



**ATTACHMENT B:**

B2: COMPARISON OF VTA TREE  
PLANTING GUIDELINES TO SCVURPPP  
TREE GUIDELINES



TREES: Comparison of RELM Guidelines and SCVURPPP Bioretention Trees																	
LEGEND:																	
Orange = Trees in both SCVURPPP & VTA bioretention lists																	
Blue = Trees in both lists, SCVURPPP as bioretention, VTA <b>not</b> bioretention																	
Not highlighted = Trees not in SCVURPPP bioretention list																	
Latin Name	Common Name	Comments/ Notes	Decid / Evgrn / Flwr / Confr / Shrub-like	Mature Size H' X W'	WATER USE WUCOL San Jose*	Salt Tolerance for RCW (H,M,L)**	CA Native (Y/N)	TYPOLOGIES	MAJOR STREETSCAPE	MINOR STREETSCAPE	PASEOS	PLAZAS	PASSIVE GREEN SPACE	PARKING LOT	RIPARIAN	SLOPE - BUFFER	BIORETENTION
<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Big Leaf Maple	Shade, consistent moisture, protected	Decid	30-75' x 30-50'	M	M	Y						X		X		X
<i>Celtis laevigata var. reticulata</i>	Netleaf Hackberry (Western Hackberry)	Dry fruit litter	Decid	25'-30' x 25'-30'	L	L/M	Y										X
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Grecian Laurel	Sensitive to clay soils and poor drainage, plant only in bioswales	Evgrn	15-20' x 20-25'	L	M	N										X
<i>Arbutus x 'Marina'</i>	Marnia Madrone	Standard for Streets/Pkg Lots, Mutli for Planting	Evgrn / Flwer	40-50' x 25-40'	L	M	N				X		X				
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Fastigate European Hornbeam	Hedge, Perimeter	Decid / Flwer	35-40' x 20-30'	M	M	N										X
<i>Cercis canadensis var. texensis</i>	Oklahoma Redbud	Smaller, Bushier Tree	Decid / Flwer	25-35' x 25-35'	L/M	L	N										X
<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Western Redbud	Local native, flowering, needs good drainage	Decid / Flwer	12-20' x 20-15'	L	M	Y				X		X		X	X	
<i>Geijera parviflora</i>	Australian Willow	More commonly planted in southern CA, select good structure in nursery	Evergreen	25-35' x 20'	L	H	N		X	X				X			
<i>Ginkgo biloba "Autumn Gold"</i>	Maidenhair Tree	Can turn back to female, Use sparingly in narrow conditions for yellow fall color	Decid	25-50' x 25-35'	M	L	N			X	X						
<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	Chinese Flame Tree	Good shade trees	Decid / Flwer	20-35' x 25-40'	M	M	N		X	X		X		X			
<i>Lagerstroemia spp. (Not Recommended) ***</i>	Crepe Myrtle ***	Only to match existing street trees, over planted in San Jose	Decid / Flwer	25' x 25'	L	L	N										
<i>Platanus x acerifolia (Not Recommended) ***</i>	London Plane Tree ***	Only to match existing street trees, overplanted in San Jose	Decid	70-85' x 50-70'	L	M	N										
<i>Prunus ilicifolia ssp. lyonii</i>	Catalina Cherry	Wildlife value, fruiting, good screen	Decid / Flwer	25-35' x 20-30'	L	M	Y								X	X	
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak	Needs large planting area, drops acorns	Evgrn	20-70' x 20-70'	L	M	Y						X	X	X	X	
<i>Quercus ilex (Not recommended) ***</i>	Holly Oak ***	Only to match existing street trees	Evgrn	30-60' x 30-60'	L	M	N										
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak	Needs large planting area	Evgrn	50'-70' x 50' - 70'	L	M	N		X	X		X		X			
<i>Quercus wislizenii</i>	Interior Live Oak	Difficult to source	Evgrn	30-70' x 40-80'	L	L	Y									X	
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Trident Maple	Non, native but may be better at handling summer drought of bioswales	Decid	25'-30' x 25'-30'	M	M	N			X	X						X
<i>Acer negundo californicum</i>	California Box Elder	Fall color, may be slightly more drought tolerant than Acre macrophyllum	Decid	20'-30' x 20'-30'	M	L	Y								X		X
<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	White Alder	Water - But Riparian, Bioswale	Decid / Flwer	50-90' x 40-70'	M	M	Y										X
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Chinese Hackberry	Dry fruit litter suseptible to Asian woolly aphid	Decid	25-35' x 25-30'	L	L	V										X
<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	Oregon Ash	wooded, Emerald Ash Borer but could be applicable in select parking lot bioswales	Decid	65-80' x 50'	M	M	Y							X			X
<i>Fraxinus velutina</i>	Arizona Ash	Weak wooded, Emerald Ash Borer, older trees require significant maintenance	Decid	30-50' x 30-40'	M	M	Y							X			X
<i>Hesperocyparis forbesii</i>	Tecate Cypress		Conifer	10-25' x 20'	L	H	Y						X			X	X



Latin Name	Common Name	Comments/ Notes	Decid / Evgrn / Flwr / Confr / Shrub-like	Mature Size H' X W'	WATER USE WUCOL San Jose*	Salt Tolerance for RCW (H,M,L)**	CA Native (Y/N)	TYPOLOGIES	MAJOR STREETScape	MINOR STREETScape	PASEOS	PLAZAS	PASSIVE GREEN SPACE	PARKING LOT	RIPARIAN	SLOPE - BUFFER	BIORETENTION
<i>Juglans californica</i>	California Black Walnut	Drops large fruit, Not over pedestrian areas	Decid	15' - 30' x 15' - 30'	L	L	Y								X	X	X
<i>Plantanus racemosa</i>	Western Sycamore	Use in bioswales, Ensure that nursery stock is straight species, not hybridized.	Decid	30-80' x 20-50'	M	M	Y										X
<i>Populus fremontii</i>	Fremont Cottonwood	gold fall color, surface roots, weak branches	Decid	40-80' x 30-50'	M	M	Y								X		X
<i>Quercus lobata</i>	Valley Oak		Decid	50-70' x 50'	L	L/M	Y		X			X		X	X		X
<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	Southern Live Oak	Needs large planting area	Evgrn	40-80' x 60-100'	M	M	N					X	X	X			X
<i>Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea</i>	Blue Elderberry	Habitat value, riparian, can limit visibility	Decid / Flwer	20 x 20'	L	M	Y								X	X	X
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald Cypress	Use at bottom of bioswales that allow tree	Conifer / Decid	60-80 x 20-30;	M	L	N										X
<i>Aesculus californica</i>	California Buckeye	Wildlife value, Summer Deciduous	Decid / Flwer	20-30' x 15-30'	L	L /M	Y						X		X	X	
<i>Afrocarpus gracilior</i>	African Fern Pine	Find Good Proven Example	Evgrn / Conifer	50-65' x 20-30'	L	M	N		X					X			
<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>	Peppermint Tree		Evgrn	25-35' x 15'-30'	M	M	N			X				X		X	
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Madrone	Single Stem, Fruiting, Not over Pvmt	Evgrn / Flwer	20-30' x 15-40'	L	M	N									X	
<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Kurrajong	Pale Cream Flowers	Decid / Flwer	50-60' x 30-40'	L	M	N						X				
<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	Incense Cedar	Large planting area required	Conifer	50'-80" x 30-40'	L	L	Y						X			X	
<i>Cedrus atlantica glauca 'fastigata'</i>	Columnar Blue Atlas Cedar	Good Narrow Tree - Screen, Hedge	Conifer	40-60' x 25-40'	L	M	N				X					X	
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Deodar Cedar	Large planting area required	Conifer	40-60' x 20-30'	L	M	N						X			X	
<i>Chilopsis linearis 'Bubba'</i>	Desert Willow	Small flowering accent tree, native to southern Cali	Decid / Flwer	12-20' x 10-15'	L	H	Y				X		X	X		X	
<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	Chinese Fringetree	Small flowering accent tree	Decid / Flwer	10-20' X 6-12'	M	M	N				X						
<i>Chitalpa tashkentensis 'Pink Dawn'</i>	Pink Dawn Chitalpa	Cross between Catalpa nad Chilopsis, Smaller flowering tree	Decid / Flwer	25-35' x 25-35'	L	M	N			X	X	X		X			
<i>Corylus cornuta var. californica</i>	Western Hazelnut	Shade only, protected areas	Decid / Flwer	15-18' x 12-18"	M	M	Y				X				X	X	
<i>Corymbia ficifolia</i>	Red Flowering Gum	Good Wildlife Plant, Salt Tolerant	Evgrn / Flwer	18-45' x 15-60'	L	H	N		X								
<i>Gledistia triacanthos var. inermis 'Shademaster'</i>	Thornless Honey Locust	Fast growing, minimal seed pods, ensure good structure at nursery	Decid / Flwer	45' x 35'	L	L	N			X	X	X					
<i>Hesperocyparis arizonica</i>	Arizona Cyress	Screen tree, can be used at edges of bioswales	Conifer	30-40' x 15-20'	L	H	N						X			X	
<i>Lophostemum confertus</i>	Brisbane Box		Evgrn / Flwer	30-50 x 10-30'	L	M	N		X	X				X			
<i>Lyonothamnus floribundus</i>	Catalina Ironwood	Needs drainage, good in tight groves	Evgrn / Flwer	25-50' x 12-24'	L	M	Y				X		X			X	
<i>Maleleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	Salt tolerant	Evgrn / Flwer	20-40' X 15-25'	L	H	N						X				
<i>Melaleuca stypheliodes</i>	Prickly Paperbark	Salt tolerant, often multi-trunked	Evgrn / Flwer	30-40' x 10-20'	L	M	N				X		X	X			
<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	New Zealand Christmas Tree		Evgrn / Flwer	30-35' x 30-35'	L	M	N			X	X			X			



Latin Name	Common Name	Comments/ Notes	Decid / Evgrn / Flwr / Confr / Shrub-like	Mature Size H' X W'	WATER USE WUCOL San Jose*	Salt Tolerance for RCW (H,M,L)**	CA Native (Y/N)	TYPLOGIES	MAJOR STREETSCAPE	MINOR STREETSCAPE	PASEOS	PLAZAS	PASSIVE GREEN SPACE	PARKING LOT	RIPARIAN	SLOPE - BUFFER	BIORETENTION
<i>Olea europea</i> 'Swan Hill'	Fruitless Olives	also Wilsonii, multitrunk - can be limbed up to height of 8' clear if needed	Evgrn	25-30' x 25-30'	L	M	N				X	X	X	X			
<i>Parkinsonia x</i> 'Desert Museum'	Palo Verde	Native to desert southwest	Decid / Flwr	15-25' x 15-20'	L	H	Y				X	X	X				
<i>Pinus eldarica</i>	Mondell Pine	Tolerates Clay Soi	Conifer	30-80' x 15-25'	L	M	N		X					X		X	
<i>Pinus torreyana</i>	Torrey Pine	Very large cones, not over pedestrian/parking areas	Conifer	40-60' x 20-30'	L	M	Y								X	X	
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i> (Not Recommended) ***	Chinese Pistache ***	Only to match existing street trees, overplanted in San Jose	Decid / Flwr	25-35' x 25-35'	L	M	N										
<i>Propospis glandulosa</i> 'Maverick'	Thornless Honey Mesquite	Spreading, need sufficient planter width, Native to desert southwest	Decid / Flwr	25-35' x 20-35'	N/A	H	Y						X	X			
<i>Prunus serrulata</i> 'Kwanzan'	Japanese Flowering Cherry	Needs good drainage, no clay soils	Decid / Flwr	30' x 20-30'	M	M	N					X					
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> (Not Recommended) ***	Callary Pear ***	Only to match existing street trees, Invasive in waterways	Decid / Flwr	15-30' x 10-25'	M	M	N										
<i>Quercus douglasii</i>	Blue Oak	Habitat species, difficult to source/establish	Decid	20-70' x 20-70'	L	L	Y										
<i>Quercus engelmannii</i>	Engelmann Oak	Needs large planting area	Evgrn	50-65' x 80-120'	L	M	Y		X			X		X			
<i>Quercus frainetto</i> 'Schmidt'	Hungarian Oak	Grafted, good symmetry potential	Decid	100' x 70'	L	L	N					X		X			
<i>Quercus fusiformis</i>	Escarpment (Texas) Live Oak	Similar to Q. Virginiana, more drought tol.	Semi-Deciduous	20-40' x 20-40'	L	M	N			X		X	X	X			
<i>Quercus hypoleucoides</i>	Silverleaf Oak	Difficult to source, but great tree	Evgrn	30-60' x 20-30'	L	M	Y				X		X			X	
<i>Quercus kelloggii</i>	California Black Oak	Local Native, slow growing, difficult to source	Decid	30-70' x 30-50'	L	M	Y						X			X	
<i>Quercus rugosa</i>	Netleaf Oak		Evgrn	30-50' x 20-30'	L	M	N		X	X				X		X	
<i>Quercus tomentella</i>	Island Oak		Evgrn	20-50' x 25-40'	L	L	Y			X	X		X			X	
<i>Salix laevigata</i>	Red Willow	Habitat value, riparian, can limit visibility	Evgrn-Shrub-like	25-50' x 15-35'	M	M	Y								X		
<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	Arroyo Willow	Habitat value, riparian, can limit visibility	Evgrn-Shrub-like	10-35'	M	M	Y								X		
<i>Sequoia Sempervirens</i> (Not recommended) ***	Coastal Redwood ***	High Water Use, use only to match	Conifer	70-100' x 15-30	H	L	Y										
<i>Tilia tomentosa</i> 'Sterling'	Sterling Linden		Decid	40-50' x 20-30'	L	M	N		X	X	X						
<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i> 'Elegant'	Elegant Water Gum		Evgrn	20-35' x 15-25'	M	M	N		X	X	X			X			
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese Elm	Emer II', Fronteir, Spermvirens, good fast growing shade tree	Semi-Deciduous	35-45' x 35-50'	M	M	N						X				