

Parks and Community Services Department

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**Tree Commission Minutes
Parks and Community Services Department, Building A
1818 Fifth Street
June 20, 2019
5:30 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Zarah Wyly-Chair, Jim Newman-Vice Chair, David Robinson, David Fujino, Kyle Gayman, Alternate-Tracy Dewit

Commissioners Absent: Stacey Parker, Tim Csontos-excused

Assigned Staff: Rob Cain, Urban Forest Manager

Opening Statement

Welcome to the monthly meeting of the City of Davis' Tree Commission.

Members of the Tree Commission are all volunteers and appointed by the Davis City Council.

The Tree Commission provides leadership and guidance to the Urban Forest Manager and to the City Council regarding tree removal and replacement requests.

The Tree Commission provides for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Davis' urban forest. The Tree Commission is charged to recommend the removal of a City tree on a case-by-case basis for the following reasons:

- Poor health, identifiable diseases, exceedingly slow growth, large scale limb failure and decay;
- Potential for hazardous conditions that are caused by the street tree and cannot be mitigated without the removal of the tree.

The Tree Commission does not have the authority to recommend the removal of a City Tree for its debris, such as leaves, fruit, nuts, pollen, pine cones, needles, etc., nor does it have the authority to recommend the removal of a tree for its potential as an allergen or for solar collector installation per Municipal Code Section 40.38.00. The Tree Commission does not have the authority to remove a tree if it is healthy.

All Tree Commission decisions can be appealed to the City Council for their consideration.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Robinson, seconded by Fujino.

Approved: 5-0

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Robinson, seconded by Newman.

Approved: 5-0

Commissioner and Staff Comments:

Staff informed the commission about an upcoming removal request item for removal of selective Eucalyptus trees along the north Davis drainage channel. The item will be on the August meeting agenda.

Staff informed the commission that the September 2019 meeting will have to be cancelled due the unavailability of staff for the meeting.

Robinson briefed the Commission on the recent work along Russell Boulevard outside the City limits. Tree Davis and local volunteers weeded and mulched the Valley Oaks planted along the south side of the road to help with tree establishment.

Public Comments:

Alan Hirsch made the following comments:

There was tree vandalism on 8th Street and he had notified the police regarding the illegal pruning of street trees.

The Commission should look into including street trees during the resale home inspection of Davis home sales.

Tree vandalism also happened at Davis High School about 12-14 months ago and the school planted trees in May. Alan feels May tree plantings are too late in the season for tree survival.

Informed the Commission about the Davis innovation center on Mace Boulevard being rejuvenated and should be on the Commission review list for the parking lot trees.

Regular Items:

A. Street Tree Removal Requests were discussed with the following actions taken:

- | <u>Location</u> | <u>Tree Species</u> |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. 1814 Balsam Place | Chinaberry |
| Moved by: Robinson | |
| Seconded by: Newman | |
| Motion: | Due to the crowded growing conditions and the poisonous nature of the fruit, remove and replace the tree. Plant a replacement tree of an appropriate size for the space. |
| Motion Passed: | 5-1; Wyly nay |
| | |
| 2. 301 Del Oro Avenue | Beefwood (7) |
| Moved by: Robinson | |
| Seconded by: Fujino | |
| Motion: | Due to the previous Commission ruling for the greenbelt, follow the staff recommendation for a two year removal and replacement plan. |
| Motion Passed: | 5-1; Wyly nay |
| | |
| 3. 331 Antioch Drive | Honey Locust |
| Moved by: Robinson | |
| Seconded by: Fujino | |
| Motion: | Due to the previous Commission ruling for the greenbelt, follow the staff recommendation for a two year removal and replacement plan. |
| Motion Passed: | 5-1; Wyly nay |

B. Informational Street Tree Removals

The following trees were removed due to being in an imminently hazardous condition:

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Tree Species</u> | <u>Reason</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| W. Covell Blvd. median | Evergreen Pear (4) | Dead tree |
| 330 G Street | Moraine Ash | Dead tree |
| 412 F Street | Chinese Hackberry | Dead tree |
| 621 D Street | London Plane | Dead tree |
| 628 J Street | Chinese Hackberry | Trunk decay |
| 633 L Street | Chinese Hackberry | Dead tree |
| 739 M Street | Modesto Ash | Split tree |
| 749 N Street | Modesto Ash | Split tree |
| 801 Anderson Road | Aristocrat Pear | Dead tree |

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Tree Species</u> | <u>Reason</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 801 E. 8 th Street | Chinese Hackberry | Root disease |
| 1212 Snyder Drive | Modesto Ash | Dead tree |
| 1308 Pole Line Road | Fruitless Mulberry | Split tree |
| 1318 Whittier | Hedge Maple | Dead tree |
| 1333 Colgate Drive | Chinese Hackberry | Dead tree |
| 1404 Cypress Lane | Chinese Pistache | Split tree |
| 1704 Drexel Drive | Modesto Ash | Declining tree |
| 1801 Oak Avenue | Cork Oak | Dead tree |
| 1818 Cork Place | Moraine Ash | Dead tree |
| 2516 Bombadil Lane | Chinese Tallow | Dead tree |
| Cedar Park K Street | Chinese Hackberry | Dead tree |
| 636 I Street | Chinese Hackberry | Dead tree |

C. Proposition 68 Cal-Fire Grant Overview

Staff gave an overview of the recently awarded Cal Fire Proposition 68 grant. The grant will allow the city to plant 1,000 new trees to fill open planting sites. The plantings will be focused in the disadvantaged census tracts throughout the city and be planted on residential property and in parks and open spaces in these areas.

The grant will also fund an updated Urban Forest Management Plan for the City. The management plan will be a 40-year guide for the city and its tree management and maintenance activities.

Commission and Staff Communications:

A. Education Subcommittee

B. Topics for Next Meeting

- 1) Eucalyptus removals along the North Davis Channel for fire protection.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm; moved by Robinson and seconded by Newman.

Next Meeting: August 15, 2019. July is a recess month for the Tree Commission

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