



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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News Release

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January 23, 2013

Blue tree street

City and Sacramento Tree Foundation join with Township 9 to participate in blue trees art project

Sacramento's newest neighborhood - Township 9 - will be the final home to 32 potted blue trees painted by international artist Konstantin Dimopoulos. The trees will be planted on N. 5th Street between Richards Boulevard and the American River Parkway.

The tree planting will take place on Thursday, Jan. 24, 11:30 a.m., at Richards Blvd and N. 5th Street.

“Last week we held a ground breaking for our 180 unit affordable housing development, the newest Sacramento neighborhood located between the light rail station on Richards Boulevard and the American River Parkway,” stated Steve Goodwin, President, Township 9. “The Blue Trees are another sign of our commitment to sustainability, innovation and the arts, and a greener and ‘bluer’ River District.”

The movable trees were painted in October 2012 when Dimopoulos visited Sacramento to install The Blue Trees living art project in downtown Sacramento, and have been on display in several locations throughout the city since then. The trees were colored with a non-toxic, environmentally friendly substance that will stay on the trees for several more months.

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“These vibrant blue trees call attention to the importance of neighborhood trees,” explained Ray Tretheway, Executive Director of the Sacramento Tree Foundation. “Blue trees are hard to miss, so they take a familiar site and make a statement.” Tretheway explained that neighborhoods with lots of tree canopy are inviting, safe and comfortable.

“Street trees are the signature trees of a neighborhood,” stated Joe Benassini, City Urban Forest Manager, “The installation of these trees complements the vision of sustainability that is the foundation of Township 9 and underscores the importance of shade trees in our urban environment.”

The Blue Trees project was commissioned by the Sacramento Tree Foundation, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission and the Sacramento Convention and Visitor Center. The temporary public art is the artist’s statement to call attention to global reforestation and the importance of trees on every street.

Visit www.sactree.org to learn more about The Blue Trees project.

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