



7.9 STREET TREES



Tree-lined street

ISSUE:

Richmond has a street-tree program, which includes tree planting, and pruning, and removal of dangerous or damaged trees, on the street rights-of-way. The planting of a variety of native street trees along streets promotes nature within the City. Trees connect people to nature in the midst of today's urbanized environment. Trees also provide shade, and contribute to fresh air by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. Trees block winds, and provide visual and sound barriers. As the City develops, there needs to be a framework and a program to manage planting, maintenance, and removal and replacement of trees on city streets.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Promote the planting and preservation of trees along city streets and on private lands to promote community health, aesthetics, and well-being.

POLICIES:

- a) Encourage the preservation of trees on City property and private lands wherever possible, including rights-of-way and highways;
- b) Ensure that tree removal requests are decided individually based on disease, damage, new construction works, hazardous situations, damaging of private property, or having heritage, environmental, or other community value;
- c) Establish a tree management plan that:
 - Prioritizes streets for tree plantings, planting specifications, and location standards;
 - Identifies tree species for planting, recycling, removal, and replacement;
 - Inventories location, type, condition, and life expectancy of trees;
 - Provides a systematic program for the scheduling of street-tree maintenance on a regular basis;
- d) Protect and retain existing street trees as part of road improvements and upgrading.

