



Perris News

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Free Trees Beautify the City of Perris

Perris' City Hall campus is blooming thanks to the acquisition of about \$150,000 worth of olive, oak and red bud trees and shrubs that were planted earlier this month.

And the best part: The greenery didn't cost City taxpayers a cent.

The City worked out an arrangement with Kaufman & Broad developers, who were going to reduce the trees to mulch and dispose of them, to instead transport them to the D Street campus, where they were replanted under the supervision of Public Works employees.

About 25 young and mature trees have been planted throughout the campus, where they will provide shade and cool zones. In addition the City also received 500 shrubs and rosebushes. The latter were planted at the fire station on Placentia Avenue to beautify the location.



Workers plant a tree at the City Hall Campus.



City Landscape Architect Ron Kammeyer says newly planted trees will provide welcome shade during the hot summer months. The City recently planted 25 olive, oak and red bud trees around its D Street campus.

City landscape architect Ron Kammeyer said the, Coast Live Oaks, red buds and fruitless olive trees are native to California and drought resistance, always a plus as the state grapples with an expected shortage of water this summer. Kammeyer said further efforts to green the City Hall campus are scheduled to take place this summer, when employees plant ground cover, annuals and perennials.

City Councilman Al Landers said Perris takes improving the appearance of the community very seriously and was eager to step in when the shrubs, roses and trees became available.

"We know our residents expect us to do everything at our disposal when it comes to make our City look as good as possible," Landers said. "We have these beautiful trees and plants and we got them for free. How can you top that sort of deal?"

Councilman Mark Yarbrough said Perris remains committed to becoming a green city. Perris took honors as one of the most innovative cities in California last year for its efforts to install solar panels at municipal buildings, which reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The City also uses alternative fuel vehicles.

"You can never have enough trees," Yarbrough said. "We had a huge opportunity and we took advantage of it. We stepped up to the plate and our campus and community benefit."



Recently planted trees are part of the ongoing efforts to beautify Perris City Hall and other municipal buildings