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CITY OF KIMBALL AWARDED $160,000 COMMUNITY FORESTRY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT FROM NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM

Kimball, Neb. 5/20/2026 – City of Kimball was recently awarded a $160,000 Community Forestry Infrastructure grant from PlantNebraska. The grant was part of $10 million in grant funds awarded to PlantNebraska in 2024 by the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry program.

The goal of the grant program is to improve Nebraska's community forestry infrastructure by supporting tree removal, care and planting to preserve tree canopy cover; protecting, enhancing and increasing access to watersheds in urban and development areas by focusing on conserving and managing community forests and green stormwater infrastructure; and improving workforce development in the tree care industry by providing pathways for high school students, creating job training programs and connecting newly trained professionals with local tree care companies.

The City of Kimball will use the grant funds to remove hazardous and declining trees, expand and diversify the community tree canopy, improve public safety, and strengthen long-term urban forestry management. The project includes planting approximately 75 new trees in priority areas throughout the community and public spaces, along with pruning in needed areas, including the Arboretum, and collaboration with the Village of Bushnell. Funding will also support workforce development through arborist certification opportunities, community education and training, and partnerships with local schools and volunteers.

"We are so pleased to be able to award this grant to the City of Kimball, which will profoundly impact the well-being of residents in Kimball," said PlantNebraska Executive Director Hanna Pinneo. "This significant investment will yield important, long-term results. We are proud to partner with the City of Kimball to support a greener future."

"This grant is an investment in the future of Kimball," said Annette Brower of the City of Kimball. "It will allow us to improve public safety, expand our community tree canopy, strengthen environmental resilience, and create educational and workforce opportunities for residents and students. We are grateful to PlantNebraska, the Nebraska Forest Service, and our many community partners for helping make this project possible."

For more information about PlantNebraska's Community Forestry Infrastructure grants, including eligibility requirements and information about the grant application process, visit plantnebraska.org/ucf-grants.

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