

Street Tree Maintenance Manual - LOS Comparison
December 5, 2017

“Current” Level of Service			“Desired” Level of Service		
Annual Cost					
\$174,000 current budget			Additional \$135,400		
Staff (dedicated 80% to street trees, 20% to park trees)					
a) 1 permanent Maintenance Worker (Arborist). b) 1 permanent Maintenance Worker pulled from other Parks maintenance work for 4 months. c) 1 temporary Maintenance Worker as ground support for 8 months/year.			Additional Maintenance Worker (Arborist) and associated vehicle and equipment.		
Pruning Cycle					
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Younger trees pruned every 15 yearsOlder trees pruned every 17 years			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Younger trees pruned every 5 yearsOlder trees pruned every 7 years		
Yearly Maintenance Work					
Cycle Length	Trees	Maintenance	Cycle Length	Trees	Maintenance
15 yrs	70	Pruning 1-6” diameter trees	5 yrs	211	Pruning 1-6” diameter trees
	47	Pruning 7-12” diameter trees		143	Pruning 7-12” diameter trees
17 yrs	29	Pruning 13-24” diameter trees	7 yrs	71	Pruning 13-24” diameter trees
	5	Pruning 25-36” diameter trees		11	Pruning 25-36” diameter trees
5 yrs	17	Removals	5 yrs	17	Removals
N/A	All	40 minutes general maintenance (weeding, litter removal, mulching, tree grate maintenance, remove root suckers)	N/A	All	40 minutes general maintenance (weeding, litter removal, mulching, tree grate maintenance, remove root suckers)
	162	20 minute Post-Pruning Inspection		487	20 minute Post-Pruning Inspection
	10	Planting & watering new trees		15	Newly planted trees & watering

Analysis

Trees are pruned 2-3 times more often in the “Desired” LOS.

“Current” LOS

Far below basic industry standards for tree maintenance.

Pulling Maintenance Worker from other maintenance work impacts overall Parks operations.

Longer pruning cycle

- Tree condition will deteriorate in the length of time between prunings.
- Trees will grow, making work more difficult and expensive.
- Liabilities cannot be proactively managed.

“Desired” LOS

Meets basic industry standards for tree maintenance.

Dedicated, permanent crew will make tree work safer and more efficient.

Shorter pruning cycle

- Keeps trees pruned back away from street lights, traffic signs, and buildings improving safety and reducing citizen complaints.
- Prunes trees when they are younger, making the work easier, cheaper, and better for tree health.