

Urban Forest Master Plan

Implementation Update – May 21, 2015



Purpose

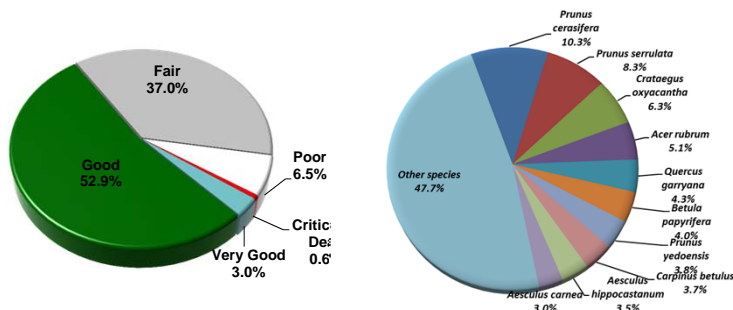
The purpose the report is to provide an update on the implementation of the Urban Forest Master Plan that was adopted by Council in 2013 and to outline the actions for 2015/2016.



What we have accomplished

1. Completed a comprehensive tree inventory of publicly owned trees

- Over 33,000 trees on City Property
- Baseline information that is used daily in decision making and planning of activities
- Tree condition and species composition of street trees



What we have accomplished

2. Resource analysis of inventoried street trees

- Quantifies the value and benefits of street trees in the City
- Replacement value is estimated at \$84 million dollars
- Annual benefits provided are estimated to be approximately \$2.8 million as a result of energy savings, air quality improvements, CO2 reduction and aesthetic contributions
- For every \$1 invested by the City it is estimated that the citizens receive \$3.79 in benefits

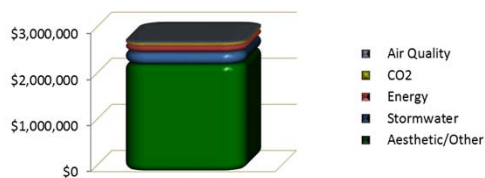


Figure 1. Total Annual Benefits from Victoria's Inventoried Trees

Total Annual Benefit: \$2,805,508
 Average Annual per Tree Benefit: \$148.68
 Annual Value of Benefits per Capita: \$35.05



What we have accomplished

3. Young tree maintenance and planting
 - Approximately 250 trees are planted annually
 - Up to 1500 trees are on the young tree maintenance program
4. Hosted the Canadian Urban Forest Conference
 - 250 delegates, Canada, US and abroad
 - UBC alumni event



Focus for 2015 and 2016

1. Development of a strategy for removing/pruning diseased and hazardous trees



Focus for 2015 and 2016

2. Development of a tree planting strategy with neighbourhood involvement



3. Continuation of a young tree maintenance program
4. Increase community awareness and participation
 - Community Forum
 - Planting strategies
 - Improved communication tools for removals



Recommendation

That Council receives this report and direct staff to provide an annually update on the Urban Forest Master Plan implementation.

Questions ?

