



News Release

September 5, 2018

City's 'Tree Champion' Honored with Helix Award of Excellence

Concord, CA (Sept. 5, 2018) – A senior maintenance team leader in the City's Parks Maintenance Division was honored Tuesday night with the Daniel C. Helix Award of Excellence. Known to colleagues as the City's "Tree Champion," Chris Llata has worked for the City of Concord for more than 20 years. He was nominated for this award by his peers for his leadership, hard work and dedication.

"Chris has been an integral part of growing the City's urban forest," said Director of Public Works Justin Ezell. "The City has been given the prestigious Tree City USA designation for 37 years in a row, and many of those years have been under Chris' leadership."

Mr. Llata recently transitioned into a new role with Parks Maintenance, which will allow him to provide the same level of high care for Concord's parks as he did for the City's trees.

The Daniel C. Helix Award of Excellence is presented quarterly to a Public Works Department employee who stands out among their peers by showing initiative and creativity, by providing excellent customer service to City departments and the community, or by demonstrating leadership. The Helix Award is named for former Concord City Councilman Dan Helix, who served on the Council for 14 years between 1968 and 2016.

For more information, contact Public Works Director Justin Ezell at (925) 671-3231.