

CITY OF CYPRESS **PRESS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Arbor Day Foundation Names Cypress Tree City USA



(Pictured, from Left: Mayor Pro Tem Paulo Morales; Council Member Stacy Berry; Council Member Rob Johnson; Council Member Jon Peat)

Cypress has been named a 2015 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. This is the 27th year that Cypress has earned this national designation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

Cypress achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Tree City USA communities see the impact an urban forest has in a community first hand," said Dan Lambe, President of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Additionally, recognition brings residents together and creates a sense of community pride, whether it's through volunteer engagement or public education."

"Cypress is honored to receive this recognition," said Mayor Mariellen Yarc. "The City Council is dedicated to maintaining our urban forest, adapting to our drought climate, and continuously improving our infrastructure," she added.

Trees provide multiple benefits to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

More information on the program is available at www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

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