



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2008

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### NEW DOWNTOWN STREET TREE REPLACEMENT GRANT PROGRAM LAUNCHED

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The City of Spokane, along with the Spokane County Conservation District and the Downtown Spokane Partnership, is launching a grant program to plant new street trees in downtown Spokane.

The program is intended to replace or add up to 50 street trees a year in an area bounded by Spokane Falls Boulevard to the north, Second Avenue to the south, just past Monroe Street to the west, and just past Washington Street to the east.

There are about 500 locations in the downtown core that are suitable for street trees, but many of these sites are empty or have trees that are in poor health. The grant program is a way to get new trees into these locations.

“Street trees in our downtown have many positive benefits. We get cleaner air, shade, and a great amenity,” says Spokane Mayor Mary Verner. “This is about protecting and enhancing our community forest and urban environment.”

Property owners can apply for the \$500 grants for tree sites adjacent to their properties. The property owner must agree to remove any existing tree and installing a privately connected irrigation system for the site. They also commit to watering and caring for the tree for 25 years.

The City will backfill the tree pit with appropriate planting mix, and the Spokane County Conservation District will plant a new tree in each location. Approved tree species for the program include Green Ash, White Ash, Blue Ash, Little Leaf Linden, and American Linden. The Downtown Spokane Partnership will help promote the program.

More information on the program is attached.

## Downtown Street Tree Replacement Grant Information and Application



### Conditions of the Grant:

- \$500 per approved tree location for all locations within the described district.
- All trees replaced through this grant shall be tied into the participating property owners automatic irrigation system.
- Participating property owner shall install an approved tree grate and frame for each tree, if applicable.
- Participating property owners shall agree to irrigate, fertilize, and prune each tree for 25 years.
- All required permits are the responsibility of the property owner and copies shall be provided prior to reimbursement.

### Limits:

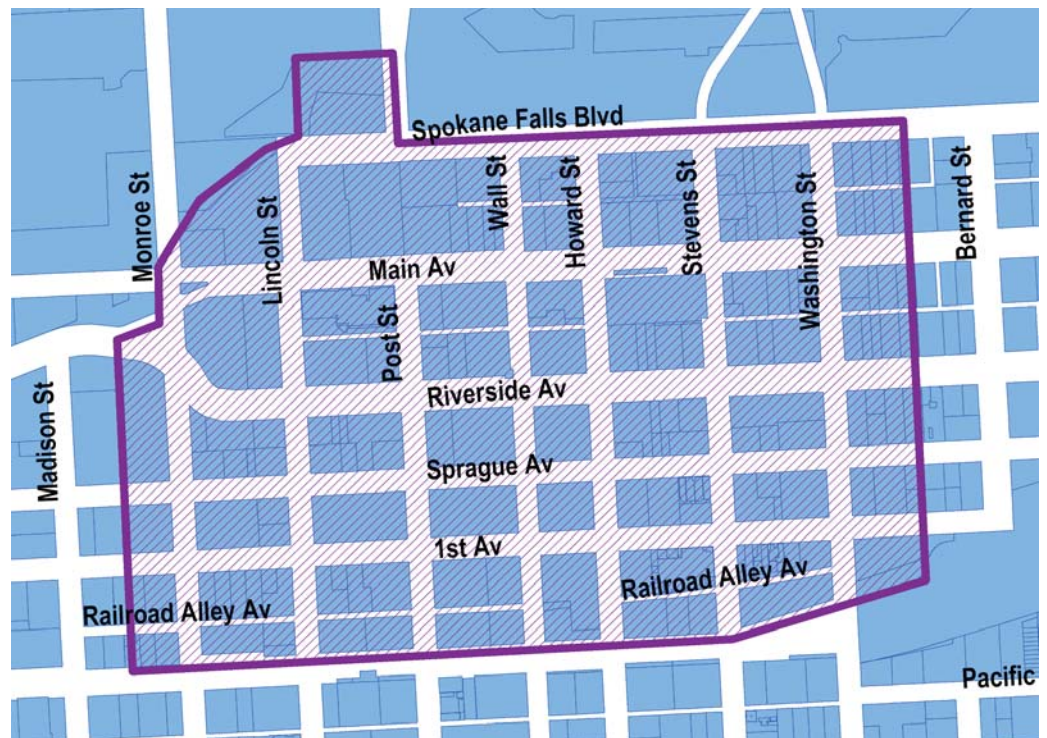
Upon application, permitting, installation, and final approval for each tree, participating property owners within the outlined area will be eligible for \$500 for every tree replaced

### Application Process:

- Applications will be accepted on a first come basis. Up to 50 trees per year will be reimbursed under this program.
- Each initial application must be accompanied by proof of ownership of the property adjacent to the trees to be replaced (last recorded deed or title report).

Healthy street trees are a vital element in any thriving downtown; they provide shade, clean air, and a sense of scale to the urban streetscape. Currently the City of Spokane has approximately 500 locations in the downtown core that are suitable for street trees, with many spaces being empty or containing trees of poor health. In a partnership between the City, the Spokane County Conservation District, and the Downtown Spokane Partnership, the City of Spokane is excited to announce a new Downtown Street Tree Replacement Grant.

With the intent of replacing or planting up to 50 trees per year, the City of Spokane is actively seeking property owners interested in replacing their existing dead, dying, or missing street trees within the Downtown Core to take part in a newly established street tree grant program.



Limits of Grant Program

## Downtown Street Tree Replacement Grant Application



### Procedure:

- Property owner completes and submits initial application form (including proof of ownership).
  - City of Spokane's Urban Forester reviews the site for existing conditions.
  - Property owner is notified of eligibility.
- Property owner obtains all permits necessary and completes the following work:
- Removal of the existing tree (if applicable).
  - Capping of the City's irrigation connection as it enters the tree pit (if applicable).
  - Installation of privately connected, automatic irrigation system.
  - City Parks Department backfills tree pit with appropriate planting mix.
  - Spokane County Conservation District plants a new tree in each location.
  - Property owner installs approved street tree grate (if applicable).
  - Property owner calls for final inspection (to be performed by the City Urban Forester).
  - Upon final approval of planting, confirmation of operational private irrigation, and a final inspection of the property owner is eligible for \$500 reimbursement per tree location.

### Application Form (to be completed by property owner):

Property Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Property: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tree locations: \_\_\_\_\_

Street(s) on which trees would be planted: \_\_\_\_\_

There are five different tree species available for planting through this program. Please select your preferred tree and two alternatives by numbering 1-3 (number 1 being the first choice).

- \_\_\_\_\_ Green Ash
- \_\_\_\_\_ White Ash
- \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Ash
- \_\_\_\_\_ Little Leaf Linden
- \_\_\_\_\_ American Linden

Return this form along with proof of ownership to:

Dave Steele  
 City of Spokane Public Works & Utilities  
 808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard  
 Spokane Washington, 99201  
 dsteele@spokanecity.org