provided and outreach efforts.
- **Ice storm impacts:** requests and support for replacing trees lost or damaged by the 2021 ice storms. One comment noting the cost associated with clearing damage from the storms.
- **Have enough trees:** content with the current amount of trees on their properties or neighborhoods.
- **Plant in low-canopy areas:** requests to focus on areas that currently have fewer trees.

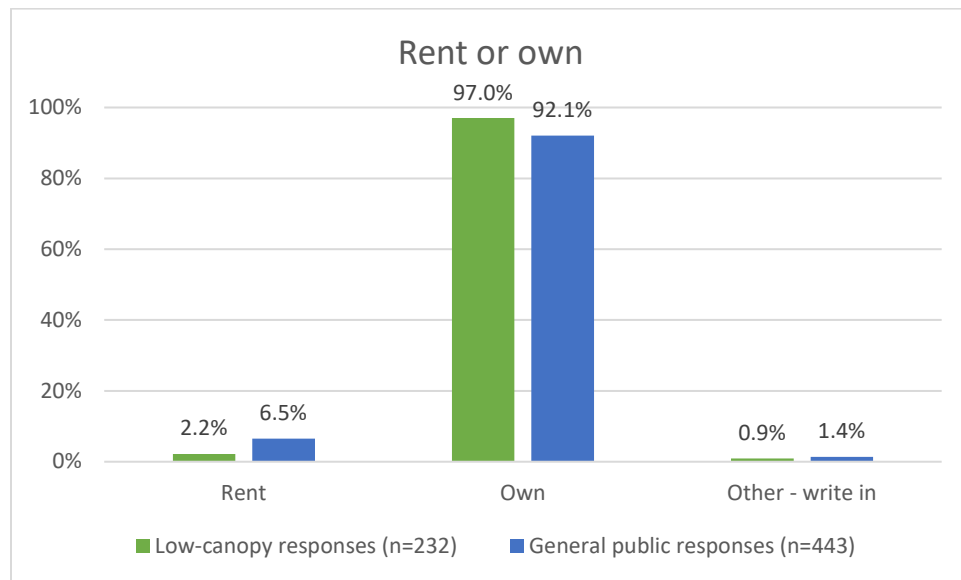


## Salem Tree Survey Summary

- **Other:** a variety of comments including ensuring new trees are able to adapt to climate change, using trees as buffers between modes of transportation or for sound dampening, and concerns about spending personal and City resources on trees.

### Demographics

Question 9 – Do you or a family member own or rent your property?



The large majority of low-canopy respondents, 97.0 percent, own their properties. 2.2 percent rent and 0.9 percent selected 'other.'

The large majority of general public respondents, 92.1 percent, own their properties. About 6.5 percent rent and about 1.4 percent selected 'other.'

### Question 10 – What is your property address?

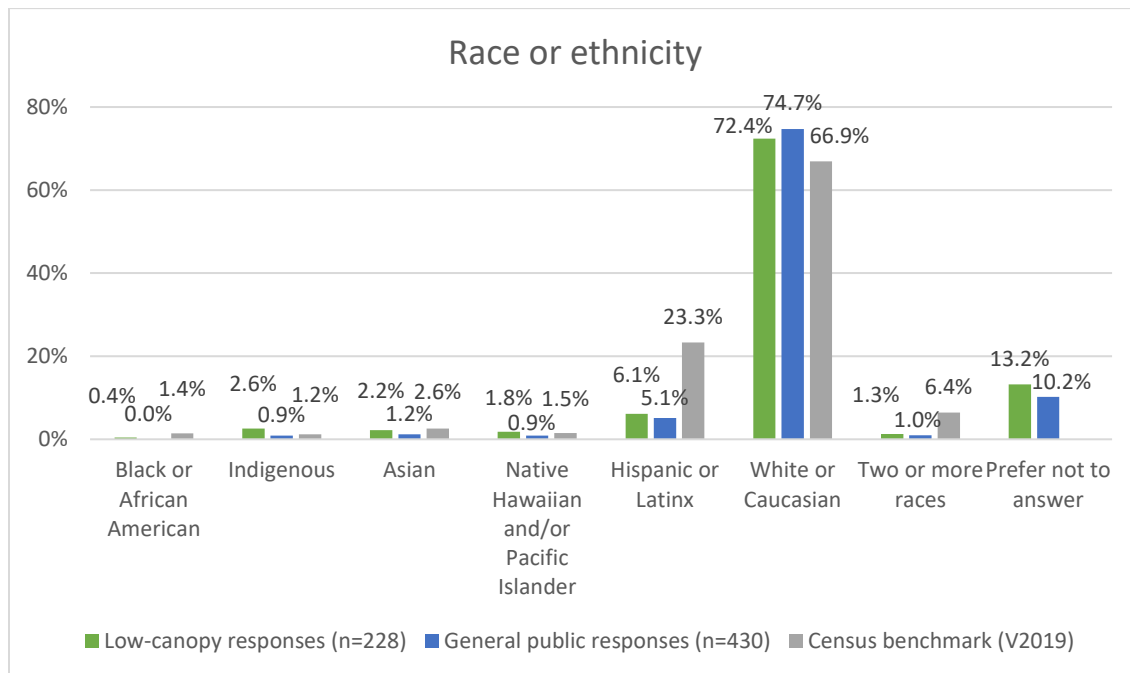
Respondents were given the option to enter their property addresses. If requested, this data could be used by the City to map responses by geography.

See Appendix A for raw data.



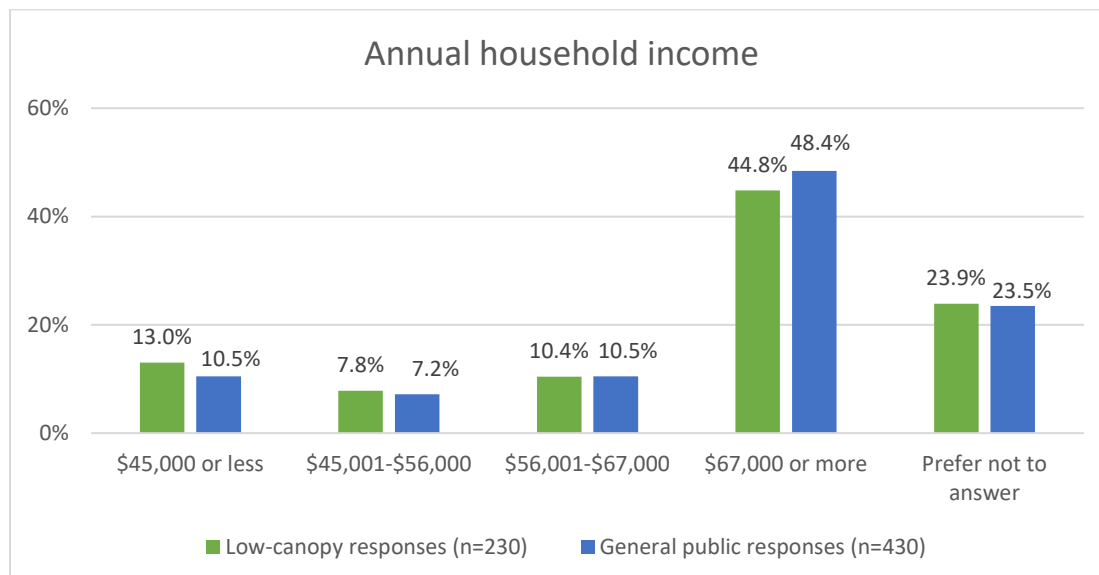
## Salem Tree Survey Summary

Question 11 – What is your racial or ethnic group?



Census categories were used to collect race and ethnicity data to be able to compare against benchmark data. White or Caucasian respondents were overrepresented in the low-canopy and general public responses. Races and ethnicities of color were underrepresented, especially people who identify as Hispanic or Latinx.

Question 12 – What is your average annual household income?







## Salem Tree Survey Summary

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development defines low-income households as those, “whose incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median family income for the area.” The median household income for the City of Salem is \$55,920. For the purposes of this survey, respondents who indicate an income of \$45,000 or less (80 percent of the median income) can be considered low-income. 13.0 percent of low-canopy respondents and 10.5 percent of general public respondents selected this category.

The City could consider cross tabulating survey results by income to see if responses differ significantly for respondents with an income of \$45,000 or less, however, results would not be very representative of a larger population because of the low sample size. Only 30 low-canopy and 45 general public responses were in this category. For a more meaningful comparison, more data would have to be collected.

## Conclusions

Overall, survey respondents were largely in favor of trees and about half said they would like more trees on their properties. Additional observations from survey data include:

- Most people are not familiar with tree programs or canopy goals.
- Vast majority think it’s very important to have trees in neighborhoods.
- Most people would like more trees in their neighborhoods.
- About half of respondents would like more trees on their property. Most of the remainder are happy with their current trees. Only a small amount want fewer trees.
  - About 10 percent more low-canopy respondents want more trees on their properties compared to general public respondents.
- The top incentives for people to plant more trees were to provide free or low-cost trees, especially for low-canopy areas, and information about where to plant and what kind of trees would be best.
  - Information about how to care for trees and someone to help plant the trees were secondary options.
  - Financial assistance with maintenance or watering were lesser priorities for low-canopy or general public respondents, but still made up 20-25 percent of responses.
- The most common concerns were related to damage associated with trees, lack of space or adequate conditions for trees, and the amount of ongoing maintenance for the trees.
- Hispanic and Latinx communities were significantly underrepresented in the survey respondents.

Additional observations from the survey process include:

- Response rates to community surveys are difficult to predict. One of the best ways to boost responses is by following up directly via mail, door-to-door fliers or canvassing. Additional budget and resources to do so were not available for this survey effort, however, this may be considered for future outreach, especially for pilot programs in a more focused geographic area, such as a specific neighborhood.
- Ad blockers strip pre-coded data. Some of the unconfirmed source responses likely correspond to postcards sent to low-canopy addresses but cannot be specifically linked.



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

### Discussion

Survey results indicate that there is a general lack of knowledge about the City's tree programs and the City's tree canopy goals. Although this study sought to gain information regarding areas of low canopy, the trends between the general public and low-canopy areas did not show great variation.

Consequently, there are many opportunities to reach out to the public and ask them to participate in growing the tree canopy to meet the City goal of 28 percent by 2030.

### Recommendations for future outreach

Recommendations for future outreach include focusing on educational campaigns to help people make informed decisions about the types of trees that are appropriate for different needs and the best areas to plant them. The City might also consider a pilot program that provides free or low-cost trees and help with planting them in a specific geographic area before investing in city-wide efforts.

Additional recommendations include:

- Move forward with creating and providing educational materials about appropriate trees and places to plant and assisting homeowners with tree planting opportunities.
- Equity lens: Focus efforts in low-canopy areas that also have the highest populations of communities of color and/or low-income households.
  - Because the low-canopy respondent data was pre-coded by block group, the City has the option to map data by block group and identify the specific areas that have the most interest in trees (Question 4).
    - Sorting and contacting specific respondents with the address data they provided in the survey is **not recommended** since this was not explicitly stated as a possible use and may be seen as an intrusive practice. Respondents were informed that location data would help the City identify differences in concerns or opinions in different neighborhoods, but were not told that it may be used to contact them. Contact information was provided only for the gift card drawing and should not be used for any additional focused outreach.
  - Build relationships with communities of color to increase engagement and gather responses that are more representative of the overall population of Salem residents, especially the Hispanic and Latinx community that makes up about a quarter of the City's population. Partnering with community organizations and leaders can complement translation and incentive efforts such as raffle opportunities. Communities of color may not have a trusting relationship with government agencies and would be much more likely to engage with pilot programs or information coming from trusted leaders who are integrated in their communities.
    - Provide information via channels and places where communities are already gathering. Expand outreach beyond official City social media channels and e-newsletters.
    - Boots on the ground outreach, such as distributing fliers or door-to-door canvassing, can also be very effective. Seek opportunities to table at events located in the neighborhoods where you want to plant. Partner with trusted



## Salem Tree Survey Summary

community leaders to host a meet and greet event to promote the program and establish relationships.

- Focus on educational materials, both about the program and to address specific elements of the incentives and barriers to planting trees (Questions 5 and 6). Many people are unfamiliar with the City's tree programs and goals, but there is a lot of interest in the topic.
  - Work with community organizations and leaders to develop outreach materials that are culturally competent and tailored to specific communities.
  - Leverage the City's partnership with Friends of Trees or other environmental organizations to share existing information or adapt information about appropriate tree types and locations.
  - Include the opportunity for people to provide feedback to gauge whether outreach efforts are effective and if there is interest in additional or different information.
- Conduct pilot program beginning in 2022 and assess the level of participation. The pilot program will provide free street trees or low-cost front yard trees to residents in a specific neighborhood (i.e. NOLA in 2022). This work will be leveraged through the City's existing contract with Friends of Trees. Follow it up with help planting and information on maintenance.
  - Work with community organizations and leaders to develop outreach materials that are culturally competent and tailored to specific communities.
- Consider a pilot volunteer program to help with raking and collecting leaves for people who are not able to or are concerned with maintenance.
- Promote programs with local businesses.
  - Consider partnering with local garden and home improvement stores.
  - Make and provide signs, brochures, and tree tags to place on trees that have information about City programs.