

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **City of Stow Receives \$25,000 Grant from the U.S. Forest Service**

STOW, OH – (May 3, 2022) Last October, resident volunteers on the City of Stow Urban Forestry Commission did a survey of fourteen Stow neighborhoods that Stow's landscape Arborist chose based on storm water, lack of canopy and environmental justice. Soil, tree lawn size, and the current tree canopy were checked. City staff completed grant paperwork and Stow was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the U.S. Forest Service, through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Division of Urban Forestry. The grant matches the \$25,000 budget amount approved by city council and is a great example how council members, staff, and resident volunteers can work together to benefit the city. Current plans include nine trees to be planted on Mallory Road between Sherwood Drive and Hilary Circle, with the largest neighborhood planting of seventy-eight trees on Friar Road from Call Road to just south of Forest Hill Road.

As the City of Stow continues to do capital improvements on its parks, the Urban Forestry Department staff is also improving the value of our Stow parks by planting trees. This year five trees will be planted at Sherwood Acres Park and twenty-seven trees in Partridge Highlands Park. The trees being planted have tree trunks that measure two inches in caliper, they have a much better survival rate than smaller trees from big box stores, and are directly purchased from local nurseries with a cost between \$200 to \$300 each.

The trees the City of Stow is planting are a variety of species. Urban Forestry no longer plants a single species along a particular street due to diseases, wildlife, or infestations that may kill an entire species. When this happened in the past, entire streets were decimated. We want to create biodiversity and stability in our urban tree canopy.

If you would like the City of Stow to plant a tree on your tree lawn/front yard or for more information about Urban Forestry in Stow go to: <https://stowohio.org/urban-forestry/> or call (330) 689-5120.

Happy Spring!

Bob Brantsch, Chairperson - City of Stow Urban Forestry Commission

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