



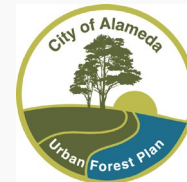
February 2025



Urban Forest Plan

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

Project Team



City of Alameda

Sustainability and Resilience (PBT)

Recreation and Park Dept

Public Works

Alameda Municipal Power

Consultant Team

Dudek

AIM Consulting



Purpose of the Urban Forest Plan



Update the Master Street Tree Plan to include park trees and promote an increase in the overall canopy



Develop the resources necessary to effectively manage the urban forest and implement the UFP



Develop a forward-focused plan and policies based on the needs of the City



Partner with the community to effectively steward the urban forest

Benefits of Trees



BENEFITS OF TREES

SHADE

Trees cool cities by up to 10° F by shading homes, streets, and other surfaces. Shaded surfaces can even be 20-40° cooler than the peak temperatures of unshaded areas!

FRESH FOOD

Trees provide food in the form of fruits, nuts, leaves, bark, and roots. Even dead trees provide food for many insects!

SAVING ENERGY

Strategically placed shade trees can help save up to 56% on annual air conditioning costs for homes and businesses, which means burning fewer fossil fuels for generating electricity.

BEAUTY

Trees add natural character to city streets and residential areas as they radiate with colors, flowers, textures, and shapes!

HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

Trees improve mental health by reducing depression and stress levels in addition to improving public health by decreasing the risk of respiratory illnesses and encouraging outdoor recreation.

CLEANER AIR

Trees absorb pollutants and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark.

CONNECTING WITH NEIGHBORS

Trees as landmarks within a neighborhood can encourage civic pride while tree plantings provide opportunities for community involvement and bring diverse groups of people together.

RAINWATER CAPTURE

Trees capture rainfall as water flows down the trunk and into the earth below and recharges groundwater supplies. Trees also help prevent stormwater from carrying large amounts of pollutants to the ocean.

WILDLIFE HABITAT

Trees support the lives of many wildlife species and provide them with food, shelter, and nesting sites.





Community Engagement To Date

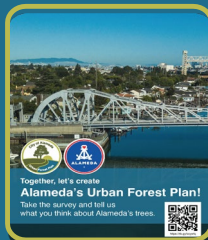
2023-25

**Working
Group
Meetings**



JAN 2023

**Online
Survey**



JAN 2023

**Pop-up
Workshop at
Bohol
Immigrant
Park Opening**



FEB 2023

**Pop-up
Workshop at
Storytelling
and Drum
Festival**



MAR 2023

**Pop-up
Workshop
at Spring
Shindig**



APR 2023

**Earth Day
Student
Letter
Writing
Activity**



MAY 2023

**Urban Forest
Summit
Listening
Session**



JAN 2025

**Community,
Board,
Commission
and Council
Workshops**





Draft Plan Public Engagement and Next Steps

January 27: Public Utilities Board and Planning Board

January 29: In-person Public Workshop

January 30: Virtual Public Workshop

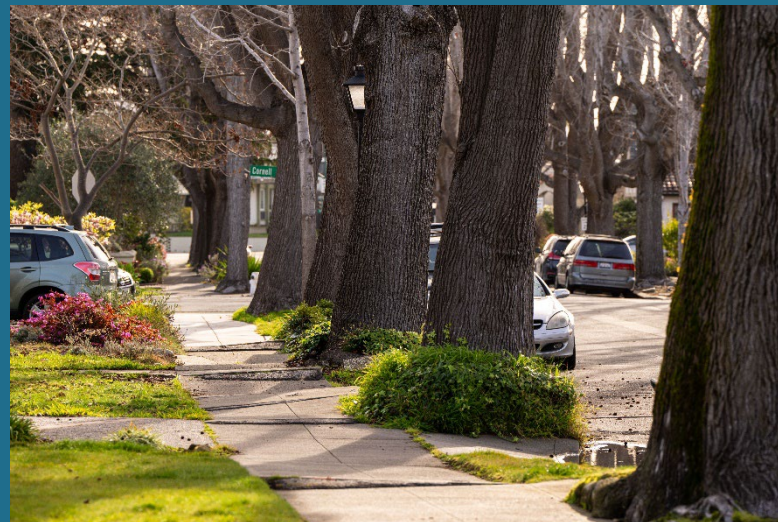
February 4: City Council Study Session

February 6: Historical Advisory Board

February 13: Recreation and Parks Commission

February 14: Public Comment Period Closes

Spring 2025: Final Draft for City Council Adoption



Visit www.alamedaca.gov/UFP to review and comment on the draft plan using the feedback form **by February 14th**



Structure of the Urban Forest Plan

Volume 1 – Urban Forest Plan

- Section 1 – Executive Summary
- Section 2 – Introduction and Purpose
- Section 3 – Analyzing Alameda's Existing Urban Forest
- Section 4 – Management of Alameda's Urban Forest
- Section 5 – Planning for the Future
- Section 6 – Plan Development Process and Community Engagement
- Section 7 – Monitoring the Plan

Volume 2 – Best Management Practices – standards, details, guidelines and policies for how the City will effectively manage the tree inventory an urban forest.



Draft Plan - Vision

Alameda's urban forest is a collection of healthy, diverse, resilient trees supported by sustainable resources and management practices that enhance our quality of life, provide habitat for wildlife, and support adaptation to climate change for the benefit of all community members and generations to come.



Draft Plan – Goals and Strategies

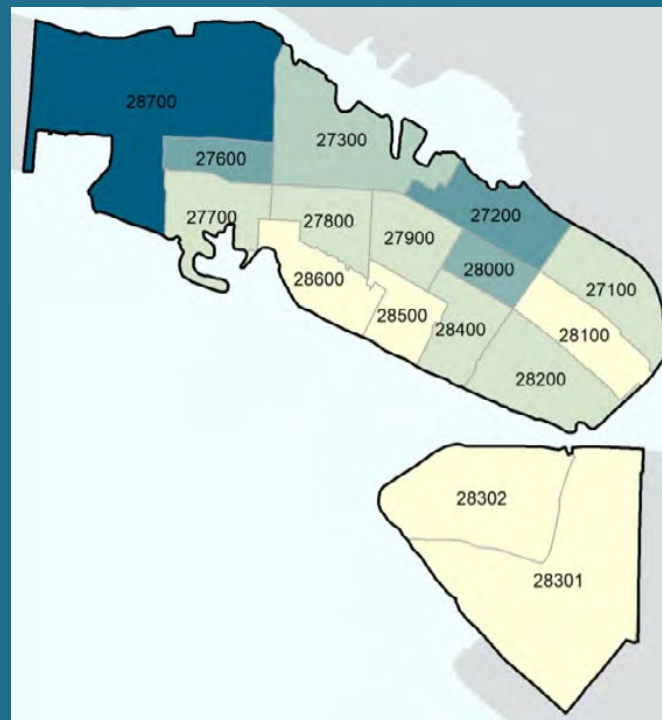
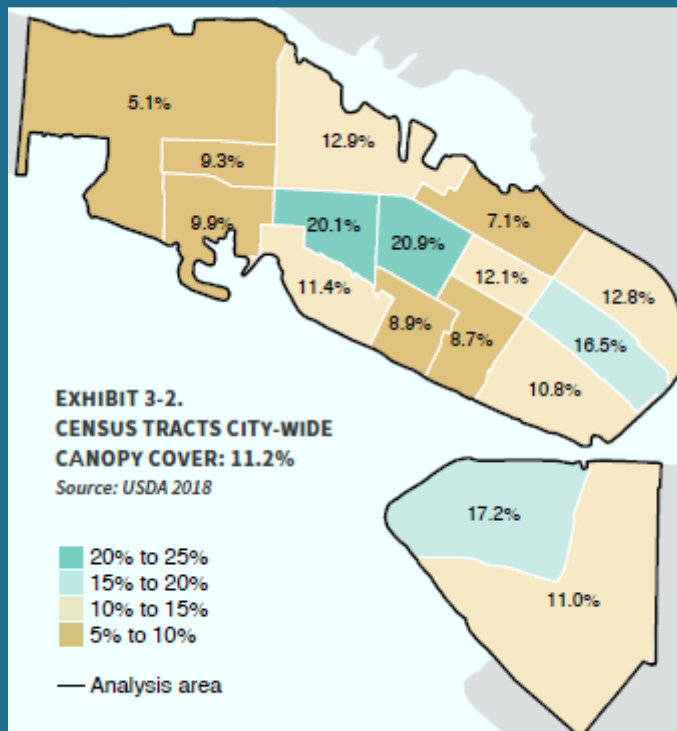
Goals	City Commitment
<p>➡ GOAL 1: Maintain and grow a healthy and diverse urban forest to provide increase in tree canopy cover in each Census Tract and citywide by 2055.</p>	<p>The City of Alameda has a target to plant 350 trees a year which would increase canopy cover from 11.2% to 20% citywide across all neighborhoods over the next 30 years by planting more climate adapted trees to reduce heat impacts, capture rainwater, clean air, sequester carbon, provide habitat for wildlife, and increase biodiversity. The City desires to have an equal distribution of canopy cover and will prioritize tree planting and establishment care resources to communities that have higher social vulnerability, pollution burdens and low canopy.</p>
<p>➡ GOAL 2: Develop the financial and human resources necessary to effectively manage the urban forest and implement the Urban Forest Plan.</p>	<p>The City of Alameda recognizes its role in ensuring funding and resources are available to support urban forest management activities as a key component to achieving the goals and actions of the Urban Forest Plan.</p>



Draft Plan – Goals and Strategies

Goals	City Commitment
➡ GOAL 3: Increase protection for public and private trees.	The City of Alameda will continue to promote a healthy urban forest through plans, policies, and ordinances to ensure trees are appropriately maintained, preserved, and protected.
➡ GOAL 4: Partner with an engaged and informed community to effectively steward the urban forest.	The City of Alameda will continue to value and support all people who make a lasting impact on the growth and preservation of the urban forest.

Canopy Cover and Priority Planting Score





Updated Tree Species List for Public Trees

SUITABLE SPECIES FOR ALAMEDA, CA

City of Alameda CA Updated 2025-01-06 76 🌳

Tree Species Selection Matrix for Alameda, CA - Comprehensive table of street and park tree species that are appropriate for the current and anticipated future climate of Alameda.

Regions: Northern Coast

Curated List, Public, alameda, city, municipal, california, bay area, climateready, resilient

Sort Trees...



1. TRIDENT MAPLE

Acer buergerianum



2. QUEEN ELIZABETH HEDGE MAPLE

Acer campestre 'Queen Elizabeth'



3. OCTOBER GLORY RED MAPLE

Acer rubrum 'October Glory'



4. SOMERSET RED MAPLE

Acer rubrum 'Somerset'



5. AUTUMN BLAZE RED MAPLE

Acer x freemanii 'Jeffersred'

- Species appropriate for Alameda's current and future climate
- Includes detailed information to assist City in selecting the right tree for the right place
- Consideration of which species are appropriate for planting under power lines

<https://selecttree.calpoly.edu/list/108>

Canopy Increase Analysis



Potential Additional Canopy Cover from Canopy Growth of Public Trees and Other Planting Efforts



Percentages less than 1% are unlabeled.

20% tree canopy goal can be accomplished through growth of the City managed tree inventory and planting new trees in various City managed and non-City managed locations.

Tree preservation a key component for existing trees

Additional funding will be needed to plant an additional 9,600 trees over 30 years and manage a larger forest



Funding and Staffing Needs

Phases	Description	Cost	Trees/Canopy
1. Enhanced Business as Usual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain existing 5-year pruning cycle for street trees and as needed for park trees• Maintain current tree planting, establishment care and tree removal services• Utilize enhanced management practices and updated tree species list• Focus annual tree planting program on Census Tracts with high Priority Planting Score• Continue to implement requirements for removal of Protected Trees	No additional funding except increased marginal annual maintenance cost as urban forest expands. FY 24-25 budget is \$3,213,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 135 net new park and street trees annually• Results in 14-15% canopy cover in 30 years
2. Increased Planting and Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase tree planting and young tree care to plant additional net 115 trees/year• Provide additional maintenance assistance for establishment and care of new trees• Develop and enforce a Tree Canopy Protection ordinance	\$450,000 annual additional cost for staff and/or contractor to plant and maintain trees plus staff or contractor to enforce the ordinance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 115 net new park and street trees annually• Additional tree canopy protection• Results in 3% increase in canopy cover above the Enhanced Business as Usual scenario (18%) in 30 years
3. Urban Forester	Hire an Urban Forest Manager position to coordinate City tree program and partner with residents, community organizations and large landowners to coordinate planting 100 trees/year on non-City owned land.	\$250,000 additional annual cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100 net new trees/year on private land• Results in approximately 2% increase in canopy cover above the Enhanced Business as Usual scenario (16%) canopy cover in 30 years

Current funding allows the City to meet some key performance metrics.

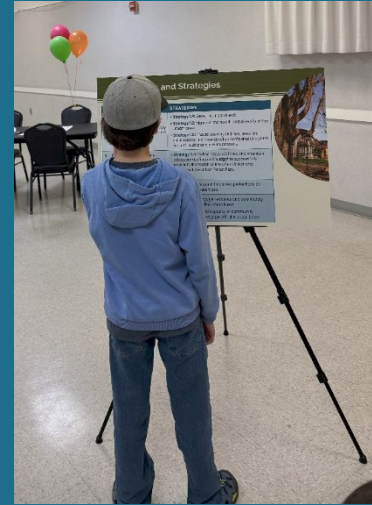
As the urban forest grows, additional funding and staffing positions are needed to effectively implement the Urban Forest Plan and meet its canopy growth goals.

Council will provide direction on phased funding through budget process to accomplish goals.



What We've Heard So Far

- Retain major streets and neighborhood tree recommendations
- Identify opportunity sites for tree planting in parks and other open spaces
- Provide more flexibility to plant larger trees under low voltage power lines, on iconic corridors, and considering undergrounding plans
- Add or remove specific species from list, focus on natives, and provide a procedure for planting species not on the list that are well suited
- Provide additional funds to remove pavement from tree wells in Census Tracts with high Priority Planting Score
- Increase tree protection measures and ensure adequate replacement ratios
- Accelerate tree planting and consider a more aggressive canopy cover goal



Recommendation

Provide feedback on the Draft UFP

- Overall content and presentation of the draft UFP
- Vision, goals and strategies in the UFP
- Current canopy cover goal and a phased implementation approach to funding and staffing it
- Concept of implementing community programming, adopting regulations, and provide enforcement to increase the tree canopy on private property
- Focus on prioritizing equitable distribution of the urban forest.

