



GROWING FUTURES. GROWING TREES – DES MOINES, IA

Project Design Document

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Basic Project Details

Project Name: Growing Futures. Growing Trees – Des Moines, IA

Type: Planting

Project Location (*property name and city, town, or jurisdiction*): Des Moines, IA; Polk County, IA

Project Operator Name: Trees Forever

Project Description

Include details of where the project will take place, how many trees will be planted, what type of planting, partners, overall project goals, and any other relevant information.

Tree planting projects for the Growing Futures project occurred throughout the City of Des Moines. Tree planting locations were a mix of street tree and park plantings, but with the major focus on street tree plantings.

Tree planting totals for the 2019 season are: 734 trees, combination of overstory, understory.

Trees Forever is under contract with the City of Des Moines to plant the city's trees and works with the forestry department to target tree plantings. The main project goals were to increase tree equity across the city by targeting trees to under-resourced neighborhoods, working with volunteers to plant trees, and to complete major street corridor plantings.

Trees Forever worked closely with Microsoft and the City of Des Moines on all aspects of the planting. Support from these two entities allowed Trees Forever to employ Growing Futures teen employees to water the newly planted trees throughout the summer and fall months. The overarching goals of these tree planting projects are to:

Grow leaders by employing and training young people

In Iowa, the highest rates of unemployment are among young people, age 16-19, at rates of 16.5% and African-American and Hispanic youth experiencing unemployment rates of 14.8% and 9%, respectively.

Grow more beautiful, greener communities and neighborhoods

As trees grow and thrive because of the care they receive from Growing Futures youth, the trees will improve resident's quality-of-life.

Grow more trees in underserved communities

Research shows a large discrepancy in tree cover between high- and low-income neighborhoods. We must ensure there is equitable distribution of tree benefits to all neighborhoods in our community.

Deliver quantified environmental benefits

Working with City Forest Credits, our Growing Futures projects will deliver quantified and reportable CO2 sequestration, stormwater reductions, energy savings, and air quality improvements.

LOCATION AND OWNERSHIP OF PROJECT AREA (Section 1.3, 2)

Location Eligibility

Project Areas must be located in parcels within or along the boundary of at least one of the following criteria. Describe how the Project Area(s) meet the location criteria.

- A) The Urban Area boundary (“Urban Area”), defined by the most recent publication of the United States Census Bureau*
- B) The boundary of any incorporated city or town created under the law of its state;*
- C) The boundary of any unincorporated city, town, or unincorporated urban area created or designated under the law of its state;*
- D) The boundary of land owned, designated, and used by a municipal or quasi-municipal entity such as a utility for source water or water shed protection;*
- E) A transportation, power transmission, or utility right of way, provided the right of way begins, ends, or passes through some portion of A through D above.*

Ownership Eligibility

Project Operator must demonstrate ownership of property and eligibility to receive potential credits by meeting at least one of the following:

- A) Own the land, the trees, and potential credits upon which the Project trees are located; or*
- B) Own an easement or equivalent property interest for a public right of way within which Project trees are located, own the Project trees and credits within that easement, and accept ownership of those Project trees by assuming responsibility for maintenance and liability for them; or*
- C) Have a written and signed agreement from the landowner granting ownership to the Project Operator of any credits for carbon storage or other benefits delivered by Project trees on that landowner’s land. If Project trees are on private property, this agreement must be recorded in the property records of the county in which the land containing Project trees is located.*

Project Area Location

Describe where the Project Area is located and how it meets the location criteria.

All planting projects fell within the Urban Area boundary of the City of Des Moines.

Project Area Ownership and Right to Receive Credits

Describe the property ownership and include relevant documentation including title/filename as an attachment (Declaration of Land Ownership or Agreement from Owner to Transfer Credits.)

All tree plantings occurred on City of Des Moines owned property – along city streets and within city parks. The credits generated will be donated back to the property owner. A signed Declaration of Ownership and Issuance of Credits is on file at City Forest Credits.

Maps

Provide a detailed map of the Project Area. Also provide a map that shows the Project Area within the context of relevant urban/town boundaries. Include title/filename of relevant attachments.

1) Map of Project Area

2019 Trees Forever Project Area Map.JPG

2) Regional-scale map of Project Area

2019 Trees Forever Regional Scale Map.JPG

Additional Notes

PLANTING DESIGN

Describe planting design. Will the trees be planted as scattered single trees, clustered groups like parks plantings, or as riparian plantings (closely spaced with high expected mortality)?

Describe your data collection on Project Trees. For example, Project Operator can use the data collection sheet contained in the CFC quantification tool or your own method.

Trees were planted along city streets and city parks. Due to this planting type, there is a combination of scattered single trees – either along a linear stretch of road or single tree plantings in the right-of-way in front of a residential property around the city, and some cluster park plantings.

All trees are mapped utilizing the City of Des Moines mapping software – TreeKeeper from Davey Resource Group. Mapping includes latitude and longitude of each tree, species, tree health information, and more. Trees are also entered into CFCs quantification tool.

MONITORING AND REPORTING PLANS

Project Operator is required to submit an annual monitoring report. The report must contain any changes in eligibility status of the Project Operator and any significant tree loss. Confirm and describe your plans for annual monitoring of this project.

Trees Forever will submit annual monitoring reports containing the required information using the template provided by City Forest Credits.

CARBON AND CO-BENEFITS QUANTIFICATION DOCUMENTATION (Section 12 and Appendix B)

Describe which quantification approach you anticipate using. When requesting credits after planting or in Years 4 or 6, attach one of the three documents below and provide the data you have collected for Project Trees.

- 1) *Single Tree Quantification Tool*
- 2) *Canopy Quantification Tool*
- 3) *Riparian Quantification with CO2 calculated per acre*

If your project is a riparian planting, provide the following:

- *General location of plantings on a map*
- *Most common 4 or 5 species and numbers of trees to be planted*
- *Approximate number of trees per acre*
- *Total acreage planted*

Trees Forever will use the single tree quantification tool provided by CFC. Pursuant to the single tree quantification tool, this project is estimated to generate 1,574 creditable tonnes of CO2. We request issuance of 10% of that total after third-party verification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

Include additional noteworthy aspects of the project. Examples include collaborative partnerships, community engagement, or project investors.

This tree planting project was a unique combination of tree plantings combined with youth employment and volunteer engagement. With support from Microsoft and the City of Des Moines, 734 trees were planted in the 2019 planting season. All trees planted enter into a two year watering cycle where Growing Futures teen employees will be paid to water the trees throughout the summer months. This will help to ensure establishment of the young trees and long-term survival.

The following are accomplishments of this planting project:

- 734 trees planted
- 8,538 individual trees watered
- 49 Growing Futures teenagers and 9 young adult crew leaders employed
- 408 volunteers engaged in tree plantings giving 1,436 hours valued at \$33,616