Trees SHOULD be planted in our neighborhood because:

1) They provide shade - 98% agree
2) They increase property values – 96% agree
3) They create attractive community character – 92% agree
4) They make business districts more attractive – 92% agree
5) They reduce noise – 90% agree
6) They reduce water runoff – 89% agree
7) They reduce air pollution – 88% agree
8) They provide wildlife habitat – 87% agree
9) They increase walkability of sidewalks – 86% agree

Trees are a PROBLEM / should not be planted in our neighborhood because:

1) They fall on power lines – 18% agree
2) They drop leaves, sap and other debris – 18% agree
3) They are ugly when not maintained – 14% agree
4) They make it difficult to detect criminal behavior – 10% agree
5) They cause allergies – 9% agree
6) They cost too much to maintain – 8% agree
7) Their roots damage sidewalks and roads – 8% agree
8) They increase risk of wildfire – 5% agree
9) The risk of hurricane damage – 5% agree
10) The restrictions imposed by home insurance – 5% agree
2012 Focus Groups - Tampa Heights, Old Seminole Heights and VM Ybor

Key Findings

1) Trees serve as an important part of neighborhood identity
2) Trees create a more livable environment
3) Neighborhoods would like more input into planting design
4) Neighborhoods would like more flexibility for planting trees
5) Neighborhoods need specialized knowledge to plant and care for trees

What Have We Learned

1) Citizens of Tampa voiced strong positive opinions about trees
2) Fewer people voiced problems/concerns