



# City Council

May 6, 2020

1



# ZTA-20-001

Chapter 14.44 – Trees

2

## Purpose

- Establishes the city's goals regarding trees and public right-of-way landscaping.
- Defines the city's and the public's responsibilities.
- Provide procedures for abatement of private tree hazards.
- Establishes provisions for the protection of public trees and existing on-site trees when a development is proposed.
- Defines standards for park strip trees and park strip landscaping.

3

## Urban Forestry Benefits

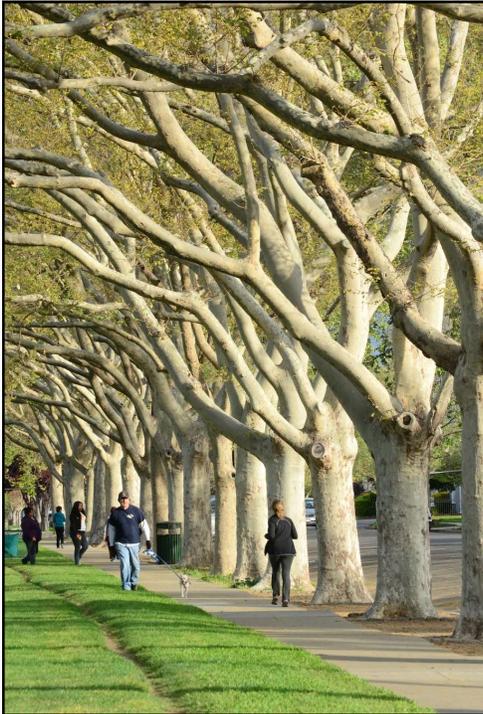
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## Property Values



- Trees have been shown to have a substantial effect on residential and commercial property values
- Property values can rise from 5-15% with mature street trees

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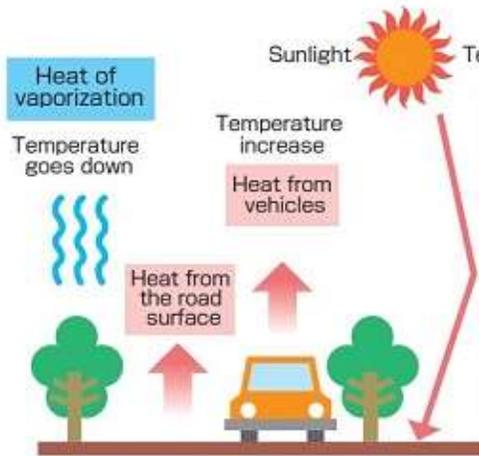
## Beautification & Community Identity

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- Street trees make a property and roadway more attractive
- Street trees can aid in fostering a distinct character for a city
- Trees are culturally important to many communities

6

● How the Heat Island Phenomenon occurs



## Heat Management

- Street trees mitigate the Urban Heat Island Effect
- Air temperatures in suburban areas with mature street trees experience a reduction of air temperatures by 4-6 °F, while temperature reduction of buildings and street surfaces is around 20%
- Property owners save money on cooling costs
- Fewer heat related health problems
- Cooler streets attract pedestrians

7



## Pedestrian Activity and Health

- In areas where there are more trees along roadways, there is on average greater pedestrian activity as well as cycling
- Pedestrians are attracted to tree lined streets because they are more attractive, shaded, and safe
- As more people walk and use active transportation, they develop healthier lifestyles, reducing health risks and the associated costs
- In commercial areas, this added pedestrian activity can create more business

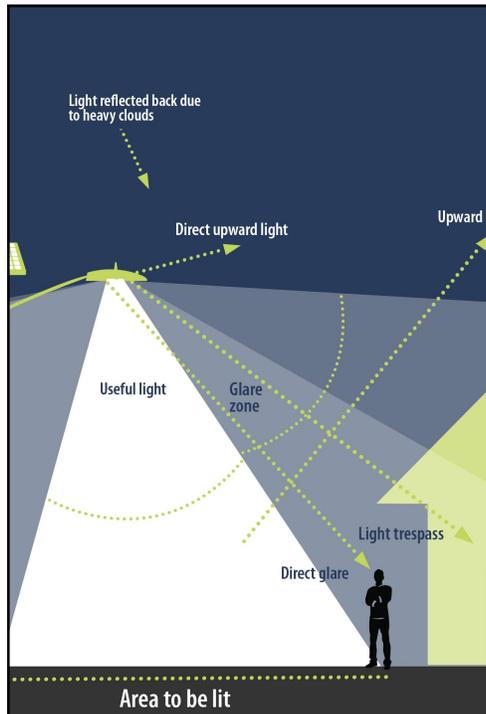
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## Roadway Longevity

- Shaded streets can have life spans from 40-60% longer than unshaded streets
- Trees lessen heat associated roadway expansion and contraction as temperatures fluctuate throughout the day
- This saves a great amount of money in road maintenance costs

9



## Light and Noise Trespass

- Placing trees alongside roadways reduces light and noise trespass into homes and businesses
- Residents can experience difficulty with sleeping, and relaxation, which can have serious health effects

10



## Driving Speeds



The presence of trees along roadways slows down traffic and makes roadways safer



Drivers are affected by the added visual complexity that trees provide alongside roadways and slow their speed



Trees create a physical barrier between pedestrians and vehicles, making sidewalks safer



Far less than 1% of U.S. annual vehicle crashes involve a tree on an urban street

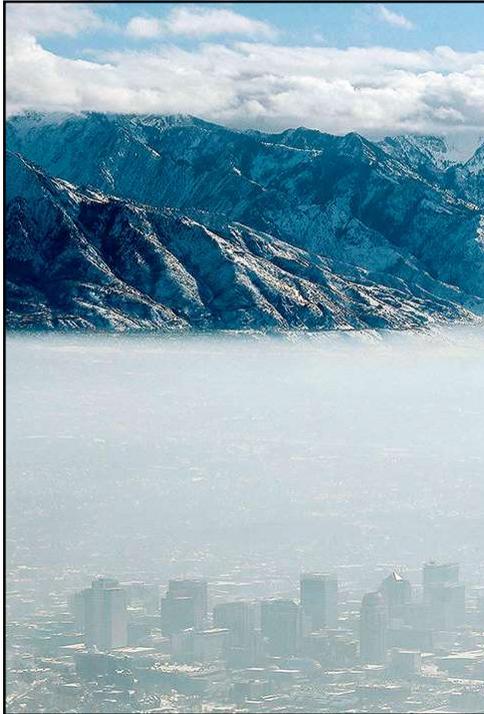
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## Water Quality

- Storm-Water Management
- Groundwater as well as surface water quality can be greatly improved by greater tree presence in our cities
- Trees near creeks, rivers, and lakes improve the health of aquatic ecosystems by providing nutrients to the microorganisms
- Additionally tree root systems provide an efficient means to cleaning groundwater

12



## Air Quality

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- Young trees absorb 13 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per year
- Mature trees absorb around 48 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per year
- At full maturity, trees produce on average nearly 260 pounds of oxygen each year or enough oxygen to sustain two human beings
- Additionally, trees reduce the greenhouse effect by shading homes and offices, saving money and energy

13

## Planter Strip Management

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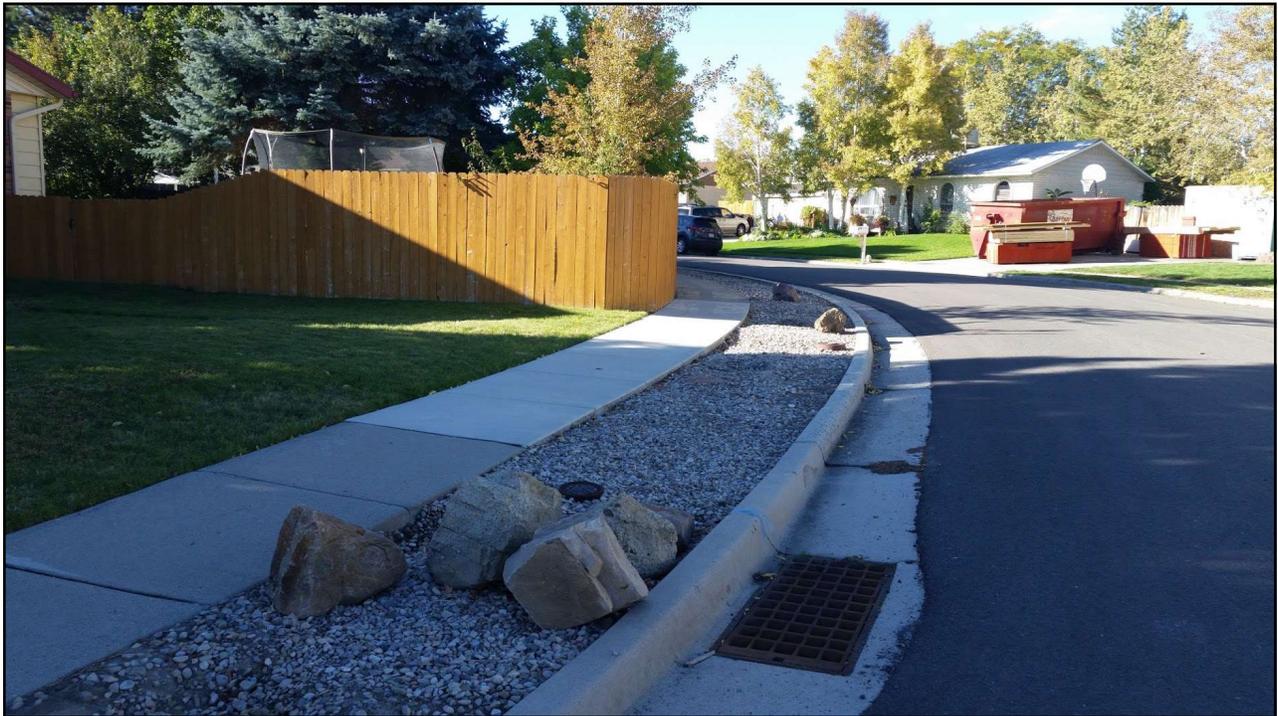
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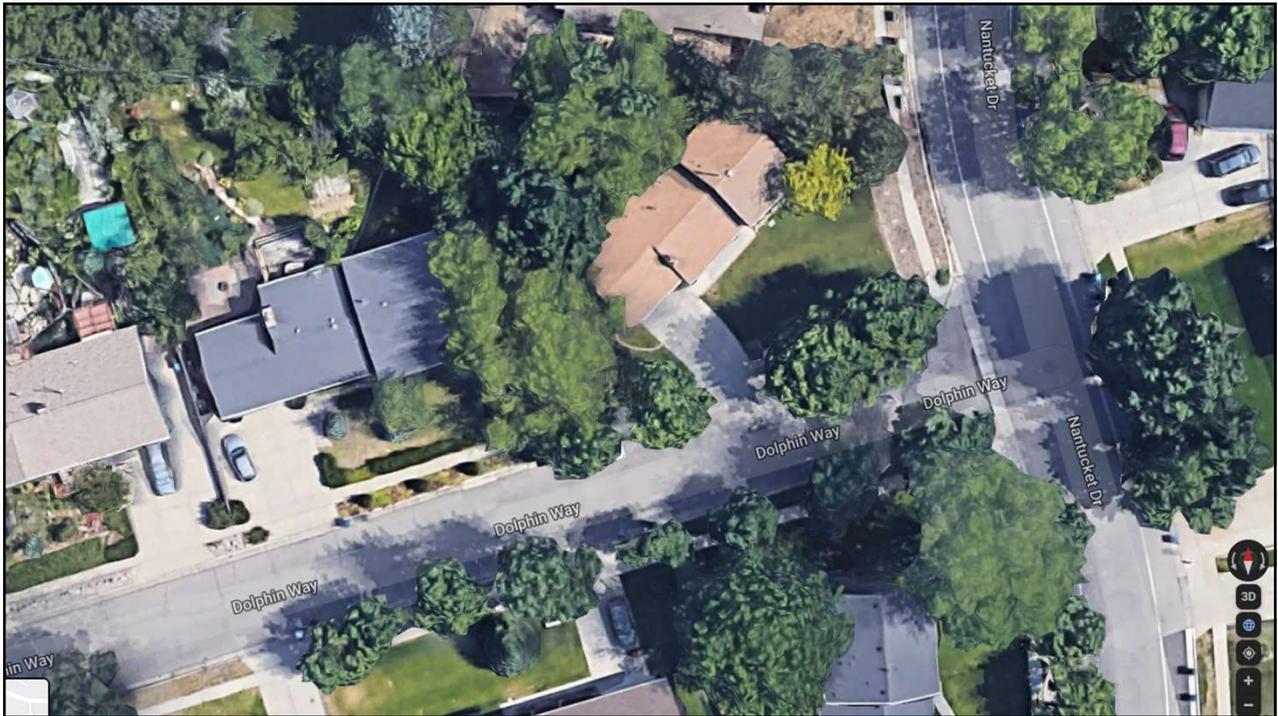
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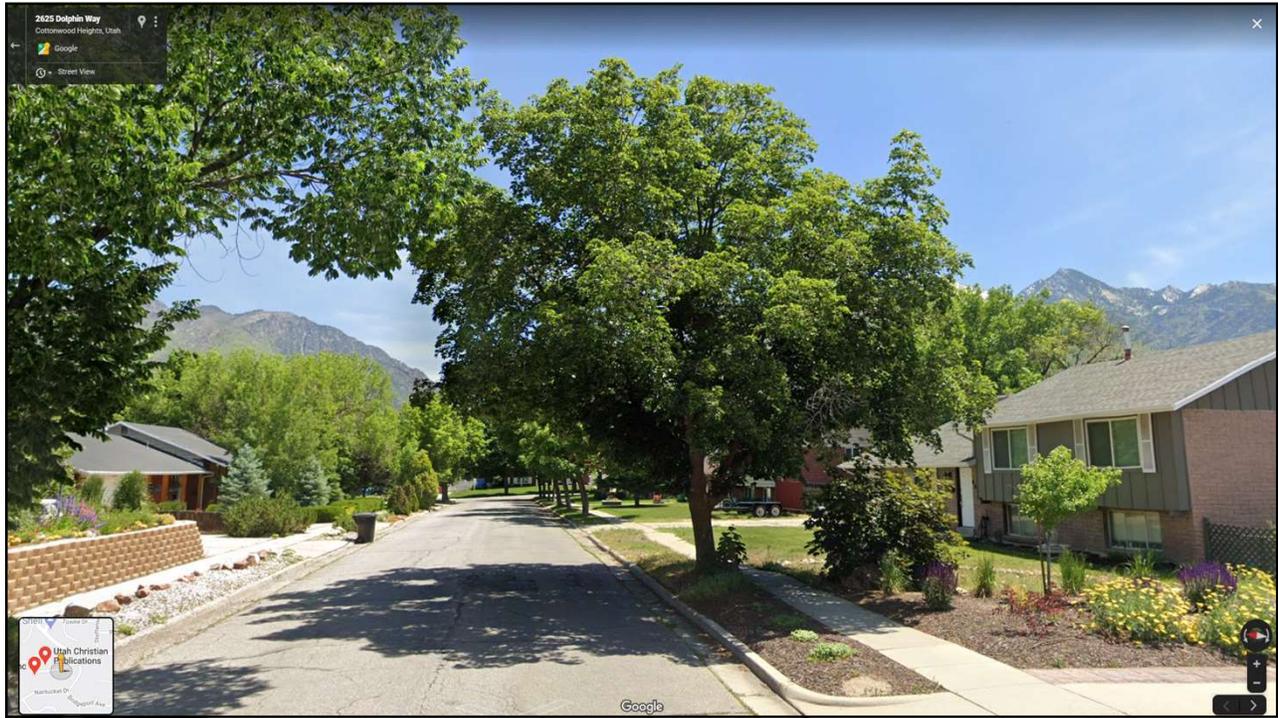
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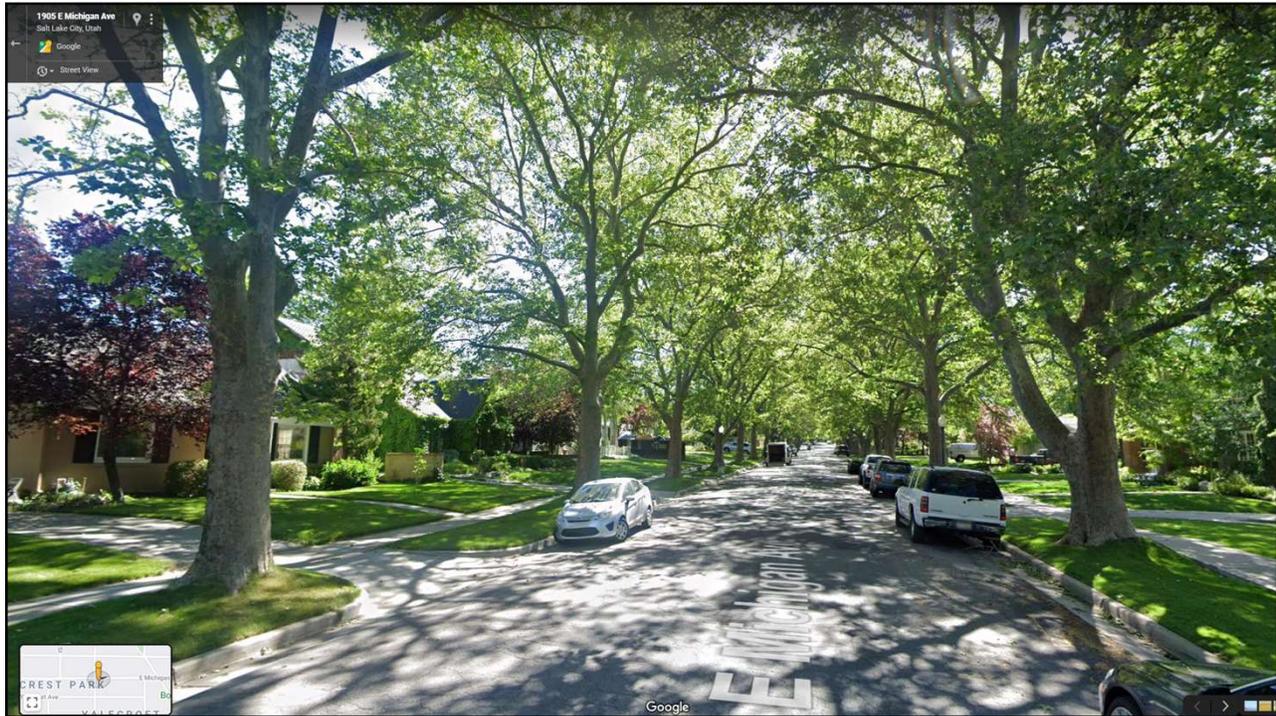
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## Desired Outcomes

- Preserve and increase tree coverage.
- Increase sustainability.
- Enhance environment, aesthetics, and character of the city.
- Encourage city-resident participation and partnerships.

30

## Other Provisions

- Defines Ordinance Purpose
- Establishes City Forester Role
  - City designated point person on tree issues.
  - Not a new position – intended to be absorbed into Community Development work. Could evolve into a contract or position, if determined appropriate.
- Miscellaneous Provisions
  - Definitions
  - Cleanup/Consistency Issues

31

## City's Responsibilities

- Care for trees within public parks and facilities.
- Pruning for snowplow removal clearance and sight-distance issues.
- Remove dead, diseased, or dangerous trees from the right-of-way.

32

## Citizen's Responsibilities

- Park strips and trees within them are to be maintained and cared for under ordinance requirements.
- Follow tree protection standards.
- Remove hazardous trees on private property.
- Establishes provisions for the city to mitigate, abate, correct or remove hazardous trees.
- Outlines policies on the protection of public trees, including park strip trees.

33

## Park Strip Tree Standards

- 25-feet apart minimum.
- 2-inch caliper minimum (width of tree trunk).
- 6-foot wide planting bed.
- Limited to city tree selection guide.
- Installed with irrigation.
- Bonding required for new developments.
- Park strip trees from approved list.

34

## Park Strip Design Standards

(4+ feet wide).

- Landscaped
  - 50 – 100% may be developed as “softscape” landscaping.
  - Up to 50% may be developed as “permeable hardscape” landscaping.
  - “Impervious hardscape” is prohibited, except park strips at the rear of a double-frontage lot.
  - Trees every 25 feet.
  - Standards are exclusive of driveway approach aprons.

35

## Park Strip Design Standards

(Less than 4 feet wide).

- Landscaped
  - 0 – 100% may be developed as “softscape” landscaping.
  - Up to 100% may be developed as “permeable hardscape” landscaping.
  - “Impervious hardscape” is prohibited, except park strips at the rear of a double-frontage lot or less than 2 feet wide.
  - Trees not required.

36

## Site Plan Review Amendment

- Establishes requirements and guidelines for tree preservation as part of a site plan review (new and redevelopment).
- Empowers the Architectural Review Commission to review the appropriateness of trees identified for removal.
- Proposes a fee (amount TBD) for unauthorized development tree removal.

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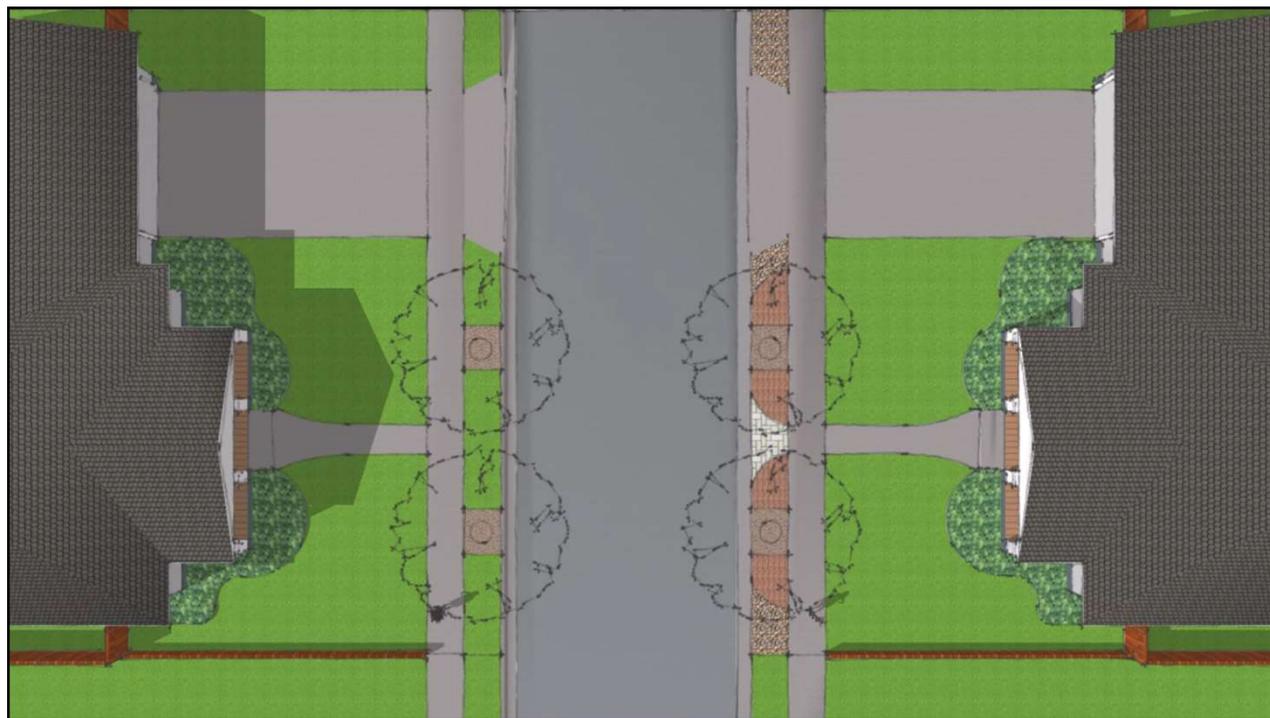
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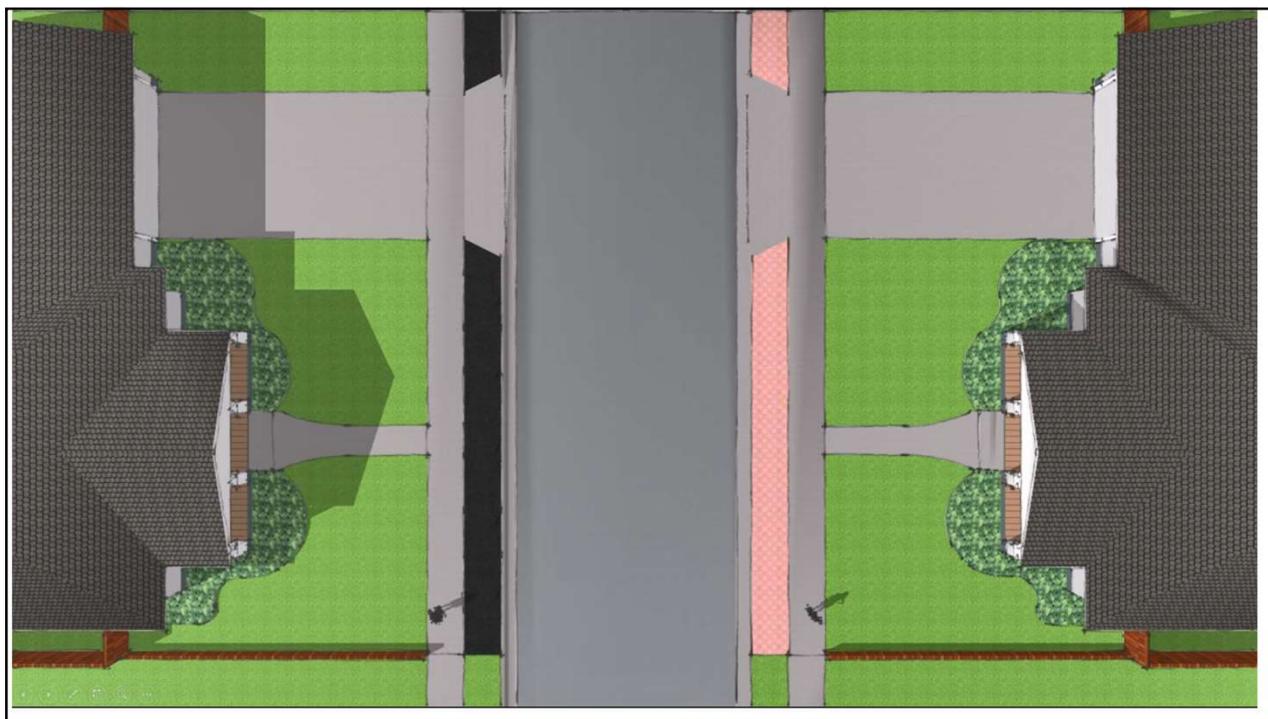
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## Ready Made Plans



Coming up with the right plan can be the ultimate challenge. We've taken the guesswork out of it for you with our ready-made plans. These plans are adaptable to any size or shape lot. Not ready for a full landscape makeover? Download one of our easy park strip designs and start there.



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Attracting Wildlife.pdf



Entertaining & Hardscape.pdf



Harvest.pdf

46

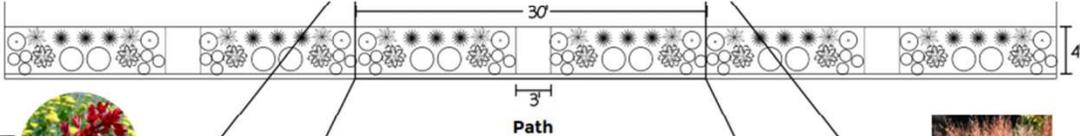
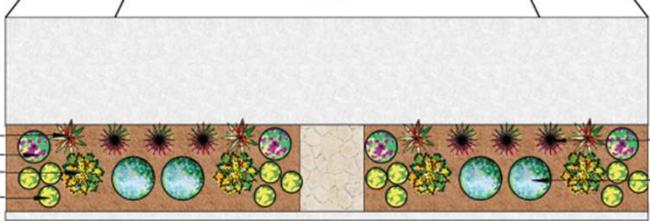


# Utah Park Strip Design Plan



**Lush with Less**  
High Density Perennial Design

Localscapes.com

- Brakelights Red Yucca
- Sonoran Sunset Hummingbird Mint
- Moonshine Yarrow
- Sundancer Daisy
- Blaze Little Bluestem
- Walkers Low Catmint

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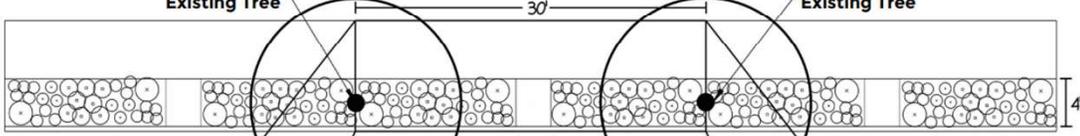
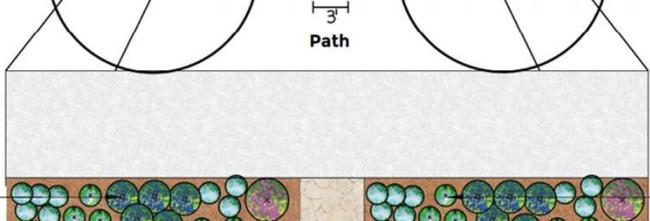


# Utah Park Strip Design Plan



**Mature Makeover**  
High Density Shade Perennial Design

Localscapes.com

- Blue Plumbago
- Hardy Geranium
- Rocky Mountain Columbine

48



49

## Tree List

- Consulted urban forester suggestions in Salt Lake City and Provo City.
- Consulted South Jordan standards that resulted from USU grad thesis work.
- Developed hybrid list from those three sources.
- Allows for approximately 100 trees identified as suitable for Wasatch Front environment and within different park strip sizes.
- Prohibits a short list of known problem trees.

50

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