REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Date: May 15, 2023 Item No.: 7.b

Department Approval

City Manager Approval

Tame / Truegen

letth 2. John

Item Description: Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer Program Update

BACKGROUND

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- 2 In March 2022, the City entered into an agreement with Tree Trust to implement the Accelerated
- 3 Emerald Ash Borer Program, an aggressive program that called for the City to proactively address the
- 4 threat posed by Emerald Ash Borer (an invasive pest that kills ash trees) by 2025. Specifically, the
- plan called for a combination of ash tree removal, replacement planting of diverse species and ongoing
- 6 treatment of select ash trees.
- Work on the program began in May 2022 and is ongoing. In the first year:
 - 443 infested ash trees have been removed.
 - More than 400 new public trees of diverse species have been planted.
 - 79 ash trees have been treated.
 - 300 subsidized private trees have been distributed to residents.
- Work on the program is currently progressing slightly ahead of the originally planned schedule.
- Staff will present a summary of the first year of the program including program metrics,
- implementation methodology, new grant opportunities and challenges in the program.
- Staff will also identify next steps in the program and the long-term impacts of the program on the
- 16 City's urban forest and overall natural resources.

17 POLICY OBJECTIVE

To ensure public safety and effectively manage Roseville's urban forest.

19 **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

- The approved budget for the Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer Program is \$1,409,473, to be paid for
- 21 through a combination of Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds,
- 22 Community Development Tree Replacement Fund dollars and grant funding.

In July 2022, the City received an additional \$125,000 in Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

- grant funding for ash tree removals (\$75,000) and an update to the City's public tree inventory
- 26 (\$50,000). The City continues to pursue additional grant funding as it is made available.

28 The project is currently within the approved budget.

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RACIAL EQUITY IMPACT SUMMARY

- Research shows that nationwide many neighborhoods of color have significantly less tree cover than
- more white neighborhoods. Met Council data shows that these trends occur on a regional level as
- 33 well.

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- Roseville's ongoing commitment to its urban forest, including the Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer
- program and volunteer tree planting events, reflects the City's commitment to ensuring that all
- residents, regardless of race or economic means, experience the benefits of a robust urban forest
- including climate resilience, health benefits, emotional benefits and more.

38 STAFF RECOMMENDATION

39 Receive presentation, ask questions and provide feedback.

40 REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Receive presentation, ask questions and provide feedback.

Prepared by: Matthew Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director

Jim Taylor, Parks Superintendent

Attachments: A: Presentation

Emerald Ash Borer Program Update

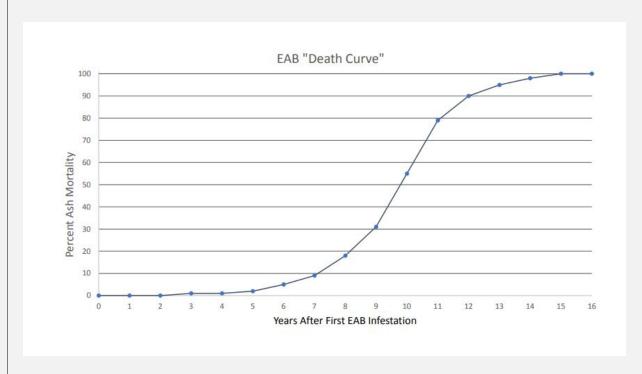


Parks and Recreation

Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer Program Background

EAB in Roseville

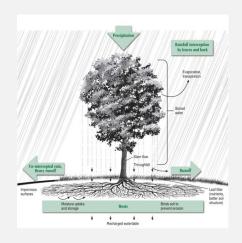
- First discovered in MN in 2009 and Roseville in 2013.
- 2013 2021: 734 public ash trees were removed and 450 planted.
- March 2022 entered into an agreement with Tree Trust to complete Accelerated EAB Program.
- Program called for:
 - · Removal of 914 Ash Trees
 - Treatment of 238 Ash Trees
 - Planting 1,152 Trees
 - 450 Subsidized Private Trees
- Total approved program cost of \$1,409,473.



MN Department of Natural Resources

Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer Program Background

Why Urban Forestry is Important



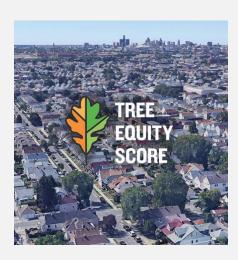
Environmental Impacts



Economic Impacts



Wellness Impacts



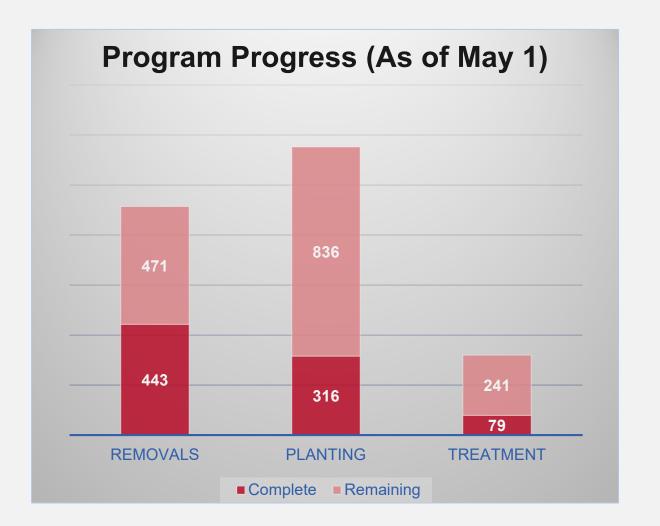
Equity Impacts

Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer ProgramRemovals

Accelerated EAB Program Summary

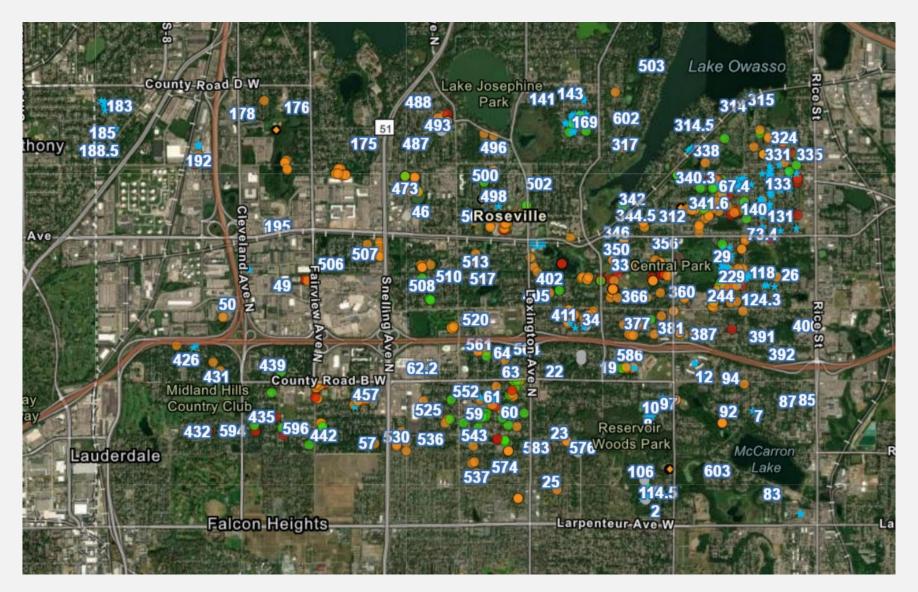
1,152 Public Ash Trees as of program onset

- 914 Removals
- 238 Treated
- 1,152 Plantings
- 450 Subsidized Private Trees
- Anticipated completion in 2025 (three-year program)
- Funded through tree CIP, Tree Preservation and Grant Funding
- Program began in May of 2022





Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer ProgramRemovals



Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer ProgramRemovals

- Prioritized highest-risk ash trees first, then efficiency
- Multi-point notification
- Complete more than 50% of planned removals
- Stump grinding



Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer ProgramPlanting

- Planting species predetermined
- Planting by plan
- Multi-point Notification
- Volunteer plantings
- One year of upkeep
- Education



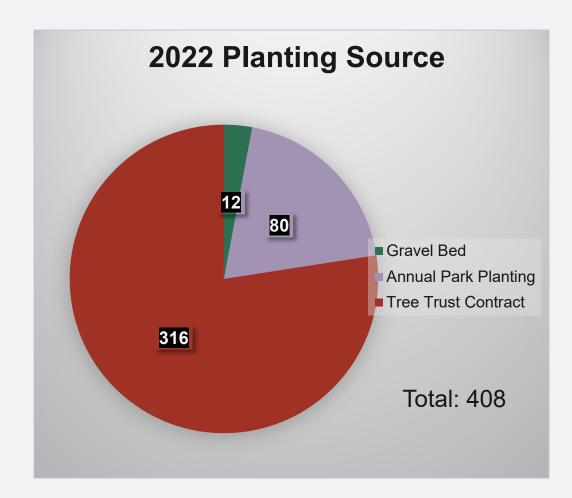








Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer ProgramPlanting











Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer Program Private Ash Trees

- Owner responsibility
- Tree Trust provides a 10% discount on removal
- 450 trees sold at \$40/each through EAB Program
- NEW: Received 300 free trees through an additional grant





Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer ProgramTreatment

- 79 treatments in 2022
- Two-year treatment cycle
- Estimated ongoing cost of \$17,000 per year following the program



Next Steps

Short Term

- Ongoing inspection and restoration
- Watering trees (grant funded)
- Tree inventory (85% grant funded)
- Continued pursuit of grant funds and other support
- Continue gravel bed nursery (20-30 per year)

Mid to Long Term

- Winter storage
- RAHS use of ash wood
- Continued pursuit of grant opportunities
- Integration into ongoing natural resources work and future Natural Resources Plan update







Questions?

THANKYOU