



CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
TREE COMMITTEE

(Commissioners Craig, Herrera, Mikles, Chair)

May 9, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

Municipal Center - 421 Main Street, Conference Room 2

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection in the Park Division Office at 965 Fir Street during normal business hours or online at <http://www.chico.ca.us/>.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 2. REGULAR AGENDA** - All items listed under the Regular Agenda are in the order which is believed are of interest to the public or which require Committee action at this meeting. The items will be considered in the order listed unless the Committee members request a change. Any person may speak on items on the Regular Agenda.

2.1. DISCUSSION OF GOALS FOR THE URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

At previous meetings, the Committee developed a definition of Chico's Urban Forest as well as a Vision Statement for the Forest. The Committee has reviewed information on the current condition of the forest and developed some idea of where it might need to concentrate efforts in the future. This meeting will be the first to begin defining a series of goals for the Management Plan.

3. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda; comments are limited to three minutes. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

4. ADJOURN

Adjourn to the next regular meeting tentatively scheduled for 6/13/12 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2, Chico Municipal Center building (421 Main Street, Chico, California).

Distribution: BPPC



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DATE: May 3, 2012
TO: TREE COMMITTEE (Commissioners Craig, Herrera, Mikles, Chair)
FROM: DENICE F. BRITTON, URBAN FOREST MANAGER, 896-7802
RE: GOALS FOR THE URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

BACKGROUND:

At previous meetings, the Committee has developed a definition of Chico's Urban Forest as well as a Vision Statement for the Forest. We have reviewed current information on the current condition of the forest and developed some idea of where we might need to concentrate efforts in the future. This meeting will be the first to begin defining a series of goals for the Management Plan.

DISCUSSION:

Goals should be long term. Once specific goals are identified, then more concrete attainments or objectives will be defined for each goal. The UFMP ToolKit suggests that goals be divided into three categories

- Tree Resources
- Management
- Community

Potential Goals already discussed at previous meetings

Tree Resources

- Provide for an urban forest that contains large trees over the streets where space allows.
- Maintain a population of young, moderate sized and vigorous trees throughout Chico.
- Large trees are planted or encouraged to grow in open space, parks, etc.
- Create an almost continuous canopy over the City.
- The canopy is multi-level, with trees of all sizes at maturity, multi-aged and diverse.
- The Forest should be healthy and safe, and be regularly cared for.
- Habitat values of trees should be emphasized.
- The Standard of care for the forest should be high, and based on accepted industry Standards and the concept of enhancing the longevity of the trees within the forest.
- The Urban Forest should be a diverse and sustainable canopy of trees and related vegetation.
- There needs to be continued planting of trees throughout the City and throughout the years to maintain a multi-aged stand of trees.

- Appropriate tree species should be planted in appropriate locations.
- Trees planted along the City streets need to be planted according to Professional Standards, and inspected by the City to be certain they meet these standards.
- Wherever possible, with adequate space and appropriate growing conditions, native trees species should be planted.

Management

- When trees die, decline or become hazardous, their ultimate use should be as beneficial to the City and the planet as possible. The use of chips and the sale of commercial wood products should be considered a good end use for the trees.
- Tree planting and landscaping needs must be considered indispensable and be adequately budgeted for in new City Projects, and therefore not be eliminated because of cost overruns.

Community

- A more aggressive educational program should be developed to improve citizen understanding of the functional benefits of trees. Education should also focus on the selection of good trees to start with, and the care of trees, including planting, proper soil preparation, watering, and pruning.

Goals for Future Meetings:

1. Refine the list of goals presented - and begin to discuss objective for each goal that will be completed within the next 5 to 10 years.
2. Develop a Mission statement.

City Municipal Code sections that pertain to trees, plus a current version of the DRAFT Management Plan can be found on the Street Trees Division web site:

http://www.ci.chico.ca.us/general_services_department/park_division/street_trees/

ATTACHMENTS

1. 4/11/12 Tree Committee Summary Report
2. Street Tree Data

DISTRIBUTION:

Tree-Finance Committee of BPPC
General Services Director
Street Tree Field Supervisor



BPPC Tree Committee Summary Report

Meeting Date: 4/11/12

DATE: April 17, 2012
TO: BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
FROM: DENICE F. BRITTON, URBAN FOREST MANAGER, 896-7802
RE: CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF THE URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Mikles called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

ATTENDEES: Commissioners Present: Chair Mikles, Craig and Herrera.
Public Present: Scott Gregory, Roger Cole, Susan Mason, Robin McCollum, Karen Laslo, Woody Elliot

2. REGULAR AGENDA

a) **DISCUSSION OF CONCEPTS FOR AN URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN**

At its meeting of 3/14/12, the Tree Committee continued discussion and development of an Urban Forest Management Plan, completing review of the Definition of Chico's Urban Forest and developed a Visions statement. Staff will present information on the current state of the Urban Forest to provide a background for analyzing goals of the Urban Forest Management Plan and developing a Mission Statement for the plan.

Information presented was garnered from the database associated with the GIS inventory of street trees within the City. The inventory is a dynamic source of information, because each day tree work is completed and new requests for work are received and analyzed. Therefore, the population of trees changes daily. Depending on how these trees are treated in the analysis, there may be slightly differing numbers each time the database is queried.

The summary of work hours for the street tree crew from 2011 was included from the Annual Report. This provided a perspective of which activities are given actual priority from a time management perspective.

DISCUSSION:

Items that were brought up in the discussion included:

1. Given that the information presented only includes the City's Street Tree population, it will be important to find ways to bring into the Management Plan trees that are owned and managed by other entities, such as trees in private yards or commercial developments, and in facilities owned by CARD, the County, the University and others. If nothing else, these trees should at least be considered and included in expanded educational programs to encourage citizen participation and improve tree care through out the City.
2. An ordinance against tree topping was suggested.

3. Where possible, it was suggested that tree preservation on new projects be brought forth as a standard condition of approval for projects.
4. Provide additional data where possible:
 - a. Species data by work zones to guide the planting of new tree and species
 - b. Analyze and develop tree pruning standards and production standards for the tree crew.
 - c. Make hazard reduction a high priority for work to be completed.
 - d. Require properties that become vacant due to economic or other conditions to maintain the landscapes and especially the trees on the site. This would likely require a new ordinance.
5. There was a concern the number of young trees is not the largest sector of the population. The Management Plan needs to focus on increasing tree planting opportunities.

GOALS FOR MAY 9 COMMITTEE MEETING:

1. Establish additional Management goals.
2. Develop a first draft of a Mission Statement.

ATTACHMENTS: Street Tree Data and 2011 Activities Reports

DISTRIBUTION:

Tree-Finance Committee of BPPC
General Services Director
Street Tree Field Supervisor

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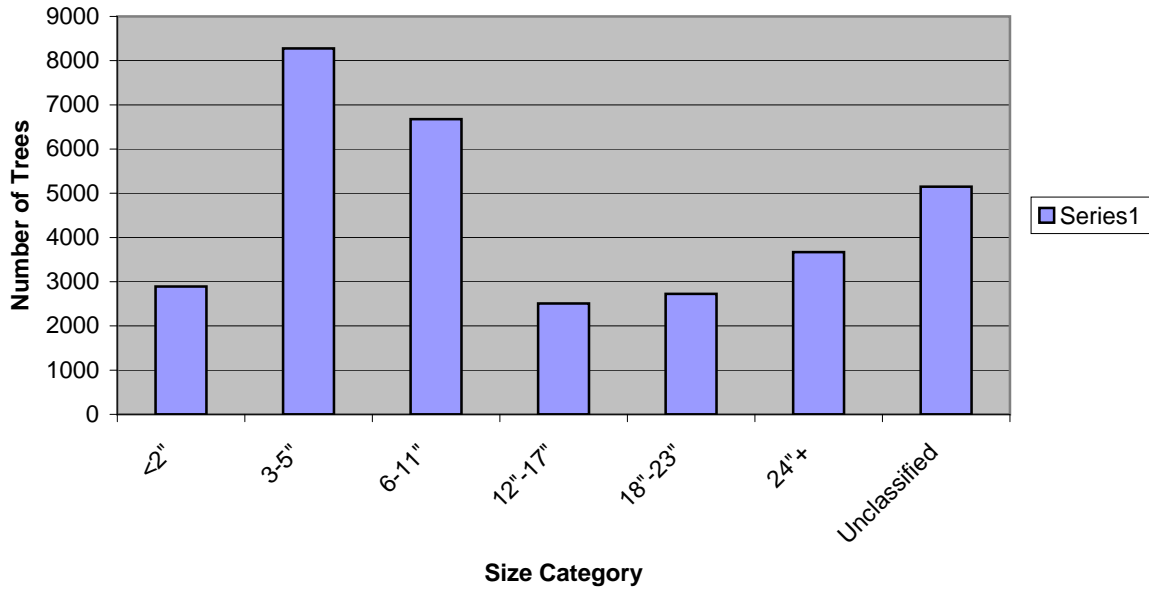
CITY OF CHICO

Street Tree Population Information

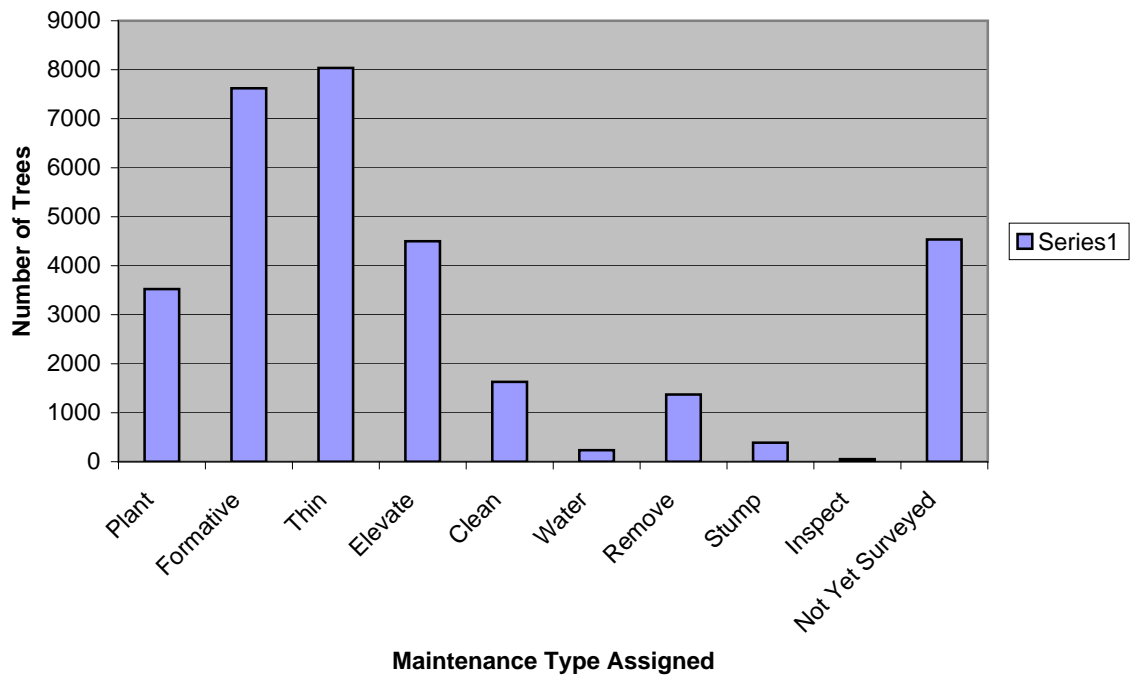
Maintenance	Tree Health	Work Zones	Number of Trees	Trees per Mile (X10)	Number of Planting Sites	% Open Planting Sites
Plant	Excellent	1 South Chico	6822	1260	597	9%
Formative	Good	2 California Park	2690	900	360	13%
Thin	Fair	3 North Bidwell	1339	630	334	25%
Elevate	Poor	4 NorthEast Chico	4776	1170	564	12%
Clean	Dying	5 Avenues	6699	1140	728	11%
Water	Dead	6 Downtown	4489	1690	464	10%
Remove		7 NorthWest Chico	5081	820	348	7%
Stump			31896		3395	
Inspect						
Not Yet Surveyed						
Total						

Work Zones	Number of Trees in Each Size Category							Unclassified	Total
	<2"	3-5"	6-11"	12"-17"	18"-23"	24"+			
1 South Chico	567	1518	1652	877	487	590	1131	6822	
2 California Park	267	1056	563	63	114	182	445	2690	
3 North Bidwell	114	188	335	124	114	106	358	1339	
4 NorthEast Chico	974	1353	1156	284	158	79	772	4776	
5 Avenues	472	1486	1074	353	975	1386	953	6699	
6 Downtown	263	531	997	615	531	949	603	4489	
7 NorthWest Chico	233	2145	899	193	345	379	887	5081	
All trees	2890	8277	6676	2509	2724	3671	5149	31896	

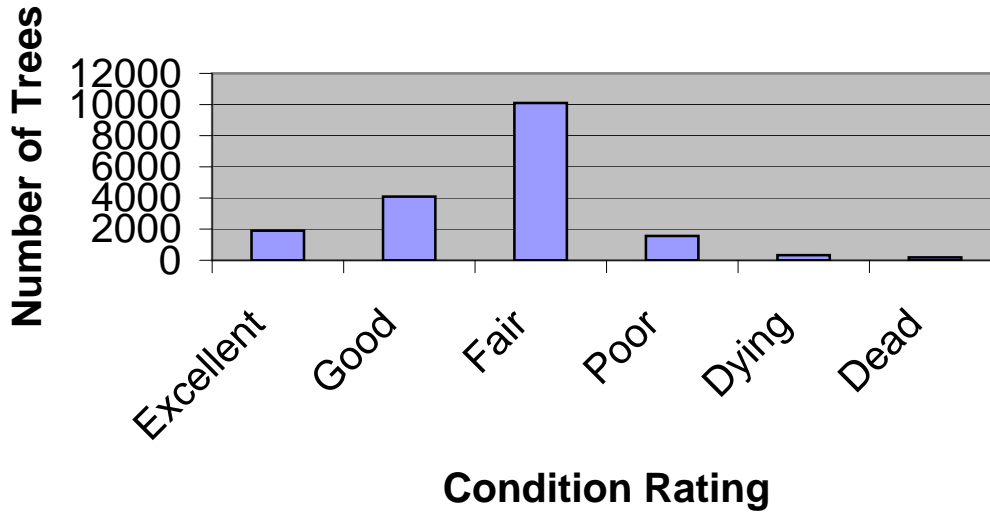
Street Tree Population by Size



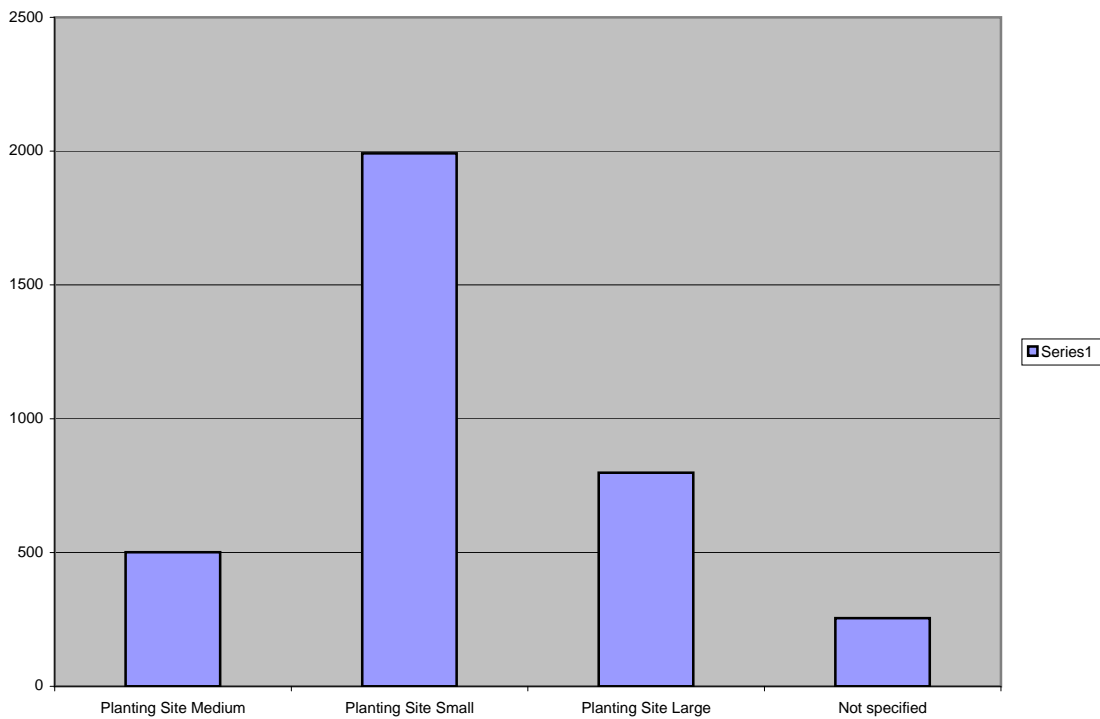
Maintenance Needs



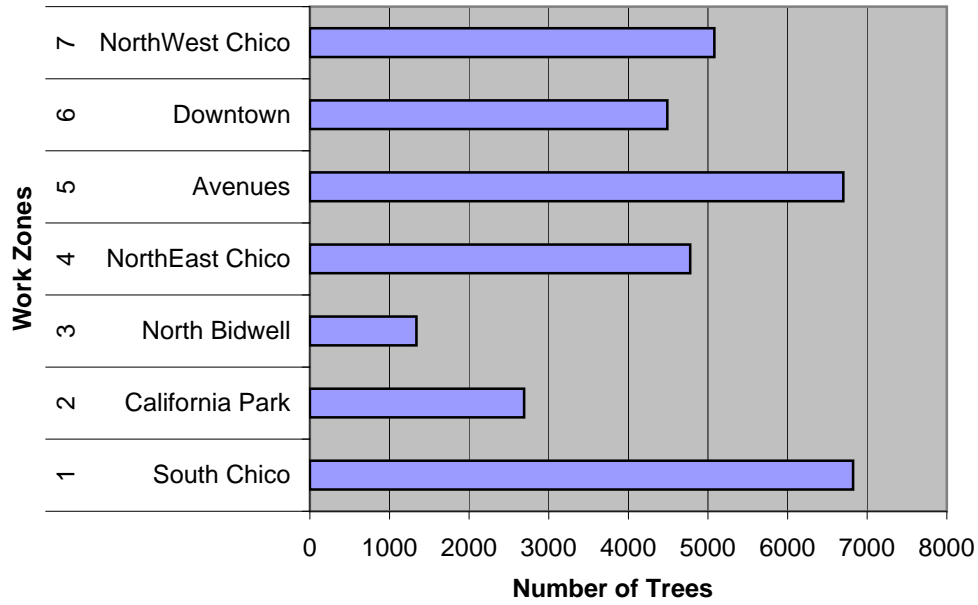
Tree Vigor Ratings



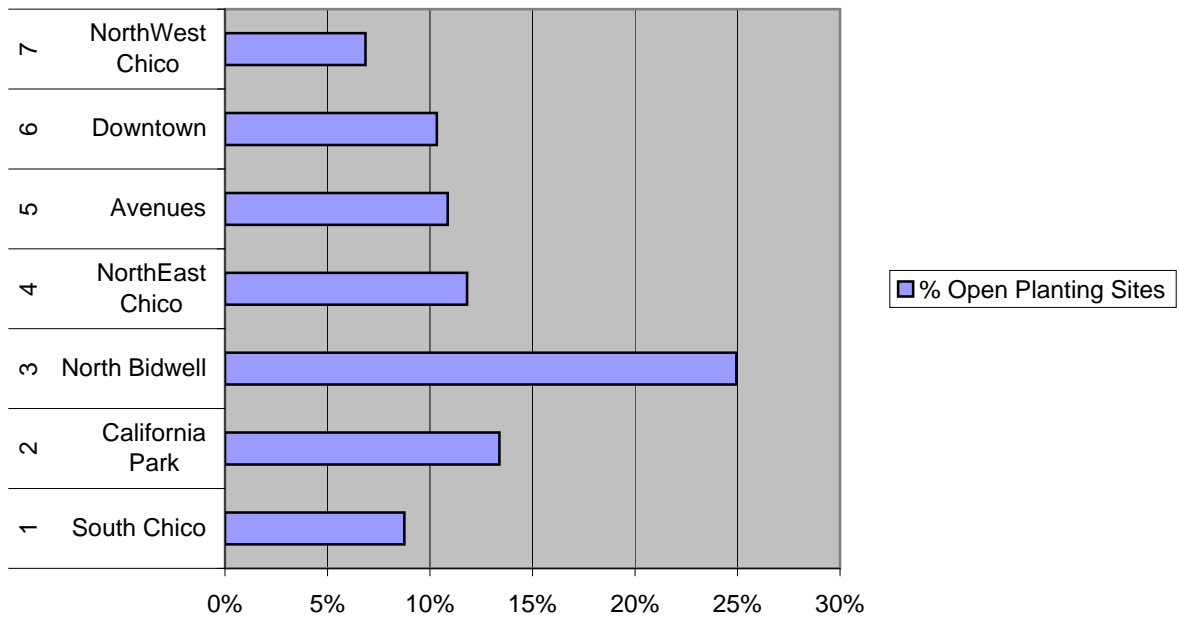
Planting Sites



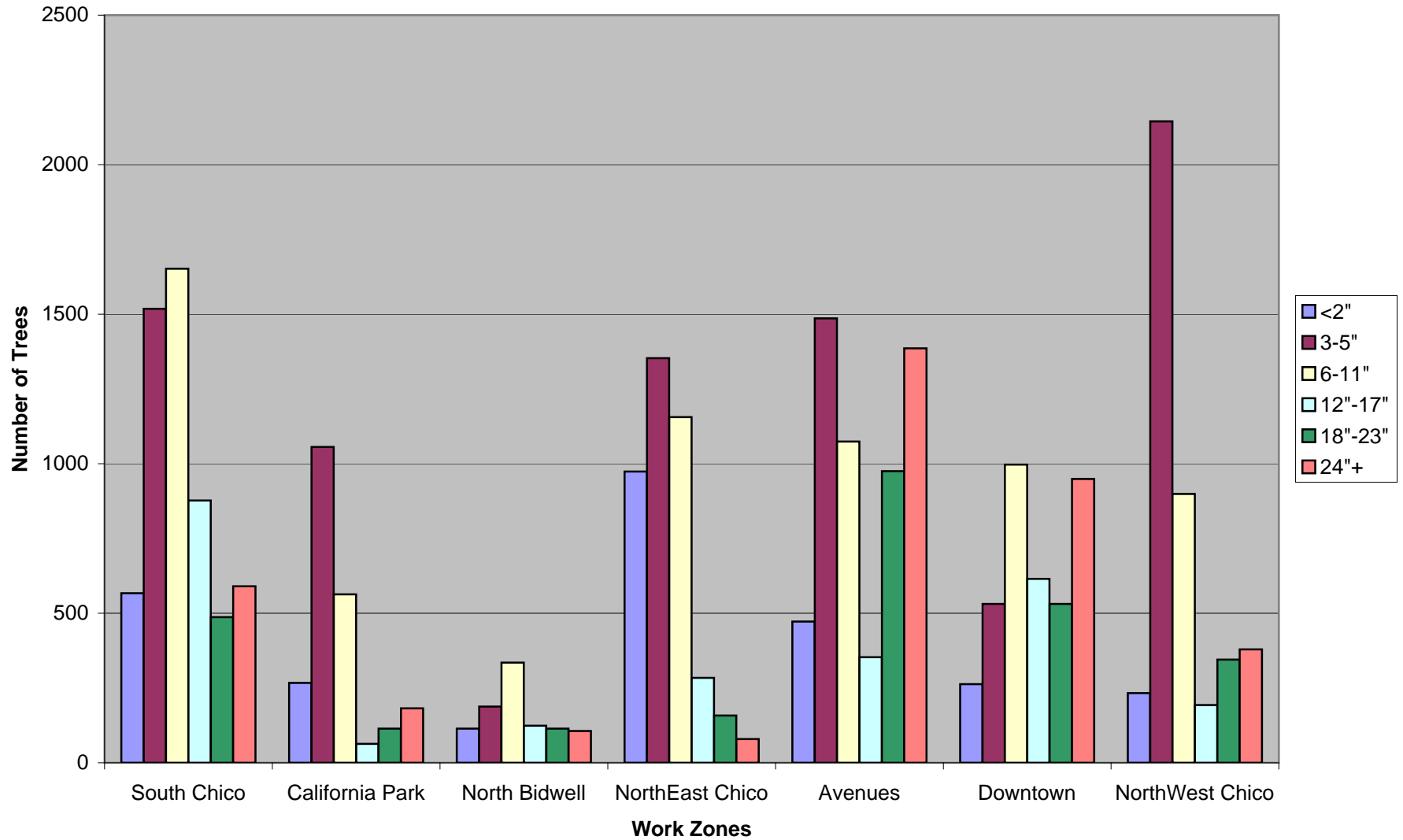
Number of Trees In Work Zones



Percent Open Planting Sites



Number of Trees by Size in Work Zones



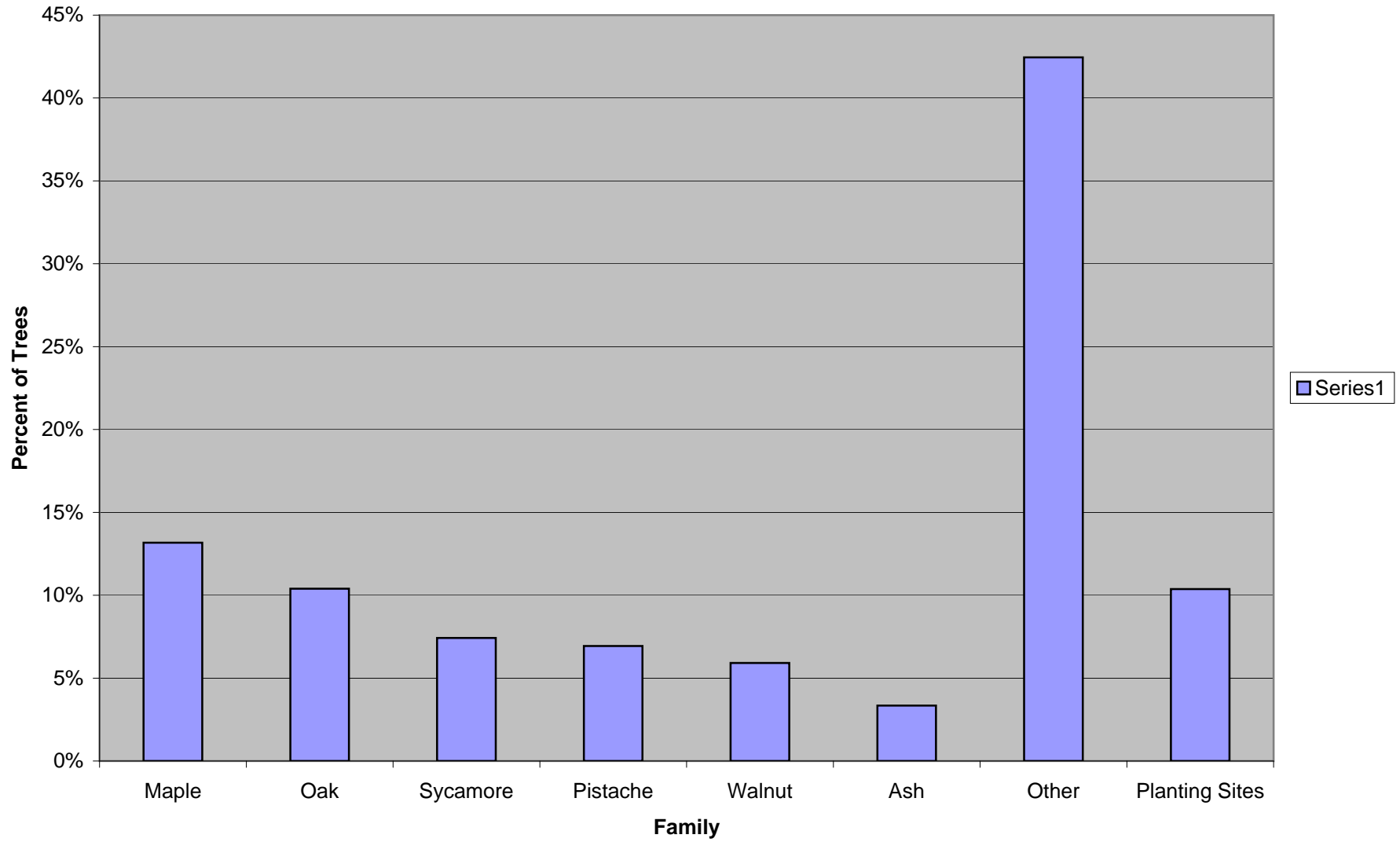
**City of Chico
Urban Forest Species Composition**

<u>Genus</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Count</u>		
<i>Pistachia</i>	<i>chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistache	2241	1	29%
<i>Lagerstroemia</i>	<i>indica</i>	Crepe myrtle	1558	2	20%
<i>Juglans</i>	<i>hindsii</i>	Black Walnut	1503	3	20%
<i>Platanus</i>	<i>acerifolia</i>	London Plantetree	1321	4	17%
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>lobata</i>	Valley oak	1032	5	13%
Top 5 Species			Sub-Total	7655	100%
<i>Celtis</i>	<i>chinensis</i>	Chinese hackberry	832	6	
<i>Zelkova</i>	<i>serrata</i>	Japanese Zelkova	813	7	
<i>Liquidambar</i>	<i>styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum	720	8	
<i>Platanus</i>	<i>acerifolia</i>	Yarwood Sycamore	621	9	
<i>Fraxinus</i>	<i>velutina</i>	Arizona ash	600	10	
			Sub-Total	3586	
<i>Acer</i>	<i>truncatum x plantaoides</i>	Pacific Sunset Maple	594	11	
<i>Alnus</i>	<i>rhombifolia</i>	Califronia White alder	586	12	
<i>Sequoia</i>	<i>sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood	586	13	
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>shumardii</i>	Shumard Oak	553	14	
<i>Acer</i>	<i>saccharinum</i>	Silver maple	546	15	
<i>Betula</i>	<i>pendula</i>	European birch	523	16	
<i>Quercus</i>	<i>palustris</i>	Pin Oak	514	17	
<i>Cinnamomum</i>	<i>camphora</i>	Camphor	492	18	
<i>Nyssa</i>	<i>sylvatica</i>	Blackgum	484	19	
<i>Fraxinus</i>	<i>oxycarpa</i>	Raywood ash	446	20	
			Sub-Total	5324	
Total Species		140 Other	14066		
Total Genus		92 Sub-Total	16565		
			Planting Site Medium	501	
			Planting Site Small	1992	
			Planting Site Large	798	
			Not specified	255	
			Sub-Total	3546	

Top Genus Count:

Maple	13%	4500
Oak	10%	3552
Sycamore	7%	2537
Pistache	7%	2371
Walnut	6%	2020
Ash	3%	1143
Other	42%	14508
Planting Sites	10%	3546
Total Trees/Sites	100%	34177

Street Trees Genus



Twenty Most Common Species

