

2015 London Tree and Woodland Awards

Winner of the Mayors Street Tree Programme

2008-15 Award:

Edgware Road – London Borough of Barnet



LB Barnet receiving their award at City Hall in May 2015. From left to right: Roger Evans (Deputy Mayor of London), Jenny Warren, Andrew Digby, Frédéric Micoud, Katerina Hadincova, Andy Tipping and Ian Gambles (Director of Forestry Commission England).

This award is given for tree planting projects between 2008 and 2015 that improve the street scene and are valued by local residents and businesses.

The award panel noted the impact locally is transformative and expected to lead to economic regeneration along the road and beyond. The trees were planted to a very high specification to create high visual impact and using experimental approaches such as sugar loading.

Andy Tipping, Trees & Woodlands Manager said “We are extremely proud of the work we have done to transform Edgware Road. This project took a long time to get off the ground, but thanks to the Mayor of London’s Street Tree Initiative Fund we have been able to plant the trees needed to invigorate this part of the borough.”

Introduction to the project

The Edgware Road is one of the main thoroughfares in and out of London and as part of the Roman Road, Watling Street, runs in a straight line from Cricklewood Broadway up to Edgware. This area had little tree cover and was identified by GLA as lacking in greenspace provision.

Project Activities

The Borough CAT scanned both sides of the road for 6.5km each way from West Hendon Broadway to Brockley Hill and identified only 120 potential planting pits (voids without cables or pipes) out of a potential 13,000. They then consulted with the retailers affected - most of which were positive and ran an information week at Burnt Oak Library.

Out of 120 potential sites, 89 trees were planted, all *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*, The Dawn Redwood. This species was chosen as one of botanical interest, one that had proven urban pedigree in Westminster and an excurrent tree that could be planted without repeated maintenance as it would not be growing into the road.

Project Outcomes



Before (January 2010)



After (October 2014)

The trees were planted in the winter of 2009-10 and have increased in size significantly giving this stretch of road a major landscape asset.

There are major developments and regeneration works taking place here and the Dawn Redwoods are being incorporated into these. The road is heavily urbanised and the trees have broken up the harsh outlines of retail, motor and manufacturing buildings and this can only increase as time goes by and the trees increase in size and stature.

20 of these trees suffered from dog damage and these were replaced in 2012/2013, this time guarded and also with different concentrations of sugar loading by Dr Glynn Percival of Bartlett's to conduct a field trial of his theory; results of this are yet to be published.

Further information:

- [RE:LEAF Partnership](#)
- [Forestry Commission London](#)
- Project information; andy.tipping@barnet.gov.uk
- Barnet online. www.barnet.gov.uk
- Street Tree Care Ltd. <http://www.streettreecareltd.co.uk/>
- Barcham Trees. www.barchampro.co.uk
- City Suburban Tree Surgeons. www.citysuburban.co.uk
- London Tree Officers Association. www.ltoa.org.uk



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