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**CITY OF SAINT PAUL**

# **FORESTRY UPDATE**

**AUGUST 16, 2023**



# PORT AUTHORITY FUNDING

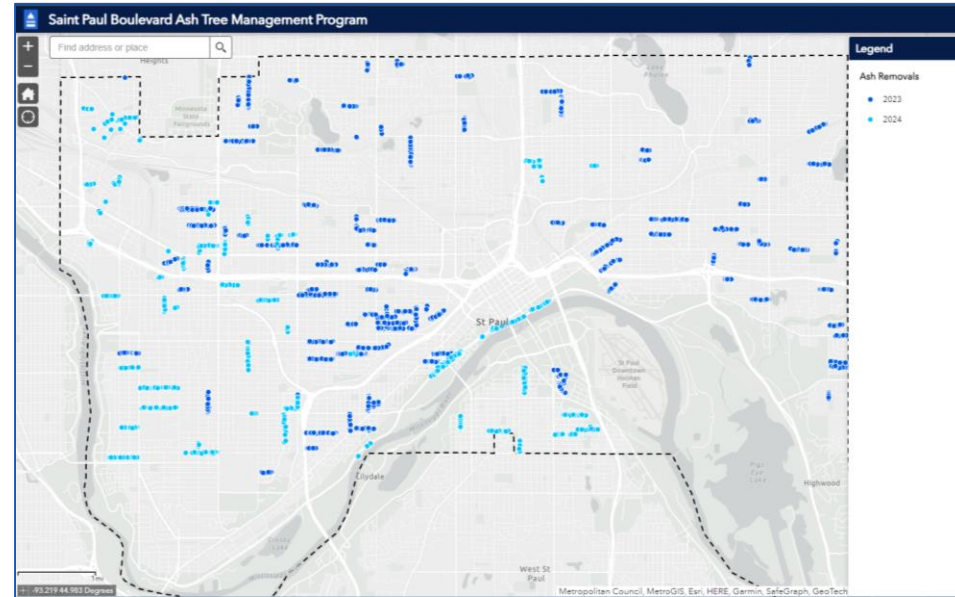
- GOALS:
  - COMPLETE ROW ASH REMOVALS BY 2024
  - REDUCE BACKLOGS IN SYSTEM (STUMPS, VACANT PLANTING SITES)
  - BEGIN ESTABLISHING A 15-YEAR PRUNING CYCLE
  - CONTRACT FOR JOB TRAINING PROGRAM



# EAB MGMT—REMOVALS

*STATED GOALS OF PORT AUTHORITY FUNDING  
INCLUDE: COMPLETE ASH REMOVALS BY END OF 2024,  
REDUCE OTHER BACKLOGS IN SYSTEM, JOB TRAINING  
PROGRAM*

- 2022—
  - 2,942 ROW & 289 PARK ASH REMOVED
- 2023—
  - 2,491 ROW & ~700 PARK ASH REMOVED
- 2024—
  - 1,510 ROW TO BE REMOVED
  - 25 PARK ASH IN MANAGED AREAS TO BE REMOVED
  - CONTINUE WORKING ON “FRINGE” AREAS OF PARKS



[Interactive map](#)

***ASH REMOVALS ON CITY ROW'S & MANAGED AREAS OF PARKLAND WILL BE COMPLETED IN 2024***



# STUMP REMOVAL PROGRAM—EAB & CITYWIDE

- 2022—4,610 STUMPS REMOVED (GOAL 4,500)
  - REMAINING 2021 STRUCTURED REMOVAL STUMPS
  - **ALL** 2022 STRUCTURED REMOVAL STUMPS
  - CITYWIDE DISTRICTS 5, 6, 14, 17, START ON D3, PARKS
- 2023—3,215 STUMPS COMPLETED THUS FAR (GOAL 4,500)
  - **ALL** 2023 STRUCTURED REMOVAL STUMPS
  - CITYWIDE DISTRICTS 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 12, PARKS
- 2024—GOAL OF 4,500
  - **ALL** 2024 STRUCTURED REMOVAL STUMPS
  - CITYWIDE DISTRICTS 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16
- 2025—GOAL OF 4,500
  - CITYWIDE DISTRICT SWEEP



***BARRING ANY UNFORESEEABLE CATASTROPHIC EVENT, WE ARE ON TRACK TO RESUME AN ANNUAL STUMP REMOVAL PROGRAM IN 2026***





# PLANTING PROGRAM—EAB & CITYWIDE

- 2022—4,367 TREES PLANTED (GOAL 4,500)
  - REMAINING 2021 SR BLOCKS REPLANTED
  - CITYWIDE DISTRICTS 2, 6 & 13
  - DOWNTOWN, CCLRT, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
- 2023—5,084 TREES PLANNED (GOAL 4,500)
  - SPRING: 2,884 TREES PLANTED
    - ALL 2022 SR BLOCKS REPLANTED
    - CITYWIDE DISTRICTS 5, 6, 14
  - FALL: 2,200 TREES PLANNED
    - START 2023 SR BLOCKS
    - CITYWIDE DISTRICT 5
    - DOWNTOWN, CCLRT, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
- 2024—GOAL OF 6,140
  - COMPLETE 2023 SR BLOCKS IN SPRING
  - COMPLETE **ALL** 2024 SR BLOCKS IN FALL
  - CITYWIDE DISTRICTS 3, 7, 8, 16
  - DOWNTOWN, CCLRT, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
- 2025—GOAL OF 6,000
  - REMAINING CITYWIDE DISTRICTS
  - CONTINGENT ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR JOBS PROGRAM



***ANNUAL PLANTING NUMBERS AND  
TIMELINES BEYOND 2025 WILL BE  
DEPENDENT UPON CONTINUATION  
OF FUNDING FOR JOBS PROGRAM &  
FORESTRY GENERAL FUND ONCE  
PORT AUTHORITY FUNDING IS GONE.***



# JOBS PROGRAM

- TREE TRUST SELECTED THROUGH RFP PROCESS
- MULTI-YEAR CONTRACT (2022-2024 PLANTING/MAINTENANCE)
- TIERED PROGRAM MODEL—GOAL TO ESTABLISH A YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PIPELINE

2022: LATE KICK-OFF  
FALL SEASON—6 PARTICIPANTS PLANTED 120 TREES

2023: GOAL OF 1,000 PLANTED BY 28 PARTICIPANTS  
WATERING OF 2022 AND 2023 TREES

- SPRING SEASON—9 PARTICIPANTS PLANTED 392 TREES
- FALL SEASON—608 TREES TO BE PLANTED

2024: GOAL OF 2,140 PLANTED BY 54 PARTICIPANTS  
WATERING OF 2023 AND 2024 TREES

***ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR PROGRAM NEEDED TO SUPPORT WORK BEYOND 2024. FORESTRY APPLIED FOR INFLATION REDUCTION ACT FUNDS THROUGH US FOREST SERVICE TO CONTINUE PROGRAM—AWARDS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OCTOBER***



**Get ready to welcome your new neighbor—a tree!**

**The City is now partnering with Tree Trust to create more youth jobs in Saint Paul.**

The new boulevard tree in front of your property or residence will be planted by youth program participants who will water and maintain the tree for the next year.

Forestry staff will inspect the trees at the one-year mark and provide additional information and tips for watering and caring for your tree.

Learn more about this partnership by visiting [stpaul.gov/forestry](http://stpaul.gov/forestry)



Protect the new trees from damage by mowers, trimmers, or other equipment. Trees can die from bark damage. By request, the City of Saint Paul provides FREE tree watering bags.

Underground utilities and spacing restrictions may prevent a tree from being planted in front of your property or residence.



For more information visit [www.stpaul.gov/forestry](http://www.stpaul.gov/forestry) click on Tree Care Recommendations, email us at [forestry@cd.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:forestry@cd.stpaul.mn.us), or call (651) 266-6400. For translation in Hmooob, Sornali, Español, or another language, please call (651) 266-6400.





# TREE PRUNING

FORESTRY CONTINUES TO PRUNE TREES ON COMPLAINT BASIS, PRIORITIZING BLOCKED STOP SIGNS/LIGHTS AND TREES TOUCHING HOUSES/BUILDINGS

- 2022—3,000 ROW TREES PRUNED
- 2023—
  - 1,850 ROW TREES PRUNED TO DATE
  - ~600 ROW TREE REQUESTS OPEN

## 2022 REQUEST FOR BIDS UNSUCCESSFUL

- CONTRACTORS ARE SWAMPED WITH PRIVATE WORK (EAB)
- LOOKING AT ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS—POTENTIAL TO REBID IN FALL 2023
- CONTINUING SMALL AMOUNT OF PRUNING WITH SAINT PAUL TREE STEWARDS
- GOAL TO BEGIN MORE ROUTINE PRUNING ONCE EAB REMOVALS ARE COMPLETED IN 2024





# TREE WATERING

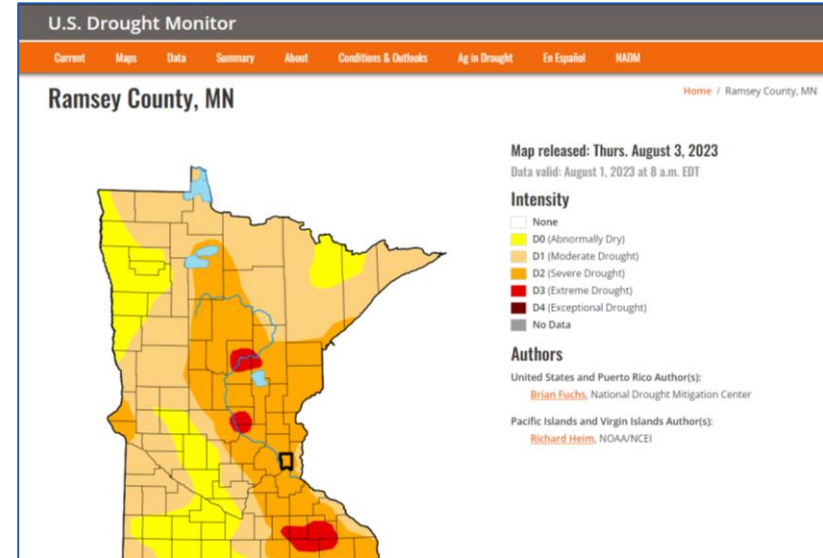
FORESTRY DOES NOT HAVE INTERNAL CAPACITY TO WATER ALL NEWLY PLANTED TREES (STAFF OR EQUIPMENT)

TREES ARE WATERED BY:

- PLANTING CONTRACTOR (ONE YEAR WARRANTY)
- JOBS PROGRAM (TREE TRUST—NEW TREES)
- ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS
- FORESTRY STAFF—NEW PARK TREES (~775/WEEK)

IN THE WORKS:

- WATERING CONTRACT FOR 2023/POTENTIAL TO EXTEND OR EXPAND (CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING)
- POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIP WITH GREAT RIVER GREENING FOR TREE WATERING SERVICES (DEPENDENT ON GRANT AWARD).



U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR





# BUDGET

### Port Funding

- Total Budget - \$18,000,000 (Approved for 2022 Budget)
  - o Spent to Date - \$9,916,549 (Only capital eligible expenditures)
    - One-Time Equipment purchases
    - EAB Removal (City staff), stumping (contract), & planting (contract)
  - o Remaining - \$8,083,451
    - Estimated to be fully spent by end of 2026

### City Funding

- Total Annual Budget - \$4,638,604 (will be fully spent)
  - o Required Fixed Costs - \$564,319
    - Fleet transfer, admin, etc:
  - o Variable Costs - \$4,074,285
    - Storm response
    - Jobs program
    - Non-EAB Tree costs
      - Removal (City staff & Contract for Parks Trees), stumping (contract), planting (contract and included in jobs program)
    - Watering contract
    - One-time Tree Inventory
    - Pruning
    - \*Disposal (new expense due to Pig Eye changes)



## FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- All deliverables assume continued full General Fund / CIB planting support in 2024/2025 budget
- Storm impacts – potential to shift stump/replanting timelines
- Decision points for future budgets due to Port Authority funding sunset
  - Jobs program – only funded through 2024 – currently pursuing federal funding through inflation reduction act
  - Removal/stump/planting timeline (within 12-24 months of removal) – additional General Fund support will be needed
  - To continue to re-establish 15-year trim cycle – additional General Fund support will be needed