



Design Consideration

Street trees and the shade they provide play an important role in creating a comfortable place for walking. The size of the tree well plays a key role in determining the quality of the future shade canopy that a particular tree will be able to provide. Optimally, larger tree wells which can then support a larger tree, should be located on wide, ample sidewalks whereas narrower sidewalks should have smaller tree wells. The guidelines below

provide direction as to the optimum tree well dimensions based upon the size of the sidewalk area. Narrow sidewalks that are less than 7' in width are too narrow and therefore a tree is not recommended in these situations. The suggested tree well dimensions provide for at least a 7' path of travel to ensure that there remains ample room for pedestrian access.

Tree Well Dimensions

A. Sidewalk	B. Tree Well Width	C. Tree Well Length
<7'-0" to <8'-6"	3'-0"	6'-0" ¹
8'-6" to <12'-6"	4'-0"	6'-0" to 8'-0" ¹
12'-6" to 15'-0"	5'-0"	5'-0" to 10'-0"
≥ 15'- 6"	5'-0" to 8'-0" ²	5'-0" to 10'-0"

1. Length of tree well may be reduced to a minimum of 4'-0" when necessary to accommodate existing infrastructure.
2. 8'-0" Length is encouraged but requires an R-permit, irrigation and low-shrub planting, and mulch.

