

Help Develop Contra Costa County's Tree Plan! Join the Advisory Working Group



Contra Costa County is developing a Tree Plan for the unincorporated areas of the County. The Tree Plan will help improve long-term community resilience to extreme heat by expanding and maintaining a healthy urban forest. The project is managed by the County [Sustainability Team](#). The County's partners in this project include [The Watershed Project](#), [Sustainable Contra Costa](#), the [Workforce Development Board](#) of Contra Costa County, [Civicorps](#), and [Rincon Consultants](#).

The [Tree Plan](#)* will include: an assessment of current tree canopy, including a community science tree inventory;

policies and best practices for planting and maintaining trees on public property and private property; financing strategies for planting and maintaining trees; and an implementation plan. This project also includes a community engagement and education initiative and development of a green infrastructure career pathway.

The County seeks community members to be part of the **Advisory Working Group**. This group will bring together County staff, community members, and community organizations to help develop a Tree Plan that will be implemented across the county with broad community and institutional support. The Advisory Working Group will provide space for staff and community members to collaborate and share perspectives, and to develop potential solutions to challenging issues. It will review and provide input on draft versions of the elements of the Tree Plan before it is brought to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Community members of the Advisory Working Group will receive \$500 for their contributions to the group. Meetings will be held at times that accommodate schedules for people who have other jobs, so likely early evening. While most meetings will be online, some may be in-person, particularly the initial meeting and final celebratory meeting.

* Development of the Tree Plan is funded by a \$750,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation as part of the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Grant Program that is part of the State's Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program.

In the week following each meeting, the County Sustainability Team will host drop-in office hours that any member of the Advisory Working Group can attend to provide additional ideas and feedback, ask questions, etc. The County Sustainability Team will also schedule individual meetings with members if needed.

The tentative schedule for the Advisory Working Group meetings is:

Meeting Number	Month, Year	Topic	Outcome/Deliverable	Meeting Length
1	February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Introductions Tree Plan Orientation Tree Plan Visioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Vision Statement for the Tree Plan 	2 hours
2	March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Canopy & Heat Assessment Results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on Tree Canopy Assessment Feedback on Heat Assessment 	1.5 hours
3	April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Selection Criteria (Planting List) Community Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on Tree Criteria and Species Feedback on Community Engagement 	1.5 hours
4	May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Plan Policies and Best Practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on Policies and Best Practices 	1.5 hours
5	August 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding Strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on funding strategies 	1.5 hours
6	October 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Implementation and Monitoring Strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on implementation and monitoring 	1.5 hours
7	January 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Draft Tree Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on Draft Tree Plan 	1.5 hours
8	September 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Tree Plan & Celebration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebration of Final Tree Plan 	1.5 hours

There will be some materials to review related to each meeting; the total time commitment is expected to be 16-24 hours for the entire project.

To apply to be a community member of the Advisory Working Group send an email that describes why you are interested and affirms you will fully participate to:

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 Contra Costa County
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 925-655-2815

1/9/2026