

Q: The parkway tree in front of my home is under adjacent to overhead power lines and was recently trimmed significantly. Why was this done?

A: Electrical utility companies are required by the Public Utilities Commission to trim trees to provide clearance around their power lines in order to prevent fires and power outages. This tree trimming is done on a separate schedule from and with a different objective than the trimming done by Public Works. For more information on tree trimming adjacent to power lines, contact your local electricity provider.

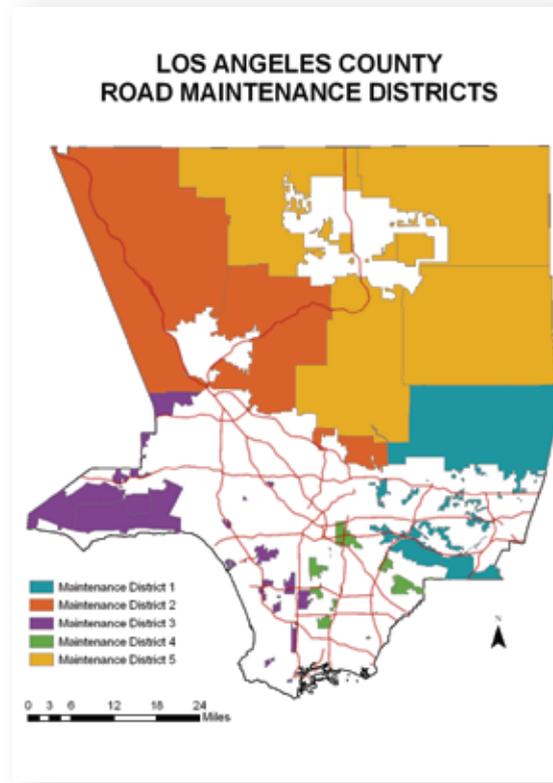
Parkway tree roots and sewer laterals

Trees need water and nutrients in order to survive and will seek out the easiest source for both of these. Generally, when roots encounter the sewer lateral, nothing will happen because they will grow over and around the lateral. However, if there is a leak, no matter how small, tiny hairlike roots will enter the lateral and rapidly grow on the nutrient rich material. Eventually, these roots may block the lateral and back-up the system. In order to prevent root intrusion, please maintain and ensure the integrity of your sewer lateral. For more information on sewer lateral maintenance, please visit us at:

pw.lacounty.gov/rmd/parkwaytrees

To access the claim form and for further information, please visit County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office website at:

www.ceo.lacounty.gov/rmb/forms.htm.



Contact Us:

pw.lacounty.gov/rmd/parkwaytrees

MD1: 626-337-1277

MD2: 626-300-2080

MD3: 310-348-6448

MD4: 562-869-1176

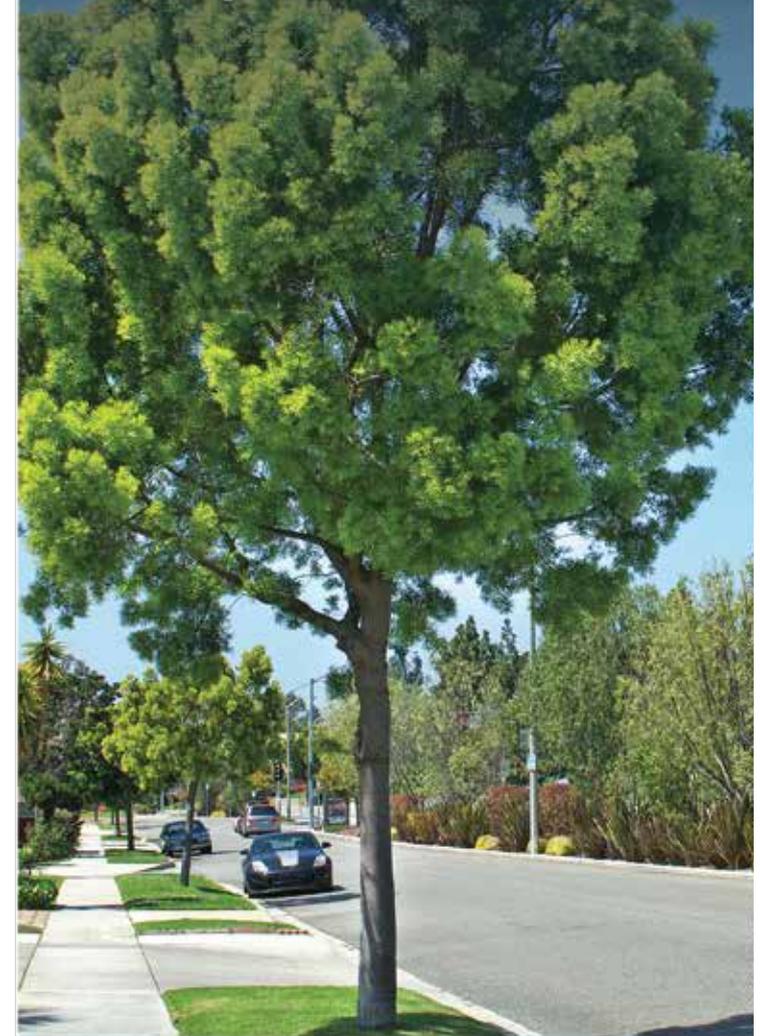
MD5: 661-947-7173

Urgent Matters:

800-675-HELP (4357)

County of Los Angeles Parkway Trees

Creating a Sustainable Urban Forest



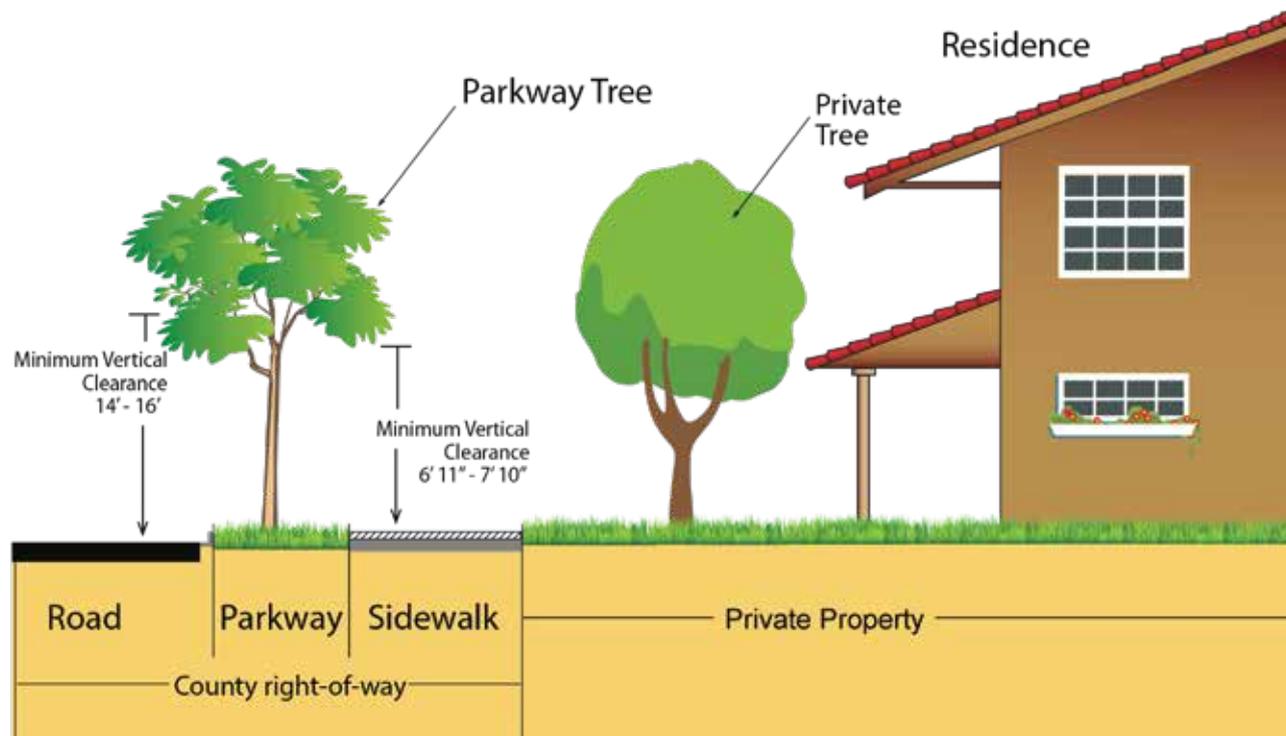


Fig 1. * Typical Application

What is a Parkway Tree?

A parkway tree is a tree that was planted by Public Works or a developer who built the home or building, adjacent to the edge of the roadway within the County's road easement. The County values these trees as they play an important role in providing a healthy community.

How often does the County trim parkway trees?

Parkway trees are generally trimmed every two, three, or six years depending on the growth rate of the tree species. The tree trimming is done per arboricultural standards for the health and safety of the trees and to provide vertical clearance over the sidewalk and roadway for pedestrians and motorists.

Can I plant a tree in the parkway?

Public Works encourages resident participation in the expansion and renewal of our urban forest. In order to ensure the proper species selection, planting, and sustainability of the

new tree, we require that all planting be coordinated with the Urban Forestry Unit. To initiate that process, please visit our website: pw.lacounty.gov/rmd/parkwaytrees to fill out and submit an online form. Please note that parkway trees will only be allowed if there is adjacent curb and gutter.

In what situations does the County of Los Angeles remove parkway trees?

Parkway trees are a precious natural resource for the County, therefore trees are generally only removed when they are dead, diseased, dying, structurally unsound, or outgrown their current space and cannot be safely root pruned to accommodate an adjacent infrastructure repair and by County/Arborists discretion. Public safety is paramount in our decision making.

In cases where parkway trees are removed, replacement trees are generally offered to the property owners. In rare instances, space constraints between driveways, house

walkways, underground utilities, meter boxes, fire hydrants, or streetlights may prevent replacement trees from being planted.

Can I remove a parkway tree?

Parkway trees are part of the urban forest and public property that benefits the entire community. If the parkway tree in front of your residence appears to meet one of the conditions under which Public Works would remove a tree (please see previous section), please contact the Urban Forestry Unit that services your area. Contact information is included on the back panel.

For other circumstances, you may request a permit to remove and replace the parkway tree in front of your residence. Please visit our website: pw.lacounty.gov/rmd/parkwaytrees

It is unlawful to trim, remove, or harm County parkway trees without a permit from Public Works. Violators of this ordinance may be subject to prosecution.

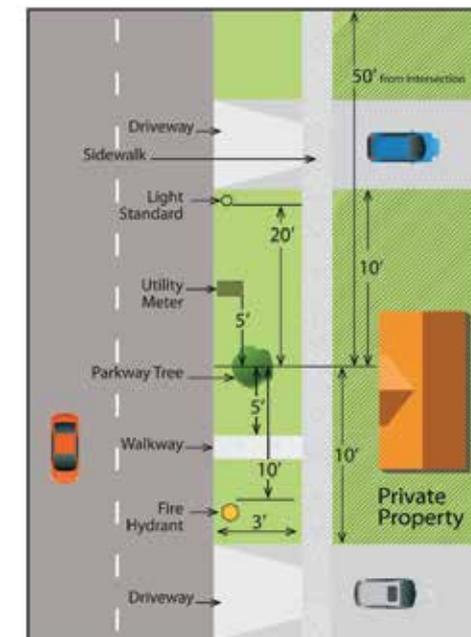


Fig 2. * Parkway Tree Minimum Spacing Requirements